



**NEWS RELEASE – For Immediate Release**

**Literacy Week Celebrations Across the NWT**

YELLOWKNIFE (September 24, 2010) – NWT Literacy Week, from September 27 - October 2, is an ideal time to celebrate the importance of literacy in our everyday lives.

“The literacy level of citizens determines to a large extent how able people are to participate fully in their communities and contribute to the social and economic well-being of their families and NWT society,” says the NWT Literacy Council’s Literacy Coordinator, Kathryn Barry Paddock.

One way to celebrate literacy is to participate in the NWT Literacy Council’s Read for 20 Challenge on Wednesday, September 29. Each year the NWT and Nunavut compete to see how many people will register as readers on that day.

“Since this is the NWT Literacy Council’s 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary we are asking people to read for 20 minutes this year, instead of the usual 15 minutes,” says Ms. Barry Paddock.

Reading for 20 minutes is as easy as checking email, reading text messages, or reading labels while buying groceries. Sometimes the reading is a group event, such as the plan for students at Deh Gáh School in Fort Providence to read for 20 minutes in South Slavey.

Literacy Week events are happening throughout the NWT, planned with the help of materials distributed by the NWT Literacy Council. This year’s resource package focused on literacy activities involving good nutrition and active living.

For information about NWT Literacy Week or to let the NWT Literacy Council know that you read for 20 minutes on September 29, call 867-873-9262 or toll free at 1-866-599-6758 or email [nwtliteracy@nwtliteracy.ca](mailto:nwtliteracy@nwtliteracy.ca). Information can also be found at [www.nwt.literacy.ca](http://www.nwt.literacy.ca)

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For more information about NWT Literacy Week or the NWT Literacy Council, contact:  
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*The NWT Literacy Council is a non-profit, non-government agency dedicated to supporting the development of literacy in all official languages of the NWT.*