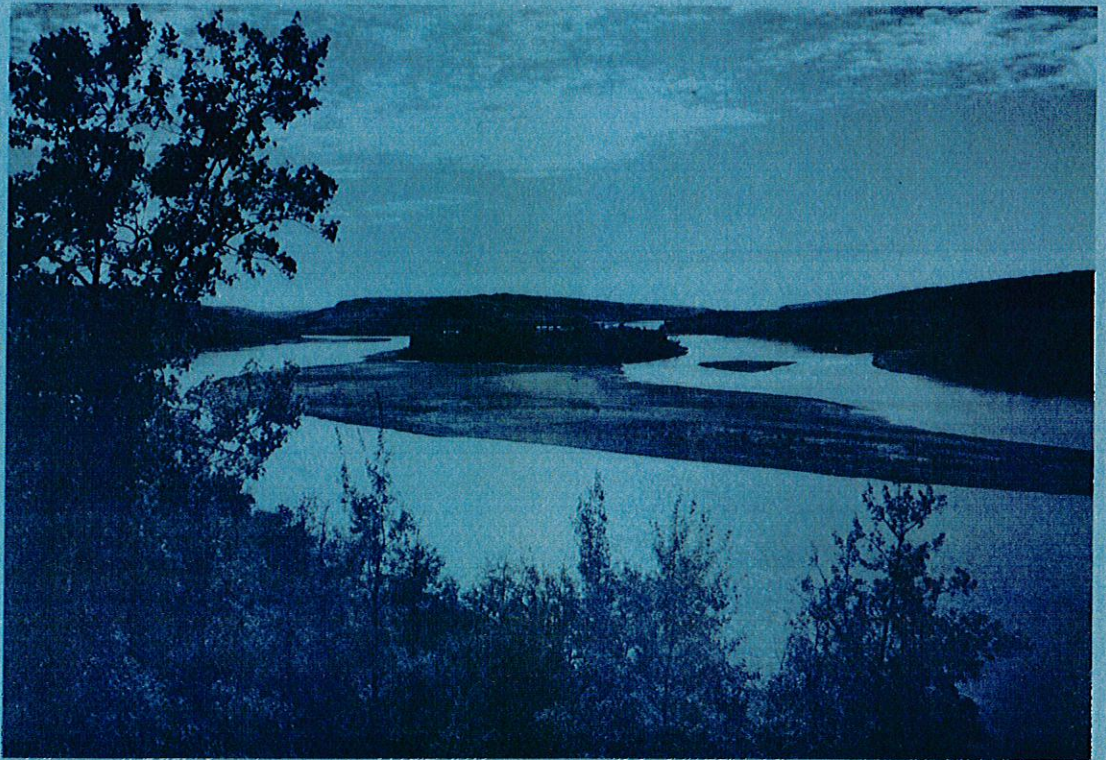# OFFICIAL OPENING

NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT
BRANCH

4:00 P.M. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1979
10018 - 101 STREET
PEACE RIVER, ALBERTA

Alberta
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
AND TOURISM

NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT BRANCH
ALBERTA BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
FEBRUARY 9, 1979
OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONIES

4:00 p.m.   - Refreshments

      - Master of Ceremonies:

        - A. G. McDONALD,
          DEPUTY MINISTER,
            BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

4:30 p.m.   - Introduction of Branch Staff:

        - R. M. FINNERTY,
          EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
            NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT BRANCH

      - Greetings:

        - MAYOR JOHN FRIESEN,
          TOWN OF PEACE RIVER

      - Greetings:

        - HONOURABLE AL ADAIR,
          MINISTER OF RECREATION, PARKS AND WILDLIFE,
          M.L.A., PEACE RIVER

      - Introduction of The Northern Alberta Development Council
        and Official Opening:

        - HONOURABLE R. W. DOWLING,
          MINISTER OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND
          TOURISM AND CHAIRMAN OF NORTHERN ALBERTA
          DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

      Official Ribbon Cutting:

        HONOURABLE R. W. DOWLING

        HONOURABLE AL ADAIR

        MAYOR JOHN FRIESEN

NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT BRANCH

The purpose of the Northern Development Branch is to participate in developing and maintaining a socio-economic environment in Northern Alberta which gives maximum opportunity for the inhabitants of the area to grow and prosper.

In acheiving its purpose the Branch provides administrative and technical support to the Northern Alberta Development Council; co-ordinates the Federal/Provincial Alberta North Subsidiary Agreement; and implements a flexible strategy of achieving socio-economic improvements in Northern Alberta.

The Branch is organized into three sectors: Program Development, Program Co-ordination and Council Administration. Program Development provides the survey and analysis function to support the Northern Alberta Development Council in its public information and monitoring role in Northern Alberta. This section also reacts to policy requests of the Minister and department officials.

Program Co-ordination is responsible for implementation of the Alberta North Agreement and facilitates and assists in the delivery of a wide variety of government programs in Northern Alberta.

Council Administration responds to the many administrative and technical support needs of the Northern Alberta Development Council.

While the Northern Development Branch has the same overall economic development objectives as the rest of the department of Business Development and Tourism, its involvement in the social aspects of the North gives it a unqiue role. This is emphasized by the Branch's role as Provincial Co-ordinator of the $55 million Alberta North Subsidiary Agreement which seeks to provide maximum benefits in the areas of human development, community services, social adjustment and economic development.

The Branch seeks to advance the development of human and natural resources in Northern Alberta, as well as aiding in community development goals such as local decision making and planning. It delves into a wide variety of issues as a result of briefs to the Northern Alberta Development Council - health services, manpower training, community infrastructure, education, law enforcement, housing conditions, transportation and communication services, resource development, etc.

In its work as a co-ordinator and facilitator, and supplier of technical support to the Northern Alberta Development Council, the Branch from its new office in Peace River will help maintain a vital communications link between northern people and government.

MEMBERS OF THE NORTHERN ALBERTA DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Hon. R. W. Dowling, Chairman
Edmonton

Jim May
Grande Prairie

Ike Lawrence, Vice-Chairman
High Prairie

Larry Shaben, MLA
Lesser Slave Lake

Larry Chorney
Fairview

Henry Sinclair
Slave Lake

John Drobot
St. Paul

Stan Smith
Fort Vermilion

Josephine Langevin
Lac La Biche

Mariella Sneddon
Fort McMurray

STAFF OF THE NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT BRANCH

Executive Director:

R. M. (Murray) Finnerty

D. E. (Doreen) Ponto, Stenographer

R. A. (Roberta) Mebs, Stenographer

Program Development:

G. G. (Jerry) Archibald, Director

A. A. (Alfred) Fraser, Northern Development Officer

P. H. (Paul) Cox, Northern Development Officer

Program Co-ordination:

B. M. (Budd) Bewell, Director

R. H. (Ron) Blackburn, Northern Development Officer

Vacant, Northern Development Officer

Council Administration:

G. E. (Geoff) Milligan, Senior Northern Development Officer

Vacant, Northern Development Officer