

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Department of Works, Services and Transportation (WST) is proposing to construct a two-lane, all-season gravel surface highway from Cartwright Junction to Happy Valley-Goose Bay. This highway is Phase III of the Trans Labrador Highway (TLH) and will link the existing TLH highway sections to the east (Phase II) and west (Phase I). The TLH - Phase III project is currently undergoing an environmental assessment under both the Newfoundland and Labrador *Environmental Protection Act* and *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA). As part of the environmental assessment, detailed study was required on tourism and recreation within the study area for the highway. A component study on tourism and recreation was prepared and submitted to the Department of Environment in January 2003.

Following submission of the Tourism and Recreation Component Study to the Department of Environment, the document was examined to determine whether it fulfilled the requirements of the guidelines. Before a final decision can be reached on the project, the requirement for further information has been identified. A deficiency statement outlining comments and requirements for further information on tourism and recreation was provided to WST in April 2003.

The deficiency statement comments indicated that additional information was required on the tourism and recreation industry in central and southern Labrador. This addendum addresses the comments as outlined in the deficiency statement, presenting a response to each individual comment and question. Deficiency statement comments were addressed using in-house sources and data and, where necessary, communication/interviews with representatives from relevant agencies.

Through the responses to the deficiency statement comments, the addendum presents additional information on the tourism and recreation industry in central and southern Labrador covering the following topics:

- tourism markets currently being attracted to Labrador;
- investment in tourism facilities;
- needs/interests of Labrador's tourism markets;
- level of participation in various tourism activities;
- tourist expenditures;
- tourism assets;
- experience with tourism potential associated with other circular routes; and
- contribution of tourism and recreation industry to the local economy.

