

Caribou herd

YELLOWKNIFE — A major caribou herd in the North is in such serious decline that the Northwest Territories may impose hunting restrictions - including on aboriginals who depend on the animals. The NWT government says a number has to ab...ster Michael the rate of this that tough decisions are needed to help it recover.

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People Who Make A Difference

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FOR THE 2009 ENBRIDGE NORTHERN GATEWAY WORLD BASEBALL CHALLENGE

September 2009

The Prince George Citizen and MLAs Pat Bell and Shirley Bond are sponsors of a monthly feature to recognize People Who Make a Difference. The selection is based on outstanding leadership qualities. The leadership experience may be demonstrated in their job, through volunteer activities in the community in such areas as sports, culture and with non-profit organizations. We are pleased to announce the recipient of the Community Leader Award for the month of September is the Organizing Committee for the 2009 Enbridge Northern Gateway World Baseball Challenge.

More than \$1.5 million was infused into the community of Prince George during the volunteer-driven 2009 Enbridge Northern Gateway World Baseball Challenge event held in July.

"Without the more than 300 volunteers, including the committee that organized the event, putting on this event would not have been possible," said Richard Trippel, a member of the committee in charge of accommodation, catering and logistics.

Players and spectators came from all over the world and feedback from those who attended, including organizers from other tournaments and team managers, said Prince George achieved very impressive standards, Trippel said. Many team organizers said they will be returning for the next tournament set for 2011 and they'll recommend the event to others.

"When the organizers were told this was all volunteer-based, they couldn't believe it and were very impressed," said Trippel, who accepted his position on the committee to honour the memory of Del Laverdure, former publisher of the Prince George Citizen newspaper. Laverdure arranged for the sponsorship from the Citizen's owners Glacier Media Inc. for naming rights to Prince George Citizen Field, where the World Baseball Challenge was held.

Along with earning the reputation of hosting a world-class event, the organizers arranged for a fundraiser for breast cancer where they auctioned off official pink baseballs signed by participating teams. The organizing committee also held a four-day youth development camp at Volunteer Park with Baseball Canada and Baseball B.C. at the helm. There were major league scouts on hand to check out the talent at the tournament and two locals received one-on-one evaluations. Shawn Rice was the committee member in charge of marketing. "I volunteered because I saw the impact the event would have on the community -- it would do so much for Prince George and I love to volunteer," said Rice.

The organizing committee for the World Baseball Challenge has been recognized with an invitation to present information about the World Baseball Challenge to a forum held by the International Baseball Federation which will be held in Switzerland in December. Thanks to the volunteers and those on the organizing committee, this event was a success in every way, said Rice.



Shawn Rice
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Richard Trippel
Director of Accommodations & Food Services
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