



News Release

First Graduates of Lineperson Apprenticeship Program

IQALUIT, Nunavut (May 8, 2006) – Qulliq Energy Corporation (QEC) over the weekend celebrated its first graduates of the lineperson apprenticeship program that is dedicated towards beneficiary training. Albert Netser and Neco Towtongie have successfully completed a four year, hands-on-training program to become registered trades people and officially completed final examinations at the end of April, 2006.

“This is a fantastic milestone and we are proud to provide excellent opportunities and rewarding career choices for beneficiaries in the skilled trades,” said Simon Merkosak, Chair, QEC Board of Directors. “It calls attention to the importance of trades and apprenticeship education, and highlights the need to continue expansion and participation in this area.”

The lineperson apprenticeship program is managed by the Line, Operations & Maintenance and Supervisors for each of the three regions. Training consists of three to four levels with a combination of on-the-job training, institutional instruction and some instruction at the Manitoba Hydro training centre. On successful completion of all levels and on-the-job training, the apprentice will become a journeyman and have an Inter-Provincial Ticket.

“We also recognize the dedicated supervisors, trainers, and mentors who are crucial in making on-the-job training programs, such a success,” said Merkosak. “In addition, QEC launched the next intake of lineperson apprentices last week.”

The program works in association with the Department of Education of the Government of Nunavut, which provides apprenticeship training subsidies to employers participating in the apprenticeship program.

As of March 31, 2005, the corporation had 51.8% per cent of its positions filled with beneficiaries of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. QEC is a strong supporter of beneficiary training.

Previous graduates of the Electrician Apprenticeship Program include Joe Sageatook from Iqaluit, who graduated in March 2000.

Current Apprenticeship Programs are in the Following Areas:

- Diesel Mechanics, 4 year program
- Parts Person Apprentice, 3 year program
- The corporation also provides significant beneficiary training in the fields of accounting, payroll and benefits

-30-

For more information contact:

Amy Hynes

Qulliq Energy Corporation

(867) 979-7534

ahynes@npc.nu.ca