

# Nunavut Needs Natural Resources Revenue to Contribute To Canada's Economy

Marcel Pellerin  
Reporter

Nunavut has run into dispute with federal Canada over internal waters where a large amount of non-renewable resources have been discovered. Nunavut was the largest land claim in Canadian history and the last territory to join Canadian sovereignty.

The federal government has been going through a devolution process in the north where the transfer of control from the federal to provincial government of natural resources, education

and health programs is taking place.

Nunavut is currently in talks with Indian Affairs Minister Jim Prentice where a disagreement has come up about internal waters surrounding Nunavut, where the federal government is asserting its sovereignty over rich oil and natural gas reserves.

Premier Paul Okalik has spoken about Prime Minister Stephen Harper not supporting Nunavut and challenged Harper to stand true to his words on that the North will be developed.

Okalik stated in an inspiring speech on Tuesday Jan. 9, 2007 to

the public forum that the discovery of non-renewable resources within their province will give them a chance to contribute to Canada's economy and the royalties are needed to build infrastructure that the province lacks. After all it was the occupation of those waters by the Inuit that gave Canada any claim to them in the beginning.

Brent Aiken is a resident of Nunavut but was not born there and he offers an outsiders perspective.

"I think it would be better in the long run if the Inuit were able to control the oil revenues and become self-suffi-

cient. Morale and pride will be very important in the success of Nunavut and I believe that we are better off having a self-sufficient people rather than Canada controlling the oil revenue and then allotting funds to the territory like an allowance."

As it stands Canada does not recognize

Nunavut's right to the oil and natural gas beds surrounding the province, an estimated value of a trillion dollars and rising. Premier Okalik clearly has plans to build Nunavut into a keystone province for Canada. He stands firm, stating that the resources around Nunavut belong to Nunavut

and he will do all he can for his province. Unfortunately, without the revenue of their natural resources, the province has to rely on tax payers and the federal government to function.

Talks are still ongoing and neither side has left the table. At the moment, they have agreed to disagree.

## Notice: Book Sale Fundraiser at Library

What: Book Sale

Where: ITEC Theatre in the Robertson Library

When: Friday March 2, 3 p.m.-6 p.m. (for UPEI staff and students only)  
Saturday March 3, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. (open to the public)

Why: To raise money for the Robertson Library and the Rotaract Club of Charlottetown

The Robertson Library is cleaning out the basement! In the past the library has had an annual book sale to get rid of excess books and raise money, however do to lack of manpower this sale has not taken place in 3 years! That means there is a massive collection of great books just sitting in the RL basement. Luckily, the Rotaract Club of Charlottetown has agreed to help the library out and split the

proceeds. The Rotaract Club is an organization for people aged 18-30 that combines local and international volunteer work with professional development. Local projects involve the Charlottetown Upper Room and international projects are focusing on micro-loans in South Africa.

The book sale will take place March 2 and 3. On Friday, March 2 starting at 3 p.m. the sale will be open to

UPEI staff and students only to assure that the UPEI community get first pick of all the great books. On Saturday March 3 the sale will be open to the public from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

There is a wide variety of books, including text books, cook books, history books, fiction, nonfiction, soft cover and hard cover so come check it out!

### DISCOVER THE UNEXPECTED

Winnie Bower, Student



I don't drink from a disposable cup, anymore.

I'm learning that the little things I do have an impact on the world, and this is one little thing I do to make a difference.

And my Spanish classes will help me travel and experience the world like a citizen, not a tourist.

Cool courses can change everything. Discover yours at [DISCOVER.DAL.ca](http://DISCOVER.DAL.ca)

 **DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY**  
Inspiring Minds