



# Creating Futures

South Slave Divisional Education Council · PO Box 510 · Fort Smith, NT · X0E 0P0 · Ph: (867) 872-5701 · Fax: (867) 872-2150

## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 25, 2014**

### **South Slave Divisional Education Council Wins Gold**

*IPAC and Deloitte honours SSDEC's Leadership for Literacy Initiative*

Fort Smith – The *Institute of Public Administration of Canada* (IPAC) and Deloitte announced its 2013 winners of its *Public Sector Leadership Award*. The finalists, bronze, silver and gold winners were presented with their awards at a gala in Toronto on February 13<sup>th</sup>. The South Slave DEC took home the top honour for its *Leadership for Literacy* initiative. IPAC's leadership award celebrates innovation and excellence in the public sector.

The SSDEC becomes the first school board to win a Public Sector Leadership Award, as well as the first organization to win from the Northwest Territories. According to IPAC, the panel of judges was ultimately swayed by the data that confirmed that the initiative was having a positive impact. In addition IPAC noted the spin-off benefits to Aboriginal language instruction and the culture of schools in the South Slave.

When presenting the award, an IPAC representative remarked that the SSDEC was doing great work to improved education in the Northwest Territories and has provided a model being studied and adopted by other jurisdictions.

Superintendent Dr. Curtis Brown and Assistant Superintendent Brent Kaulback were on hand to receive the award in Toronto. In his remarks Brown said, **“We are immensely proud of the work that has been done in the South Slave. It is clear that the *Leadership for Literacy* initiative has built a culture of collaboration and learning that has had a transformational impact on our schools.”** Brown added, **“Our staff, DEAs and Council members do an incredible job and deserve to be recognized for their success. Our administrators deserve credit for having courage and taking risks in order to ensure a better lot for staff and students. Our teachers, parents and students need to hear about and see this award as a testament to their hard work and our collective improvement.”**

Brent Kaulback, Assistant Superintendent and coordinator of the Aboriginal language program for the SSDEC said that the IPAC judges were particularly impressed with the improvements in both Aboriginal education and language training, **“Our improvements in English literacy has spilled over to new techniques in Aboriginal-language instruction with very promising results.”**

For additional information please see the attached press release, and the following links:

**Video link on the IPAC site -**

<http://link.brightcove.com/services/player/bcpid2436778647001?bckey=AQ~~,AAABo8OBj2k~.6V0Vhy4gGNJeZhLAKP2ciCyHv6dYcaIn&bctid=3202512875001>

**Winner's commentary -**

<http://www.leadershipawards.ca/en/winners/Pages/HomeWinners2013winners'commentary.aspx>

-30-

*For more information contact Steven J. Lee, Public Affairs Coordinator  
(867) 872-5701 ext. 23, [slee@ssdec.nt.ca](mailto:slee@ssdec.nt.ca)*