

FOR RELEASE #08-176
July 18, 2008

PREMIER AND MINISTER OF EDUCATION ANNOUNCE COUNCIL OF THE FEDERATION LITERACY AWARD

WHITEHORSE – The Premier is pleased to announce that the winner of the fourth annual Council of the Federation Literacy Award for Yukon is Gordon Hardie of Dawson City. The award recognizes learners, educators, volunteers and community groups for outstanding achievement and excellence in literacy.

“I congratulate Gordon Hardie on his outstanding contributions to literacy,” Premier Dennis Fentie said. “He is an adult learner who has worked hard to improve his own literacy skills, and as such he is an inspiration to other Yukon learners. I would also like to commend him for his work in actively promoting literacy for all Yukoners.”

Minister of Education Patrick Rouble said: “Literacy is important to quality of life and it is a valuable employment skill. It is a pleasure to recognize Gordon Hardie for his contribution to excellence in literacy for Yukoners.”

Hardie has received other awards for excellence in literacy. He had also received the Canada Post Literacy Award for Adult Learners and was declared a literacy hero by the Yukon Literacy Coalition.

“I wouldn’t be able to have received any of these awards without the help of my tutor, Marjorie Logue,” said Hardie. “I still want to learn more and I hope she’s still with me.”

The Premier will present Hardie with the Council of the Federation Literacy Award Medal at a special ceremony in Whitehorse this fall, on a date to be determined. Past Yukon Council of the Federation Literacy Award winners are George Green, Rock Brisson and Patty Wiseman.

Premier Fentie represents Yukon in the Council of the Federation, which comprises all 13 of Canada’s premiers. The Council of the Federation was created in 2003 to help the provinces and territories play a leadership role in revitalizing the Canadian federation and to build a more constructive and cooperative federal system.

A full list of recipients of the 2008 Council of the Federation Literacy Award and more information about the awards is on the Council of the Federation website at www.councilofthefederation.ca/pdfs/COF_LA_NR_July17.pdf.

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Contact:

Matthew Grant
Cabinet Communications
867-667-7961
matthew.grant@gov.yk.ca

Michele Royle
Communications, Education
867-393-7102
michele.royle@gov.yk.ca