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Included in the items on display at the exhibition "Crafts from Arctic Canada", at the Toronto-Dominion Centre Observation Gallery from June 19 to August 15 are (above) a coat and cape

First major exhibition of Canadian Arctic crafts

The Canadian Eskimo Arts Council, an adviser to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, is sponsoring the first major exhibition of Canadian Arctic crafts ever assembled.

The exhibit opened at the Toronto-Dominion Centre Observation Gallery, Toronto on June 19 and will close on August 15.

The exhibition, entitled "Crafts from Arctic Canada", includes clothing, wall-hangings, jewellery and artifacts in both traditional and contemporary styles.

"Canadian Arctic crafts rival the finest in the world in quality and design," declared Northern Affairs Minister Jean Chrétien. The 300 items in the new collection were chosen by competition, the Minister said, "to present much of the best material produced in northern Canada since 1970".

The exhibit features work by craftspeople including Inuit and Indian from the Northwest Territories and Quebec.

The object of the exhibit is to stimulate northern craftspeople, and to acquaint southern consumers with the excellence of northern handiwork.

Photos by John Evans



trimmed with Arctic fox, made in Spence Bay, Northwest Territories, (above) an "attigi", a reverse caribouskin parka worn beneath a second caribou parka, from Baker Lake, NWT,



and (above) a wolfskin parka made at Aklavik, NWT. The exhibit is sponsored by the Canadian Eskimo Arts Council, advisers to the Northern Affairs Department.

Canada signs convention for the protection of endangered animals and plants

Canada has signed the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

The agreement was described by the Environment Minister as "a giant step forward in our efforts to protect endangered plants and animals from the depredations of illicit trade".

The document was signed in Berne, Switzerland, by the Canadian Ambassador, J.J.M. Côté, following recent Cabinet approval of a program to implement the convention in Canada.

The convention establishes a system of import and export controls to be administered by the signatory nations. In Canada permits will be issued by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce on advice from a management authority to be established within the Department of the Environment. A scientific authority, composed of technical representatives from the federal, provincial and territorial governments will advise on the status of all endangered animals and plants in Canada.

UN recommendation

The idea for the convention originated with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature which produced the first draft more than ten years ago. Its efforts led to the adoption of a recommendation at the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment that called for a conference to adopt an international trade agreement for endangered species.

Convened in Washington in February 1973, it was attended by representatives from 80 nations. So far, 43 nations have signed the convention, but it will not go into effect until at least ten nations have taken the further step of ratifying the agreement. Before this can occur, each nation will have to prepare its own list of indigenous species which it wants to regulate through international trade control. Ratification of the convention is expected to take place in 1975.

Lists of species

A species may be listed in one of three convention appendices, depending on the degree to which it is considered endangered. Appendix I includes species near the brink of extinction. Trade in these will be permitted only under exceptional circum-