

Over 6 million containers recycled in 4 months

YELLOWKNIFE (April 19, 2006) – Since the Beverage Container Program began November 1, 2005, over six million beverage containers have been returned for reuse and recycling.

Environment and Natural Resources Minister Michael Miltenberger continues to be impressed by the commitment residents of the Northwest Territories have shown towards recycling and the Beverage Container Program.

“There are six million fewer containers that have ended up in our landfills or littering our roads and highways,” said Minister Miltenberger. “It shows just how much residents of the Northwest Territories care about our environment and keeping their communities cleaner.”

During the first four and one-half months of the program, Yellowknife residents returned 3 million containers. The remaining 3 million containers were returned to the other recycling depots in the Northwest Territories.

“The key to the program’s success has been community participation, in that we now have 26 businesses operating community depots. Interim arrangements have been made for the remaining communities that do not have depots. In this way, all residents are able to return their beverage containers for recycling,” says Director of Environmental Protection, Emery Paquin.

Recently, another milestone was reached when two semi-trailers filled with 36,000 lbs (16,329 kg) of baled aluminum and 33,000 lbs (14,968 kg) of plastic containers left the Yellowknife Processing Centre (the Bottle Shop). The bales were destined for recyclers in Vancouver.

Since the Beverage Container Program began, 25 semi-trailer loads of refillable glass containers, or about 1.5 million bottles, have also been shipped to Edmonton for reuse.

Recovered Containers by Processing Centre

from November 1, 2005 to March 15, 2006

Processing Centre	Quantity
Yellowknife (includes North Slave Region)	3,300,104
Inuvik (includes Inuvik Region)	1,107,161
Hay River (includes South Slave, Deh Cho and Sahtu Regions)	1,690,303

Total

6,097,568

For more information, please contact:

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