

News briefs

Bell Canada has reported unaudited consolidated revenues of \$8.41 billion in 1982, up from \$7.39 billion from the previous year. The revenues, from telecommunications, manufacturing contracts and other operations, resulted in non-consolidated earnings of \$2.56 a common share, up slightly from \$2.54 from the previous 12 months.

More than 250 delegates and observers are expected to attend the first Canadian Mineral Outlook Conference to be held in Ottawa May 17-18. The conference will examine the general economic outlook affecting the industry including mineral policies, investment, taxation, resource base strategy, research and development and the impact on communities of changes in the industry. Many of the major minerals mined or smelted in Canada, including copper, nickel, lead, zinc, aluminum, gold, iron ore, asbestos and potash will also be examined. There will also be a discussion of international developments in minerals and the economic outlook as it could affect Canada.

The federal government has concluded an exploration agreement with Gulf Canada Resources Incorporated. The five-year agreement covers 637 000 hectares in the Beaufort Sea. Gulf, as the operator on these lands, will increase its drilling commitment beyond five wells and will spend more than \$1 billion in capital and operating costs. This is the second major agreement the federal government has signed for the Beaufort Sea and the third major agreement north of 60 degrees.

A unit of Northern Telecom Limited of Montreal has announced it received a contract worth more than \$100 million to supply fibre optics cable to MCI Communications Corporation of Washington. The contract could reach \$200 million over four years and is expected to create 100 jobs in the Saskatoon area, the prime fibre optics manufacturing site for Toronto-based Northern Telecom Canada Limited, a manufacturing arm of Northern Telecom.

Flyer Industries Limited of Winnipeg has been awarded a \$16-million contract to supply San Francisco with 110 diesel buses, according to company president Douglas MacKay. Although it will be another few days before the deal is officially signed, Mr. MacKay said the transaction had been approved by Washington, which provides a large amount of funding for bus purchases in the United States.



Manitoba Premier Howard Pawley and provincial Indian leaders sign a memorandum of understanding providing for joint examination of the fiscal relationship between the province and Indians and supporting the aspirations of Indians regarding self-determination. Signatories are (left to right): Chief Ernie Daniels of the Long Plains Band, Chief Joe Guy Wood of St. Theresa Point Band, Premier Pawley and Northern Affairs Minister Jay Cowan. Two of the witnesses to the agreement are Chief Allan Pratt of the Sioux Valley Band (standing, left) and Eiljah Harper, member of Legislature for Rupertsland.

Seven Ontario manufacturers participated in the Ontario Product Exhibit from January 31 to February 4 in London, England. The five-day trade show, organized and led by the Ontario Ministry of Industry and Trade, focused on home-improvement and "do-it-yourself" products. The ministry participated in a similar show in November in which \$40 000 worth of Ontario manufactured goods were sold and three agents were contracted as distributors for these products in England.

Export credits insurance claims rose for the fifth consecutive quarter in the fourth quarter of 1982, the Export Development Corporation (EDC) has announced. EDC paid 63 claims during the quarter ending December 31, 1982 compared to 51, 38, 31, 23 and 17 in the preceding five quarters. The total value of claims paid in 1982 was \$9.35 million compared to \$8.23 million in 1981 and the number of claims paid in 1982 was 183 compared to 138 the previous year.

Union Gas Limited of Chatham, Ontario has reported a net profit of \$13.7 million for the nine months ended December 31 or 20 cents a share, compared with \$12.1 million or 24 cents a share in the same period of 1981. The southwestern Ontario utility also reported third-quarter income of \$9.5 million or 22 cents a share.

A Romanian actress who lost an arm and a leg in a train accident can thank a Toronto restaurateur for allowing her to lead an almost normal life. Tibor Ferentzy heard of the plight of 24-year-old Eva Papp when he was visiting his homeland of Romania. The artificial limbs she had were not as sophisticated as those available at Sunnybrook Medical Centre in Toronto so when Ferentzy returned home, he appealed for funds for new limbs for the actress through the local Hungarian newspaper. He arranged for Mrs. Papp and her husband to come to Toronto, where the woman was fitted with the new prostheses.

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