

First Northern Telecom award for Canadian studies

Richard A. Preston, William K. Boyd Professor Emeritus, Duke University, North Carolina, (US), has been selected to be the first recipient of the Northern Telecom International Canadian Studies Award. The winner was announced recently by Walter F. Light, chairman and chief executive officer of Northern Telecom Limited.

The award is part of the corporation's long-range commitment to the advancement of Canadian studies internationally. It will be presented annually in recognition of exceptional achievement in the field of Canadian studies by an academic, researcher, or scholar anywhere in the world.

Consisting of a gold medal and \$10 000 cash, it is administered by the International Council for Canadian Studies (ICCS). A five-member committee of adjudicators receives nominations through ICCS and selects the winner. This year's committee comprised representatives from France, England, Canada, and the US. Professor Preston was selected from among



Ralph Wallis — Henry Tregill

Walter F. Light (left), chairman of Northern Telecom Ltd. presents first International Canadian Studies Award to Richard A. Preston (right).

Beaufort oil exploration agreements

The federal government has concluded oil and gas agreements worth \$960 million with Dome Petroleum Limited for exploration in the Beaufort Sea.

Dome, which will be the operator for the projects, was representing 40 companies in finalizing the agreements. The five agreements, each with a five-year term, require Dome and partners to drill eight wells in an area of about 3.4 million hectares in the Beaufort Sea.

Dome Petroleum said that \$787 million is expected to flow into the Canadian economy as a result of the agreements. Virtually all of the jobs in the last four years of the five-year program will be filled by Canadians, with northern employment representing as much as 20 per cent of the peak total of 629 jobs.

According to the plans, approximately \$160 million will be spent on northern goods and services, continuing past efforts to provide business development opportunities for northerners. As well, Dome will continue to undertake special manpower measures to increase northern labour participation, one example of which is the estimated \$6 million allocated to develop job training programs over the course of the agreements.

Cycling tops accident injuries

Bicycles sent more people to hospital than any other consumer product on the market, says a six-month survey released by the Consumer and Corporate Affairs Department.

A survey among five hospitals from April to September of last year showed 1 528 persons were put in hospital or treated at emergency wards for injuries caused while cycling or being hit by a bicycle.

Cycling injuries accounted for 8.5 per cent of the 18 039 accidents in the survey. Most of the cycle injuries involved the head.

The survey included all injuries involving consumer products, leisure activities, sports and daily in-home activities treated at the five hospitals, whether a person was immobilized for days or immediately sent home from the emergency ward.

Falling down stairs was the second most common accident, involving 1 043 people. It was the leading cause of accidents for children under five years and for adults 65 years and more. Baseball, including softball and fastball, was termed "the most dangerous summer sports," accounting for 764 injuries.

12 candidates representing six countries.

"We established the award when we realized that no other Canadian multinational corporation supports Canadian studies internationally in this manner," said Mr. Light. "It's a vital element in our ongoing program to foster a deeper understanding abroad of Canada and its people."

Born in the United Kingdom, Professor Preston began his teaching career at the University of Toronto. He is internationally renowned as a scholar of Canadian history and as an innovator in the field of Canadian studies. He has served as president of the Canadian Historical Association, is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society, and established a centre for Canadian studies at Duke University in 1965. The centre later evolved into the first national resource centre for Canadian studies in the United States.

Professor Preston has served as founding president of the Association for Canadian Studies in the United States (ACSUS). He was the first active scholar to receive the Donner Medal for Distinguished Service in Canadian Studies in the US.

Canadian airship launched

Skyship 500, the first airship built in Canada, recently made its maiden flight at Toronto International Airport. The \$2.5-million craft, constructed by LTA Systems Incorporated, the Canadian subsidiary of Britain's Airship Industries, is 50 metres long, 20 metres high in its gondola and has a maximum speed of 60 knots.

The skyship's envelope, or balloon, is a polyester fabric filled with helium, a fire-extinguishing gas, as opposed to hydrogen used by the famous German dirigible *Hindenburg* which burned at Lakehurst, New Jersey in 1937, killing 26 passengers and crew.

LTA expects there is a North American market for its airships and so does the Ontario Development Corporation, which provided \$100 000 in funding for the development of the craft. Another *Skyship 500* and two larger *Skyship 600s* will also be built.

The *Skyship 500* will have further trials in Toronto and then go to the US Navy which will put it through additional tests. Its potential uses include maritime and border patrols, search-and-rescue missions, cargo transport and survey work.