

Happy Camper Award 2008

The work of ITI's Tourism and Parks division is guided, in part, by a mandate to operate and maintain a system of parks and parks facilities that support and enhance our tourism industry.

The "Happy Camper" Program was created in 2005 to recognize those individuals who – by going above and beyond – exhibit extraordinary hospitality and service on behalf of our region in our parks and visitor centres.

Nominations are solicited from visitors and parks users with signs, handouts and entry ballots. A panel made up of representatives from ITI's Tourism and Parks division, Northwest Territories Tourism and the Chair of the NWT Tourism Association review submissions every fall and select a winner.



The 2008 Happy Camper Award was presented to Mr. Peter Lesage from the 60th Parallel Territorial Park on the nomination of Ms. Donna Kay of Edmonton, AB.

"It was my first visit to Hay River. It was late and dark. I had forgotten to fill up with gas in High Level so when I reached the border, expecting to find a gas station, the gas tank was empty. Mr. Lesage was kind enough to find a jerry can. He was closing up but managed to get some gas in it and I made it to Hay River. Thank you. As a result, I was able to spend a week or so with my son and see some of the sites. Thank you again and God Bless – keep up the good work."

Mr. Lesage received his award from the Deputy Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment during an awards banquet held in conjunction with the Northwest Territories Tourism AGM Saturday November 15, 2008.

This award reads: "for providing outstanding hospitality to tourists visiting the Northwest Territories in 2008. A permanent plaque will be put up at the 60th Parallel Territorial Park with Peter's name inscribed on it.

Mr. Lesage also received a framed letter from the Minister thanking him for representing the NWT with such consideration and generosity.