



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

### **DE BEERS CANADA & YELLOWKNIVES DENE FIRST NATION ANNOUNCE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

**Yellowknife (Aug. 27, 2007)** – De Beers Canada Inc. and the Yellowknives Dene First Nation are proud to announce the recipients of scholarships for 2007. The eight scholarship recipients are Angela Charlo, Sarah Erasmus, Catherine Gillis, Sheryl Hardisty-Liske, Laurie-Ann Lines, Rebecca Plotner, Vanessa L. Sangris, and Charlene Sundberg.

Administered jointly by De Beers Canada Inc. and the Yellowknives Dene First Nation and now in its second year, the scholarship program encourages completion of high school, assists in the costs of pursuing post secondary education and enables adults to return to school to finish their General Education Diploma.

“There are many job opportunities now and over the life of the Snap Lake Mine,” said Chantal Lavoie, Vice President of De Beers Canada. “These scholarships are a long term investment and they will assist members of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation to pursue the kinds of education that they need to access a broader set of job opportunities.”

“The winners of this scholarship are actually our community role models. They help to pave the way for other students to think about putting more effort into further education,” said Dettah Chief Eddie Sangris.

This year’s recipients are all attending post-secondary institutions this fall, with school destinations including Yellowknife, Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

“Each recipient has shown a tremendous amount of determination and courage to be successful at a higher level of education,” says Elizabeth (Sabet) Biscaye, Senior Community Liaison for De Beers Canada, who coordinated a celebration dinner hosted by De Beers Canada.

The scholarships are awarded annually to eligible Yellowknives Dene students are part of the Impact Benefit Agreement between De Beers Canada and the Yellowknives Dene First Nation. In 2006, 14 students received scholarships through the program.

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**De Beers Canada photo**

Chantal Lavoie, Vice President NWT Projects for De Beers Canada Inc., left, is joined by, scholarship recipient Charlene Sundberg, Yellowknives Dene councillors Diane Betsina and Cecilia Beaulieu, and recipients Vanessa Sangris, Catherine Gillis, Rebecca Plotner, Laurie-Ann Lines and Sheryl Hardisty-Liske. De Beers contributes to a Yellowknives Dene First Nations scholarship fund under an Impact Benefit Agreement with the YKDFN. Also receiving scholarships are Sarah Erasmus and Angela Charlo.

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