



SIXTH IN COUNTRY

Local pay pretty good . . .

Prince George is among the top 10 cities in Canada in terms of highest average income. The city placed sixth with an average income for 1975 to \$10,634, according to statistics just released by the federal revenue department.

Two Ontario cities registered the highest average income in 1975 among the 100 cities surveyed.

Oakville, with a Ford Motor Co. plant and midway between Toronto and Hamilton, led the list with an average income estimated from personal income tax statistics of \$11,714 a year.

Burlington, a suburb of the steel-manufacturing city of Hamilton, was second with average income of \$11,527.

Both cities overtook the ironore port town of Sept Iles, Que., which in 1974 had the highest average income. Sept Iles was third in 1975 with \$11,191.

The figures also show that on average male incomes during the 1971-75 period increased marginally faster than female incomes.

The average incomes for cities are determined for the first time in 1975 from the total income reported by all taxpayers rather than from taxable incomes.



Long run

The sign shows what counsellors Phil Ruhl (left) and Jim Carson have left as they jog along Highway 97 south on the last leg Saturday of the annual 31-mile run from Camp Trapping to Prince George. Five out of 14 students and counsellors completed the gruelling run this year.

Citizen photo by Doug Weller

CITIZEN EXPANSION

We're growing!

Construction of a \$217,119 addition will begin immediately at The Citizen, publisher John Evans said today.

Viking Construction Ltd., of Prince George, the low bidder of five contractors, was chosen to do the work. Evans said the work is expected to be completed by mid-December.

The extension has been designed by Prince George architect Trelle A. Morrow, designer of the original building, completed in 1963.

The addition will include a 4,000 sq. ft. main floor and a 1,000 sq. ft. mezzanine.

It will include new editorial offices, new darkrooms and photo studio, an expanded library, document storage area and a first-aid room.

A shaky start for spacecraft

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — The Voyager 2 spacecraft is speeding toward Jupiter, Saturn and beyond while scientists try to analyse its shaky start and the problems that threatened the mission.

Scientists at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory here ordered the spacelab, equipped with television cameras, to turn several of its instruments on and off late Sunday night to test them.

They were to analyse the results of those experiments today. But the scientists said the Voyager 2 appears to have overcome its earlier troubles and was sailing smoothly to the outer planets and eventually out of the solar system.

Most troubling of the Voyager 2's apparent problems was the possible failure of a boom containing cameras and scientific tests to project itself away from the craft's body. But engineers now believe the boom did extend and is within one degree of its proper position.

That diagnosis was made Saturday night when mission controllers ordered a sun sensor on the boom to turn toward the sun so it could absorb solar rays. That command was obeyed, said mission controller Jerry Stillwell.

Welfare policy changed

VICTORIA (CP) — People waiting for unemployment insurance will not be eligible for welfare, Human Resources Minister Bill Vander Zalm announced Friday.

The minister said changes to the federal Unemployment Insurance Commission regulations have forced the provincial government to change its welfare policy "so that only those people in emergency situations will be able to collect benefits while awaiting UIC."

"The federal government has extended the qualification period from eight to 12 weeks and this new regulation will ensure that those waiting for UIC will use their final pay cheque or own savings before coming to the human resources for welfare," Vander Zalm said in a news release.

In another change to the Guaranteed Available Income for Need Act regulations, welfare clients will no longer be permitted to re-mortgage their homes in order to collect more benefits.

"We have encountered a number of abuses where persons remortgage their homes to pay off bills, take a holiday, purchase new cars or what have you, and then turn around and collect additional rental overage benefits from the ministry (welfare) to cover the increased mortgage payment," Vander Zalm said.

IWA here unaffected by dispute

A possible strike this week by members of the International Woodworkers of America against the forest industry does not include the northern area centred around Prince George.

The contract for IWA members in the northern region does not expire until Aug. 31 and no strike vote has been taken by the 5,000 members.

Toby Mogensen, an official of IWA Local 1-424, said today that whatever may happen in the coastal and southern interior regions does not apply to this area.

"We still have a contract," Mogensen said.

But so far no contract talks have been held between the forest industry in the north and the union.

Mogensen said northern representatives have taken part in negotiations as far as a province-wide pension plan is concerned but no direct talks have taken place.

Meanwhile, IWA regional president Jack Munro said talks resumed in Vancouver today and he warned Sunday there would either be a settlement or a strike this week.

"We have pared down our demands but have been told our expectations are still too high," Munro said.

Details of the demands were not made public and industry negotiators declined to comment on the latest talks.

B.C. GOV'T MOVE

Airport plans benefit north

by ELI SOPOW
Citizen Staff Reporter

Upgrading of the Fort St. James airport and construction of additional airports in the north could result from a provincial government announcement which promises upgrading of air facilities in central and northern B.C.

Transport Minister Jack Davis said Friday the government plans to embark on a navigational aid and landing strip upgrading program, and will look into buying and leasing aircraft to small airline companies.

He said the federal government, which normally takes care of upgrading runways and providing navigational aids, has only \$2 million a year budgeted in B.C. while the province's needs are \$5 million.

The announcement was welcomed by Jack Stelfox, executive vice-president of Northern Thunderbird Air Ltd. which serves much of the province including flights from Prince George to Prince Rupert, Terrace, Mackenzie and Fort St. James.

In Fort St. James, the airline leases a gravel airstrip from the village and provides navigation, communication and terminal facilities.

Stelfox said he would welcome someone other than his company providing the services.

However, he said construction of airports in places like Burns Lake or Vanderhoof must also take into account the volume of traffic available.

Stelfox said service provided to points west is not used to capacity, and it would be doubtful if service in other, smaller communities could be justified in terms of traffic volume.

"The major criteria of an airport is that people want to use it," he said.

It is not immediately clear what rationale the government will use in deciding if a new airport should be built in a community or if existing facilities should be upgraded.

Prince George's Mayor Harold Moffat was also among spokesmen for B.C.'s northern communities and air services who said they welcome the provincial proposal.

Moffat said he sees the announcement as a move toward capturing some of the trade from the pipeline development for B.C. instead of letting it all go to Alberta-based Pacific Western Airlines.

TRUDEAU'S ARRANGEMENT

'Mother and father'

OTTAWA (CP) — Margaret Trudeau joined Prime Minister Trudeau and their three children Sunday for the family's first public appearance together in nearly three months.

When Mrs. Trudeau boarded a government aircraft which brought them from Vancouver, it was the second time she had been seen in public with her husband since they announced their legal separation May 25. The first time was June 16 when the couple reunited briefly at the airport here upon Trudeau's return from a Commonwealth conference in London.

Moderate chiefs named in China

TOKYO (AP) — The Chinese Communist party has named a new group of leaders committed to political and economic pragmatism rather than Mao Tsetung's policy of continuous revolution. Three of the five top men are staunch disciples of the late moderate Premier Chou En-lai.

The 11th Chinese Communist party congress, which ended in Peking Thursday, elected

Mr. Trudeau took the children with him when he went to Western Canada for a holiday 12 days ago.

In an interview last Thursday, Margaret said she would be staying in Ottawa with the prime minister and their sons as mother and father, not husband and wife.

Trudeau's office declined to say whether she would be returning to the prime minister's official residence at 24 Sussex Drive or whether she would live in the apartment she has rented nearby.

She has travelled extensively in the last six months,

and staff at the prime minister's office has said they are not keeping track of her movements. During her stays in Ottawa, she is known to spend time with her children.

The prime minister is usually reluctant to speak about his personal life, and he had given no public indication of any reconciliation with his wife.

He and Justin, 5, Sacha, 3, and Michel, 22 months, set out from Ottawa by train Aug. 9 and travelled to Prince Rupert, B.C., making several stops along the way.

From Prince Rupert, Trudeau and Sacha flew to the Yukon, while the other two children headed to Vancouver to stay with their mother's parents, James and Doris Sinclair.

Margaret joined them there, and the whole family was reunited when Trudeau's government jet arrived from the Yukon. Sacha, aboard the plane, rushed into his mother's arms, as she entered the plane.

Trudeau had ended his holiday at a cabin on Kathleen Lake, near Haines Junction.

Mr. and Mrs. Trudeau shunned reporters and photographers as they left Vancouver.

TODAY

Bon Wicks

"Owing to an unforeseen strike, passengers are asked to remain in the air until further notice."

FEATURED INSIDE

Groucho mourned.
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- Women's groups are applauding the rape conviction of a Vancouver businessman as "a step for justice for women." Page 2.
 - Canada Hotel fell far short in its bid to win the B.C. senior B lacrosse championship. Page 18.
 - The winner was no surprise, but the runner-up was at a Prince George weekend softball tournament. Page 17.
 - B.C. failed to repeat as champions at the Canada Summer Games, finishing behind Ontario and Quebec. Page 17.
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THE WEATHER

The high-pressure ridge that last week brought Prince George sunny skies and warm temperatures had dissipated and been replaced by a stationary frontal system which is expected to bring the city cloudy skies with some showers and cool temperatures today and Tuesday.

The forecast high today is 20, the low 9. The high Sunday was 23, the low 9 with a trace of precipitation. On this date last year the high was 16, and low 7.

CLOUDY

NOW HEAR THIS

- Since B.C.'s woodworkers are making strike noises this week, it's worth noting the name of the local flagball team sponsored by the International Woodworkers of America. What else but the Strikers?
- B.C. Tel repairman Peter Turyk was on the job and driving to the McBride area when he spotted a purse at the side of the highway. After stopping and recovering the purse, he found it contained \$1,080 so he promptly turned it over to the RCMP. The police found the owners — two girls who were travelling to Jasper for a vacation. The girls had left the purse on the back of their car while getting gasoline and were, to say the least, pretty thankful to a Prince George man who believes honesty is the best policy.

Hospital's slowdown threatens college program

"Serious financial problems" may plague a new diploma nursing program at the College of New Caledonia because the 28-month course has had to be tailored around regular summer slowdowns at Prince George Regional Hospital.

A college board meeting Saturday was told the provincial government normally provides funds for nursing programs for only 24 months.

"We may run into a serious money problem down the road," observed board member Jim Pritchard, noting that Victoria has so far agreed to fund CNC's program for the first 12 months.

Some 35 students are expected to enroll this September in the diploma program which can lead to a registered nursing certificate.

Four semesters will run from September to April over the two years with five-week "summer" sessions ending in June. The fifth and final semester involves intensive practical training and goes from September to December.

Both college principal Dr. Fred Speckeen and nursing program director Glennyce Sinclair told The Citizen that summer slowdowns at the hospital during July and August are a

"major factor" in decisions to stretch CNC's program to 28 months.

"If it wasn't for the slowdown, it's possible our course could run right through. We could trim four months off," said Mrs. Sinclair who has been commended by the Registered Nurses Association of B.C. for her work in designing the course curriculum.

She explained that because of deferment of all elective surgery at the hospital during July and August, nursing students would miss out on practical training because patients would not be around.

However Mrs. Sinclair said the reasons for the summer slowdown are under standable — mostly economic — and said there are other minor factors involved in stretching the nursing program to 28 months:

Only limited arts and sciences programs are available in the summer at the college for nursing students; and the present course time module provides a concentrated period of practical training in the final semester.

Principal Speckeen told the board Saturday the length of other nursing courses in the province varies, but most run for 24 months.

Replying to Pritchard's question as to why CNC's program was not trimmed to meet government budget requirements, Speckeen said the college only learned about the 24-month rule a few months ago.

In his regular report to the board, Speckeen also said the college disagrees with a government consultant who has recommended the practical nursing program at CNC become an apprenticeship program.

"This would mean that all students enrolled in the course would be required to be unionized while doing their practicum in the hospitals.

Speckeen described the recommendation — which was made in the government's Hall Commission report — as "inappropriate, poorly done and unjustified."

Opposition to the proposal, he said, had come from other colleges including Selkirk and Vancouver City College.

"It's my understanding that the provincial ministry is not looking on the idea with much enthusiasm either," said Speckeen.

CNC currently enrolls about 20 students every three months in its practical nursing program which leads to a certificate in practical nursing.