



**DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, CULTURE AND
RECREATION**

ENTITY UPDATE

SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS CORPORATION INC.

2007 - 2008

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

The Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation (TCR) is responsible for the Special Celebrations Corporation and it is the responsibility of the Minister to ensure that the Corporation remains compliant with Government's *Transparency and Accountability Act*. As 2007-2008 is a transition year and the Special Celebrations Corporation has been virtually inactive since 2003 with the intention of dissolving completely once their funds have all been designated for use for special celebrations, a plan is not feasible for this entity at this time. In the event that the Corporation commences functioning again, it will provide a report for that fiscal year. For as long as the Corporation remains inactive, all the relevant information will be sent forward through the departmental annual reporting process.



Tom Hedderson

TOM HEDDERSON, M.H.A.
Harbour Main-Whitbourne
Minister of Tourism, Culture and Recreation

OVERVIEW – SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS CORPORATION INC.

The Corporation's Board is composed of the Minister, the Deputy Minister and the Assistant Deputy Minister (Culture and Recreation). A management committee composed of the Deputy Minister, the Assistant Deputy Minister and the Director of Finance and General Operations ensures that the planning and activities of the Special Celebrations Allocation are consistent with the Department's overall priorities and goals. This arrangement also ensures tight management and financial control, a good measure of accountability and that best practices of government administration are implemented.

The mandate of the Special Celebrations Corporation of Newfoundland and Labrador is to utilize funding available in the account of the corporation to support various festivals and community celebrations in the province. The Department of TCR utilized this corporation from 1998 to 2002 to develop Special Celebrations, including Soiree '99 and Vikings! 1000 years. After its final initiative, Access North-Labrador 2002, the Corporation closed in March 2003. Yet, since its formation, the role of the Corporation has evolved to one of supporting viable community projects that normally could not be supported through established funding programs.

All revenue historically generated from sponsors, partnerships, merchandising and other sources was kept separate from the government's Consolidated Revenue Fund. This not only allowed the corporation better control over its finances, but also gave it flexibility to respond to revenue-generating opportunities. In 2006-07, the Corporation did not generate any revenue except interest and used funding remaining in its bank account to fund specific projects. The Corporation began the 2006-07 year with an opening balance of \$63,479 and had a closing balance on March 31, 2007 of \$2,170. The Special Celebrations Corporation currently does not generate any revenue except interest and while it remains a legal entity, it has no physical presence. It is anticipated that once all existing revenue is expended, the Corporation will be dissolved.

For the years during which the Corporation remains inactive, any relevant information will be provided through the departmental annual reporting process. Should the Special Celebrations Corporation once again begin to function as an entity, the Corporation would, in accordance with the *Transparency and Accountability Act*, submit the required activity plan and annual activities report.