

For Immediate Release:

Child and Youth Advocate Visits Labrador

Since the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate opened in November, 2002, considerable attention has been paid to issues affecting children and youth in Labrador. Advocacy staff have visited all communities in Labrador and have met with community agencies, child and youth-serving organizations, as well as children and youth.

As a result of this widespread consultation, Darlene Neville, Child and Youth Advocate, Marilyn McCormack, Deputy Advocate, and Paula Burt, Advocacy Assessment Officer, will now be visiting Labrador to share the outcome of these consultations with those responsible for the delivery of services to children and youth in the Region. Most of the meetings will take place in Happy Valley - Goose Bay; however, the Advocate and her staff will also be visiting Sheshatshiu and Nain.

Ms. Neville stated that she has extended an invitation to Chief Simon Pokue and Chief Anastasia Qupee, who are not available during this visit, to meet with her when they are next in St. John's. Meetings with these leaders will also be arranged when Advocacy staff visit the communities of Natuashish and Sheshatshiu in the near future.

Ms. Neville and her staff will be in Labrador from October 31st to November 4th. She noted that, while the schedule of meetings has been set for this visit; if any person, particularly a child or youth, would like to meet with her or her staff while they are in the Region, they are encouraged to contact her Office and arrangements will be made to meet with them.

Ms. Neville indicated that she is very pleased to be making her first visit to Labrador in her position as Child and Youth Advocate for the Province and looks forward to working closely with the people of Labrador to enhance services available to children and youth.

For further information, please contact Darlene Neville, Child and Youth Advocate, at (709) 753-3888.

October 27, 2005