

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

On behalf of the Passenger Services Review Committee, I would like to thank you for your interest in this process and advise you that the following was released on Wednesday October 20, 1999.

The Passenger Services Review Committee presented its Final Report to Ontario Northland's Board of Directors at a meeting today.

The Committee concluded that, based on the Terms of Reference, and if no financial support from the government is forthcoming, Alternative 3 (Bus Only) is the only reasonable alternative.

The Committee also recognized the public support for the continuation of rail service and when forced to decide between the rail alternatives, Alternative 6 (Train 3 Days per Week in Each Direction) was preferred by the public.

The Committee therefore puts forward Alternative 3 (Bus Only) and Alternative 6 (Train 3 Days per Week in Each Direction) to Ontario Northland's Board for consideration.

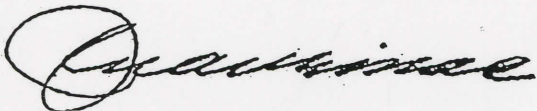
"The Committee members showed a strong commitment to developing the most viable transportation alternatives for northeastern Ontario," stated Committee Chair Joe Mavrinac. "Public input received throughout the process played a large role in the Committee's deliberations," he added.

In thanking Committee members, Ontario Northland Chair Dick Grant stated, "We acknowledge the difficulty of the task undertaken by these dedicated individuals, and appreciate their efforts."

"It is now the responsibility of the Board to consider carefully what we have heard from the Committee and the public. We will do that as we go through the annual process of developing our Business Plan and Budgets for the next five year period. These documents, including our recommendations, will, as usual, be submitted to the Minister of Northern Development and Mines for approval," added Grant.

Enclosed for your information is a final copy of the Committee's Final Report.

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Joe Mavrinac", with a large, stylized initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Joe Mavrinac, Chair
Passenger Services Review Committee.