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NEWS RELEASE

IRPP releases concluding chapter from book on Canada's North

Read about "The New Northern Policy Universe" online today

Montreal – In the lead up to Prime Minister Harper's visit to the Arctic the Institute for Research on Public Policy is releasing the concluding chapter, "The New Northern Policy Universe," from its pioneering book, *Northern Exposure: Peoples, Powers and Prospects in Canada's North* co-edited by Frances Abele, Thomas J. Courchene, F. Leslie Seidle and France St-Hilaire.

The result of a two-year, multidisciplinary research program, this extensive and forward-looking collection examines the key elements of a truly integrated Northern Strategy including: Arctic sovereignty, climate change, science policy, Aboriginal and public governance, economic development, and human capital and education, with a unique focus on the views and perspectives of northerners.

"Canada's North has always been an important part of the country's identity," notes co-editor France St-Hilaire, IRPP's vice-president of research. "But, this reality is taking on a new light as melting polar ice transforms the Arctic into the epicenter of new global economic and geopolitical interests. Northern development will be an increasingly important aspect of Canadian political, social and economic vitality, and it should be a priority for public discussion and informed debate."

Northern Exposure: Peoples, Powers and Prospects in Canada's North includes contributions from Inuit and First Nations leaders, former territorial premiers, and Aboriginal youth activists, as well as commentaries by Nobel Peace Prize nominee Siila Watt-Cloutier, and former ambassador for circumpolar affairs Mary Simon.

"The future of Canada's northern regions is closely tied to the well-being of its residents and the strength of its communities – as well as the financial viability of its governments," says co-editor Frances Abele, a professor at Carleton University's School of Public Policy and Administration and an IRPP research fellow. "Above all, a new northern policy strategy should ensure that northerners have the capacity to exercise greater control over their own destinies."

The concluding chapter of *Northern Exposure: Peoples, Powers and Prospects in Canada's*, "The New Northern Policy Universe," can be downloaded, free of charge, on the Institute's Web site, www.irpp.org.

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