



## Media Release

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### **2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL SUMMER AVIATION CAMP FOR FIRST NATION YOUTH**

**July 10, 2008 — FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: *The annual Summer Aviation Camp is being held this week in Thunder Bay for 30 First Nation youth to experience a taste of the Aviation industry.***

**Thunder Bay, Ontario** - This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Flight Camp sponsored by Wasaya WeeCheeWayWin and Wasaya Airways LP and is taking place July 7 – 11, 2008.

Wasaya WeeCheeWayWin is a not-for-profit Corporation formed by Wasaya Group Inc. to provide cultural and educational programs and activities for the Wasaya First Nation shareholder communities. Wasaya is owned by 10 First Nation communities.

This is one of the various ways that revenue generated from Wasaya First Nation customers finds its way back to directly benefit its ownership communities. Many of the funded programs are directed towards youth as is the case with the Annual Aviation Camp that is being held at Confederation College's Aviation School of Excellence.

#### **Background:**

There is a shortage of Pilots and Aircraft Mechanical/Avionics Engineers right now across Canada and Northern Ontario. This has been the case for many years. As a result there are excellent career positions available for these trades and good opportunity for First Nations youth to get involved in these excellent Career paths.

While It takes a three to four year commitment of college level education to become commercially licensed...all of our partners are committed to presenting these (and related) skilled trades as attainable career paths for First Nations youth. Our children must begin now to focus on their education paths and with the help of our partners we will work together to encourage and strengthen them to build tomorrow's future.

Last year 29 students attended the Camp and had a great time! The communities they represented were Bearskin Lake, Big Trout Lake (KI), Fort Severn, Kasabonika, Wapekeka, Weagamow Lake, Webequie, Wunnumin Lake, Fort Frances, and Thunder Bay.

Wasaya is providing the transportation to and from the Camp & providing the after-hours activities and chaperones for the 30 student camp (plus 10 chaperones/parents).

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