

in order to process a portion of the fish harvested in Nunavut waters. In a typical year this fishery will export in excess of \$1.2 million to the United States.

#### **Kivalliq Arctic Foods Ltd.**

*www.ndcorp.nu.ca/meat\_fish/kivalliq.htm*

Kivalliq Arctic Foods Ltd. is a food processing company that specialises in supplying caribou meat, along with arctic char. The company's caribou meat is harvested from animals that have never been confined or herded. This natural organic quality has resonated with customers, and exports to European markets have risen since the company's processing facility was certified by the EU in 2001. Last year the company processed over 113,000 kilograms of caribou meat. Kivalliq Arctic Foods has prospered and grown through exports and in 2002 was awarded the International Marketing Profile Award from the First People's Business Association.

#### **Unaalik Aviation Inc.**

*www.inuit.pail.ca/unaalik-aviation.htm*

Unaalik Aviation began flying in the spring of 2002 with a ten-year agreement to operate regular air service between Iqaluit and Kimmirut, Nunavut. The company also operates charters to Greenland and the Antarctic. The charters allow the company to utilize their Twin Otters aircraft, which are ideally suited for this difficult terrain, during the slow winter season in Canada, while serving a growth niche in adventure tourism. Having flown to the South Pole the young company is working on expanding operations to include service to the North Pole through Longyearbyen, Norway.

#### **BHP Billiton Diamonds Inc**

*http://ekati.bhpbilliton.com*

Production at the Ekati Diamond Mine™, operated by BHP Billiton, began in October 1998. The project will mine eight kimberlite pipes and will have a 20 year mine life. As of January 2003, the project had recovered 14.05 million carats. Many large diamonds have been recovered, including a 182 carat boart stone. Employment at the mine currently exceeds 750 people. Northerners comprise 78% of all employees and 38% of northern employees are aboriginal. Production is estimated at four to

five million carats annually, with an average value of over \$140 per carat; annual sales are around \$700 million. This mine is expected to produce roughly 4% of the world's diamonds by volume and 6% by value.

#### **Diavik Diamond Mine**

*www.diavik.ca*

Construction of the \$1.3 billion Diavik Diamond Mine was completed in early 2003, and the first diamonds mined were shipped to the joint venture partners in late January. At peak production, the Diavik Mine will produce over six million carats of diamonds annually. The mine life is expected to be 20 years. Production will come from four ore bodies, called kimberlite pipes, discovered underwater just offshore of a 20 sq km island located in Lac de Gras, approximately 300 km northeast of Yellowknife, NWT. In early 2002, Diavik reserves stood at 27.1 million tonnes containing an average estimated reserve grade of 3.9 carats/tonne (diluted). The project has a total reserve of approximately 107 million carats with an average value of approximately \$87 per carat (2000 valuation).

#### **Arctic Wild Harvest**

*www.articharvest.com*

An excellent example of E-commerce, Arctic Wild Harvest substantiates a small business's ability to compete on a global level regardless of location. Specializing in food products unique to the north, including such gourmet and natural products as caribou jerky, smoked arctic char, dried wild mushrooms, candied wildflowers, herbal teas, Musk-ox pates—these examples offer only a glimpse of the products available. Product supplies come from all parts of the arctic including the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Labrador but are handcrafted or manufactured locally before being shipped to their global destinations.

#### **Air North**

*www.flyairnorth.com*

Air North provides air access to and from the Yukon for both local travellers and the Yukon's growing tourism sector. Since the company was founded in 1977, Air North's growth has been steady, calculated