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# Canada must push Arctic claims; Sovereignty battle over northern territory may be about to turn into a free-for-all

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Now that Stephen Harper has returned from the Canadian Arctic, the question may be asked — did his visit change anything? The answer, it appears, is that while nothing earth-shattering has happened yet, a great deal may be about to.

The prime minister's trip came just days after a Russian mini-sub planted that country's flag on the ocean floor beneath the North Pole. Harper's purpose was partly symbolic: Canada disputes Russia's territorial claims in the Arctic.

But it was much more. Ottawa had already announced that a fleet of six to eight patrol vessels will be stationed in the region. Now the prime minister is promising to build a deep-water port at Nanisivik on Baffin Island, and a military training base at Resolute Bay. Taken together, these announcements signal a major policy shift.

The reason itself is straightforward. Climate change has begun to melt the Arctic icepack, meaning vast regions that are currently inaccessible to surface ships may one day be opened up.

And that would inevitably present a series of challenges to our sovereignty, beginning with the Northwest Passage. Canada views the Passage as an internal waterway, subject to our sole jurisdiction. The U.S. insists the entire route is an international sea lane.

To date, the dispute has been largely academic, and both countries have simply talked the issue to a standstill. But if the Passage becomes readily navigable as the ice withdraws, it may take more than talk to preserve Canada's jurisdiction.

Canada and the U.S. also disagree about boundary lines in the Beaufort Sea. The disputed area is half again as large as B.C., and significant deposits of oil and natural gas may lie beneath the seabed.

Finally, the purpose of Russia's flag-planting incident is to claim more than a million square kilometres of Arctic Ocean currently considered international waters. This area is well outside Russian territorial limits and Canada has just as good a claim, as do several other countries.

It is already clear the U.S. is preparing for a diplomatic confrontation in the North. The administration of President George W. Bush has asked Congress to ratify the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. This is the international treaty which governs disputes over ocean boundaries.

Canada must push Arctic claims; Sovereignty battle over northern territory may be about to turn into a free-

A succession of American presidents have shunned the Convention, since it was introduced in 1982. If the Bush administration is now willing to embrace it, that can only mean the U.S. is deadly serious about its Arctic claims.

No doubt American pressure tactics are partly motivated by financial interests. A quarter of the global reserves of oil and natural gas are thought to lie beneath the Arctic sea floor. And a shipping lane through the Northwest Passage would cut 7,000 kilometres off the Panama or Suez routes.

But part of the manoeuvring may arise from concerns over Canada's ability, or willingness, to maintain effective jurisdiction in the Arctic. The U.S. is comfortable sharing our undefended southern border. It would be less ready to see Canada share an undefended northern border with Russia if the ice-pack recedes.

In either case, what happens next may depend on how quickly and decisively Ottawa acts. Russia's claim will be adjudicated by an international commission. Short of filing a competing claim, there may be nothing Canada can do to affect the outcome of that particular dispute.

But our jurisdiction over the Northwest Passage, and in the disputed area of the Beaufort Sea, may come down to the old rule of thumb, that possession is nine-tenths of the law. Or as the prime minister has said, use it or lose it.

That would seem to mean establishing a permanent and active presence, both military and scientific. Harper's announcements are certainly a first step in this direction.

Nor do these measures come cheap. The patrol vessels alone will cost about \$7 billion to build and maintain.

But it's likely much more will be needed in the years ahead. Canada's Arctic coastline is thousands of kilometres long. From Nanisivik at one end of the Northwest Passage, to Inuvik at the other, is 2,000 kilometres as the crow flies. The sailing distance is much farther.

It seems probable deep-water installations will be needed at both ends, meaning Inuvik as well as Nanisivik. Then there are the off-shore islands —36,000 in all. Just maintaining navigation services and coastal surveillance in the main shipping channels will be costly and time-consuming.

In short, extending Canadian sovereignty over such a huge area will be a daunting task. And it is only magnified by the uncertainties involved.

The nature and extent of global warming is unclear. Whether these waters will ever be truly navigable is anyone's guess.

Nevertheless, perhaps there is a nearby precedent to consider. When the U.S. purchased Alaska from Russia in 1867, the deal was ridiculed as "Seward's folly," after the negotiator, William Seward. Of course the new territory turned out to be a bonanza, both in resource wealth and strategically.

If Ottawa commits large resources to the Arctic, we may well hear cries of "Harper's folly." But only time will tell if the prime minister has the last laugh.

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# Debate Canada's Arctic strategy

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Canada joins rush to claim the Arctic. That banner headline, splashed across the front page of the influential Financial Times this past week, confirms that the world is noticing as Ottawa affirms our sovereignty in the Far North. That's good as far as it goes.

But after vowing to stake out an "aggressive" claim, Prime Minister Stephen Harper is also playing catch-up at the top of the world.

Apart from Canada, the United States, Norway, Denmark and Russia are all competing for subsurface rights to the Arctic seabed, which may hold 25 per cent of the world's undiscovered oil and gas reserves. And the Northwest Passage is a potentially vital shipping route.

As the Arctic becomes more accessible and commercially viable through global warming and technological advances, Ottawa will have to work overtime to protect our stake. In the U.S., the Coast Guard has been urged to invest in new Polar Class 8 icebreakers as a strategic national priority. A Russian polar icebreaker, one of 18 in their fleet, has just planted a flag on the Arctic seabed. Canada has no comparable icebreaker. Both other countries also have Arctic-capable submarines..

Having a prime minister tour the Arctic, as Harper did this past week, sends a much-needed political signal. So does Ottawa's new multi-billion-dollar investment there.

On Friday, Harper announced Ottawa will "significantly strengthen" our claim to the Northwest Passage by creating a military training centre at Resolute Bay, by building a deep water port at strategically located Nanisivik on Baffin Island for military and civilian use and by upping the Canadian Ranger force of Inuit volunteers to 5,000. Canada has a "real, growing, long-term presence in the Arctic," he said.

This follows the announcement last month that the navy will get armed Arctic patrol vessels with some icebreaking capacity to police access points to the passage year-round, and to cruise it in summer.

These are prudent investments. Whether they amount to a coherent Arctic vision, or an Arctic impulse, remains to be seen.

Canadians need to hear more on this from Harper, and from Liberal leader Stephane Dion and New Democrat leader Jack Layton.

Despite Canada's flurry of Arctic activity, other countries can still move more easily through the disputed frozen waters.

Canadian scientists are hampered by lack of year-round access as they struggle to map our continental shelf, in an effort to buttress our claims at a United Nations law of the sea commission in 2013 to resolve overlapping international claims to the seabed.

While Harper is right to say that "Canada has a choice when it comes to defending our sovereignty over the Arctic. We either use it or lose it," the harder question is: What more do we need to do by way of using it?

Some Arctic experts have urged Ottawa to purchase, lease or borrow a heavy icebreaker or two, to give us assured year-round access. Most agree on the urgent need to invest more in polar science and mapping. And some urge more money into Arctic communities on waterways. What would best strengthen our claims is for legal experts to weigh.

Harper is undeniably off to a good start. But a series of Arctic initiatives, however forward-looking, does not necessarily constitute a coherent policy. Parliament should review what has been done to safeguard Canada's legal title in the region, consult the experts, and have its say on what remains to be done.

# Debate Canada's Arctic strategy

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# CANADA WILL BUILD TWO ARCTIC BASES; 'Sovereignty, the integrity of our borders, is the first and foremost responsibility'

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**ILLUSTRATION:** Photo: CANADIAN PRESS FILE PHOTO / The abandoned community of Nanisivik is blessed -- or cursed -- with 24 hours of daylight during the summer. ; Map: CANADIAN PRESS / CANADA NUNAVUT Resolute Bay (ARMY TRAINING BASE) Nanisivik (DEEP-SEA PORT) Greenland (Denmark) Svalbard (Norway) ;  
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Canada will build two new military facilities within contested Arctic waters to bolster its sovereign claim over the fabled Northwest Passage, Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced yesterday.

He said the Canadian Forces will create a new army training centre and a deepwater port at distant points of the Arctic archipelago that has been coveted for centuries as a possible trade route to Asia.

"Protecting national sovereignty, the integrity of our borders, is the first and foremost responsibility of a national government, a responsibility which has too often been neglected," Harper said, citing what he called the "first principle of Arctic sovereignty: use it or lose it."

The prime minister made the announcement barely 600 kilometres from the magnetic North Pole in one of the coldest settlements on Earth.

The frigid hamlet of Resolute Bay -- with a midsummer temperature of just 2 C when Harper spoke -- will be home to a new army training centre for cold-weather fighting, housing up to 100 military personnel.

The prime minister also announced that a new deep-sea port will be built for navy and civilian purposes on the north end of Baffin Island, in the abandoned zinc-mining village of Nanisivik.

Harper said both installations will bolster Canada's ownership claim to the waters and natural resources of the Northwest Passage, a claim that has been disputed by other countries including the United States, Japan, and the entire European Union.

Speaking in a storage shed protecting him against howling winds on a barren, rock-strewn highland, Harper said the announcements tell the world that Canada has a "real, growing, long-term presence in the Arctic."

The multimillion-dollar announcements stem from Conservative campaign commitments in the last election, and Harper's northern trip had been planned for months.

CANADA WILL BUILD TWO ARCTIC BASES; 'Sovereignty, the integrity of our borders, is the first and foremost

But they also happen to coincide with Russia's dramatic move to place their flag underneath the North Pole while claiming the area's resources as its own.

And as he spoke, Danish scientists were preparing to head for the Arctic ice pack tomorrow seeking evidence to position Denmark in the race to claim the potentially vast oil and other resources of the North Pole region.

Harper also announced that the 4,100-member Canadian Rangers patrol in the north will be increased by another 900 members.

He stood alongside Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor, who is expected to be moved in a cabinet shuffle early next week.

A group of Rangers — the rifle-toting, Inuit volunteer force — were also on hand.

The prime minister flew in for the announcement as planned, even though the strong Arctic winds had kept his military aircraft grounded in Yellowknife overnight.

He cited the early 20th-century novelist John Buchan — a future governor general, Lord Tweedsmuir — who wrote that Canada is a place where men face the primeval forces of nature and are made vigorous by a place so beautiful that it readily inspires one of the most priceless assets of a people: romantic patriotism.

Harper said Buchan's words ring just as true today in Canada's North.

"This remains a place where the principal forces of nature still hold sway, a place where men and women are braced into vigour by the huge trackless landscapes and the often harsh elements," he said.

"And a place so stunningly beautiful that no Canadian can experience it without feeling an overwhelming sense of romantic patriotism for our country."

He said even Canadians who have never been north of the 60th parallel feel it.

"It's embedded in our history, our literature, our art, our music and our Canadian soul," Harper said.

Canada's ownership claim to the waters has been all but ignored by other countries, due largely to the harshness of the barren, frigid climate in which maritime transportation remains impractical.

But with warming temperatures raising the prospect of increased resource exploitation and maritime traffic, the area has attracted renewed attention.

It's not known just how much mineral wealth and other resources lie beneath the archipelago's 36,500 islands and 1.4 million square kilometres — but Canada is eager to claim those riches as its own.

Harper was drawn into a verbal spat immediately after taking office last year after U.S. Ambassador David Wilkins restated his country's traditional view that Canada can have the islands, but the water is international territory.

The federal government also announced yesterday:

It will cost \$4 million to refurbish existing federal buildings for the new army training school at Resolute Bay, and another \$2 million a year to operate the centre. It will employ 12 full-time staff, and be used as a command centre and training facility for several dozen soldiers at a time. The government says it chose the site because of its location in the gateway to the High Arctic, and because it already houses some Defence and

**CANADA WILL BUILD TWO ARCTIC BASES; 'Sovereignty, the integrity of our borders, is the first and foremost**

Natural Resources Canada facilities.

The expanded Rangers program will cost \$240 million over 20 years at an average of \$12 million annually. The 60-year-old Rangers program will take on new patrol routes and modernize its equipment, which includes trademark red uniforms and antique rifles.

The deepwater port will extend the range of military ships in the Arctic through the navigable season, which is roughly June to October.

The new port location, more than 1,000 nautical miles from the Arctic hub of Iqaluit, was chosen for its strategic location at the eastern entrance to the Northwest Passage.

Environmental studies are slated to begin next year and construction is expected to begin in 2010. The port is expected to become partly operational in 2012 and fully operational by 2015.

The initial construction cost for the port is pegged at up to \$100 million, and operating and maintenance costs are projected to be \$200 million over 20 years.

# Harper's announcement raises eyebrows

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Prime Minister Stephen Harper's plan for two major military facilities in the Arctic has set off rapturous excitement in the communities affected and has politely raised eyebrows in countries that oppose Canada's control of the Northwest Passage.

But most experts agree that defence spending alone won't be enough to make the country's sovereignty over the Arctic stick.

"As a middle power, our Arctic future is necessarily going to involve a civilian future," said Michael Byers, a professor of international law at the University of British Columbia. "It has to involve the improvement of northern infrastructure."

Yesterday, Harper announced a new army training centre in the High Arctic hamlet of Resolute Bay -- Canada's second-most northern community. He also made known that a new deep-sea port will be built for navy and civilian purposes on the north end of Baffin Island in the abandoned old zinc-mining village of Nanisivik.

Nunavut Premier Paul Okalik welcomed the news, although he pointed out an existing dock is already in use at Nanisivik and the military expansion isn't likely to bring as much economic benefit as a new port in another location such as Iqaluit.

"It's something that will not have a whole lot of benefit for communities throughout Nunavut," he said. "There's no real added benefit in (Nanisivik) for Nunavut.

"It will not be as beneficial as we hoped."

Both Okalik and Byers said they hope Harper will still come through with another port that could also be used by fishing boats and visiting cruise ships.

The Nanisivik port sits right off the eastern gate to the Northwest Passage, a route Canada claims as its own, but which most other countries consider an international waterway. Harper's announcement isn't going to change that, said U.S. Ambassador David Wilkins.

"We respect Canada's right to open ports on this territory, to put troops where it deems necessary, and that still doesn't change our position," he said from Ottawa.

"We are simply saying, as is most of the world, that the Northwest Passage is a strait to be (open to) international navigation. It's not a Canada-U.S. issue; it's a Canada-versus-the-rest-of-the-world issue."

Still, Byers called the port and the training centre "excellent decisions."

He said 80 ships were active in the Northwest Passage last season and hundreds of airplanes fly overhead daily, and it's high time Canada made its authority known.

The winter warfare school has been on the army's wish list since at least 2000 when an internal report noted that Arctic operations often deteriorate into "exercises in survival."

But Dennis Bevington, New Democrat MP for the Western Arctic, said the Conservatives need to rebalance their northern policy away from the military and more toward development and diplomacy. "We do need a more integrated approach," he said. "We're not going to win our North through military efforts."

Sovereignty through negotiation won't be easy either. Wilkins pointed out that a number of international forums already co-operate on the Arctic, from Norad to the eight-nation Arctic Council, and suggested there's no need for Canada to assume responsibility for policing the passage.

"We continue to work together very closely with Canada in the Arctic region. This is a passage of international navigation and we all need to work together."

Nevertheless, the communities of Resolute Bay and Arctic Bay — the nearest to the Nanisivik site — were delighted by yesterday's news.

"It means a lot, actually," said Arctic Bay Mayor Darlene Willie. She said some hunters fear increased ship traffic could disrupt marine animal migration patterns, but most people in town hope the facility will provide much-needed jobs.

"We are expecting employment," she said. "We're struggling with earning and income."

# Military facilities bolster Arctic claim: PM; Stephen Harper makes announcement 600 kilometres from North Pole, citing 'first principle of Arctic sovereignty: use it or lose it'

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The multimillion-dollar announcements stem from Conservative campaign commitments in the last election, and Harper's northern trip had been planned for months.

But they also happen to coincide with Russia's dramatic move to place a flag underneath the North Pole while claiming the area's resources as its own.

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# Arctic military plans draw praise, raises eyebrows

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Both Okalik and Byers said they hope Harper will still come through with another port that could also be used by fishing boats and visiting cruise ships.

The Nanisivik port sits right off the eastern gate to the Northwest Passage, a route that Canada claims as its own, but which most other countries consider an international waterway. Harper's announcement isn't going to change that, said U.S. Ambassador David Wilkins.

"We respect Canada's right to open ports on this territory, to put troops where it deems necessary, and that still doesn't change our position," he said from Ottawa.

"We are simply saying, as is most of the world, that the Northwest Passage is a strait to be (open to) international navigation. It's not a Canada-U.S. issue; it's a Canada-versus-the-rest-of-the-world issue."

# Army base, naval port to bolster Canada's Arctic claim -- Harper

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**IDNUMBER** 200708110081  
**PUBLICATION:** The Daily Gleaner (Fredericton)  
**DATE:** 2007.08.11  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A9  
**BYLINE:** ALEXANDER PANETTA The Canadian Press  
**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 The Daily Gleaner (Fredericton)  
**WORD COUNT:** 221

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Canada will build two new military facilities within contested Arctic waters to bolster its sovereign claim over the fabled Northwest Passage, Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced Friday.

He said the Canadian Forces will create a new army training centre and a deepwater port at distant points of the Arctic archipelago that has been coveted for centuries as a possible trade route to Asia.

"Protecting national sovereignty, the integrity of our borders, is the first and foremost responsibility of a national government, a responsibility which has too often been neglected," Harper said, citing what he called the "first principle of Arctic sovereignty: use it or lose it."

The prime minister made the announcement barely 600 kilometres from the magnetic North Pole in one of the coldest settlements on Earth.

The frigid hamlet of Resolute Bay -- with a mid-summer temperature of just two degrees C when Harper spoke -- will be home to a new army training centre for cold-weather fighting, housing up to 100 military personnel.

The prime minister also announced that a new deepsea port will be built for navy and civilian purposes on the north end of Baffin Island, in the abandoned zinc-mining village of Nanisivik.

Harper said both installations will bolster Canada's ownership claim to the waters and natural resources of the Northwest Passage, a claim disputed by countries including the United States, Japan, and the entire European Union.

# Arctic plan gets mixed reaction

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<b>PUBLICATION:</b>	Kingston Whig–Standard (ON)
<b>DATE:</b>	2007.08.11
<b>SECTION:</b>	National/World
<b>PAGE:</b>	B8
<b>SOURCE:</b>	CP
<b>BYLINE:</b>	Bob Weber
<b>PHOTO:</b>	The Canadian Press
<b>ILLUSTRATION:</b>	Prime Minister Stephen Harper, accompanied by Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor, is greeted by Arctic Rangers as he arrives in Resolute Bay. He announced plans for two major military facilities in the Arctic, yesterday.
<b>WORD COUNT:</b>	573

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Prime Minister Stephen Harper's plan for two major military facilities in the Arctic has set off rapturous excitement in the communities affected and has politely raised eyebrows in countries that oppose Canada's control of the Northwest Passage.

But most experts agree that defence spending alone won't be enough to make the country's sovereignty over the Arctic stick.

"As a middle power, our Arctic future is necessarily going to involve a civilian future," said Michael Byers, a professor of international law at the University of British Columbia. "It has to involve the improvement of northern infrastructure."

Yesterday, Harper announced a new army training centre in the High Arctic hamlet of Resolute Bay – Canada's second–most northern community. He also made known that a new deep–sea port will be built for navy and civilian purposes on the north end of Baffin Island in the abandoned old zinc–mining village of Nanisivik.

Nunavut Premier Paul Okalik welcomed the news, although he pointed out an existing dock is already in use at Nanisivik and the military expansion isn't likely to bring as much economic benefit as a new port in another location such as Iqaluit.

"It's something that will not have a whole lot of benefit for communities throughout Nunavut," he said. "There's no real added benefit in [Nanisivik] for Nunavut."

"It will not be as beneficial as we hoped."

Both Okalik and Byers said they hope Harper will still come through with another port that could also be used by fishing boats and visiting cruise ships.

The Nanisivik port sits right off the eastern gate to the Northwest Passage, a route that Canada claims as its own, but which most other countries consider an international waterway. Harper's announcement isn't going to change that, said U.S. Ambassador David Wilkins.

"We respect Canada's right to open ports on this territory, to put troops where it deems necessary, and that still doesn't change our position," he said from Ottawa.

"We are simply saying, as is most of the world, that the Northwest Passage is a strait to be [open to] international navigation. It's not a Canada–U.S. issue; it's a Canada–versus–the–rest–of–the–world issue."

Still, Byers called the port and the school "excellent decisions."

He said 80 ships were active in the Northwest Passage last season and hundreds of airplanes fly overhead daily, and it's high time Canada made its authority known.

The winter warfare school has been on the army's wish list since at least 2000 when an internal report noted that Arctic operations often deteriorate into "exercises in survival."

But Dennis Bevington, New Democrat MP for the Western Arctic, said the Conservatives need to rebalance their northern policy away from the military and more toward development and diplomacy.

"We do need a more integrated approach," he said. "We're not going to win our North through military efforts."

Sovereignty through negotiation won't be easy either. Wilkins pointed out that a number of international forums already co-operate on the Arctic, from Norad to the eight-nation Arctic Council, and suggested there's no need for Canada to assume responsibility for policing the passage.

"We continue to work together very closely with Canada in the Arctic region. This is a passage of international navigation and we all need to work together."

Nevertheless, the communities of Resolute Bay and Arctic Bay – the nearest to the Nanisivik site – were delighted by yesterday's news. "It means a lot, actually," said Arctic Bay Mayor Darlene Willie. She said some hunters fear increased ship traffic could disrupt marine animal migration patterns, but most people in town hope the facility will provide much-needed jobs.

"We are expecting employment," she said. "We're struggling with earning and income."

In Resolute Bay, senior administrative officer Josh Hunter expects the school to bring services such as improved air connections to the south.

"Resolute will be put on the map a little bit better with this training school," he said.

But in the next breath, Hunter echoed calls to focus more on the North's civilian needs and less on defence spending.

"It would be nice to start discussion on a breakwater."

# Canada asserts Arctic claim; Army facility, navy port to be built in contested waters of Northwest Passage

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**PUBLICATION:** Kingston Whig–Standard (ON)

**DATE:** 2007.08.11

**SECTION:** National/World

**PAGE:** B1

**SOURCE:** CP

**BYLINE:** Alexander Panetta

**DATELINE:** RESOLUTE BAY, Nu.

**WORD COUNT:** 855

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Canada will build two new military facilities within contested Arctic waters to bolster its sovereign claim over the fabled Northwest Passage, Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced yesterday.

He said the Canadian Forces will create a new army training centre and a deepwater port at distant points of the Arctic archipelago that has been coveted for centuries as a possible trade route to Asia.

"Protecting national sovereignty, the integrity of our borders, is the first and foremost responsibility of a national government, a responsibility which has too often been neglected," Harper said, citing what he called the "first principle of Arctic sovereignty: use it or lose it."

The prime minister made the announcement barely 600 kilometres from the magnetic North Pole in one of the coldest settlements on Earth. The frigid hamlet of Resolute Bay – with a mid–summer temperature of just two degrees C when Harper spoke – will be home to a new army training centre for cold–weather fighting, housing up to 100 military personnel.

The prime minister also announced that a new deepsea port will be built for navy and civilian purposes on the north end of Baffin Island, in the abandoned zinc–mining village of Nanisivik.

Harper said both installations will bolster Canada's ownership claim to the waters and natural resources of the Northwest Passage, a claim disputed by countries including the United States, Japan, and the entire European Union.

Speaking in a storage shed protecting him against howling winds on a barren, rock–strewn highland, Harper said the announcements tell the world that Canada has a "real, growing, long–term presence in the Arctic."

The multimillion–dollar announcements stem from Conservative campaign commitments in the last election, and Harper's northern trip had been planned for months.

But they also happen to coincide with Russia's dramatic move to place a flag underneath the North Pole while claiming the area's resources as its own.

And as he spoke, Danish scientists were preparing to head for the Arctic ice pack today seeking evidence to position Denmark in the race to claim the potentially vast oil and other resources of the North Pole region.

Harper also announced that the 4,100–member Canadian Rangers patrol in the north will be increased by another 900 members.

He stood alongside Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor, who is expected to be moved in a cabinet shuffle early next week. A group of Rangers – the rifle-toting, Inuit volunteer force – were also on hand.

The prime minister flew in for the announcement as planned, even though the strong Arctic winds had kept his military aircraft grounded in Yellowknife overnight.

He cited the early 20th century novelist John Buchan – a future governor general, Lord Tweedsmuir – who wrote that Canada is a place where men face the primeval forces of nature and are made vigorous by a place so beautiful that it readily inspires one of the most priceless assets of a people: romantic patriotism.

Harper said Buchan's words ring just as true today in Canada's North.

"This remains a place where the principal forces of nature still hold sway, a place where men and women are braced into vigour by the huge trackless landscapes and the often harsh elements," he said.

"And a place so stunningly beautiful that no Canadian can experience it without feeling an overwhelming sense of romantic patriotism for our country."

He said even Canadians who have never been north of the 60th parallel feel it.

"It's embedded in our history, our literature, our art, our music and our Canadian soul," Harper said.

Canada's ownership claim to the waters has been all but ignored by other countries, due largely to the harshness of the barren, frigid climate in which maritime transportation remains impractical.

But with warming temperatures raising the prospect of increased resource exploitation and maritime traffic, the area has attracted renewed attention.

It's not known just how much mineral wealth and other resources lie beneath the archipelago's 36,500 islands and 1.4 million square kilometres – but Canada is eager to claim those riches as its own.

Harper was drawn into a verbal spat immediately after taking office last year after U.S. Ambassador David Wilkins restated his country's traditional view that Canada can have the islands, but the water is international territory.

The federal government also announced yesterday:

It will cost \$4 million to refurbish existing federal buildings for the new army training school at Resolute Bay, and another \$2 million a year to operate the centre. It will employ 12 full-time staff, and be used as a command centre and training facility for several dozen soldiers at a time. The government says it chose the site because of its location in the gateway to the High Arctic, and because it already houses some Defence and Natural Resources Canada facilities. The expanded Rangers program will cost \$240 million over 20 years at an average of \$12 million annually. The 60-year-old Rangers program will take on new patrol routes and modernize its equipment, which includes trademark red uniforms and antique rifles.

The deepwater port will extend the range of military ships in the Arctic through the navigable season, which is roughly June to October.

The new port location, more than 1,000 nautical miles from the Arctic hub of Iqaluit, was chosen for its strategic location at the eastern entrance to the Northwest Passage.

Environmental studies are slated to begin next year and construction is expected to begin in 2010. The port is

Canada asserts Arctic claim; Army facility, navy port to be built in contested waters of Northwest Passage

expected to become partly operational in 2012 and fully operational by 2015.

The initial construction cost for the port is pegged at up to \$100 million, and operating and maintenance costs are projected to be \$200 million over 20 years.

# Northern claim bolstered; Arctic getting army training centre, new deepsea port

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**PUBLICATION:** The Chronicle–Herald

**DATE:** 2007.08.11

**SECTION:** Canada

**PAGE:** A3

**SOURCE:** The Canadian Press

**BYLINE:** Alexander Panetta

**ILLUSTRATION:** Members of the Canadian Rangers patrol greet Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor after they arrive in Resolute Bay, Nunavut, on Friday. (FRED CHARTRAND / CP)

**WORD COUNT:** 523

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RESOLUTE BAY, Nunavut – Canada will build two new military facilities within contested Arctic waters to bolster its sovereign claim over the fabled Northwest Passage, Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced Friday.

He said the Canadian Forces will install a new army training centre and a deepwater port at distant points of the Arctic archipelago that has been coveted for centuries as a possible trade route to Asia.

"Protecting national sovereignty, the integrity of our borders, is the first and foremost responsibility of a national government, a responsibility which has too often been neglected," Harper said, citing what he called the "first principle of Arctic sovereignty: use it or lose it."

The prime minister made the announcement barely 600 kilometres from the magnetic North Pole in one of the coldest settlements on Earth. The frigid hamlet of Resolute Bay – with a mid–summer temperature of two degrees when Harper spoke – will be home to a new army training centre for cold–weather fighting that houses up to 100 military personnel.

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Harper said both installations will help back up Canada's ownership claim to the waters and natural resources of the Northwest Passage – a claim disputed by countries including the United States, Japan and the entire European Union.

Speaking in a storage shed protecting him against howling winds on a barren, rock–strewn highland, Harper said the announcements tell the world that Canada has a "real, growing, long–term presence in the Arctic."

The multimillion–dollar announcements stem from Conservative campaign commitments in the last election, and Harper's northern trip had been planned for months.

But they happen to coincide with Russia's dramatic move to place a flag underneath the North Pole while claiming the area's resources as its own.

And as he spoke, Danish scientists were preparing to head for the Arctic ice pack on Sunday seeking evidence to position Denmark in the race to claim the potentially vast oil and other resources of the North Pole region.



Harper also announced that the 4,100-member Canadian Rangers patrol will be increased by another 900 members.

He stood alongside Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor, who is expected to be moved in a cabinet shuffle early next week. A group of Rangers – the rifle-toting, Inuit volunteer force – were also on hand.

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# Harper announces army base, navy port to bolster Arctic; Ottawa looking to bolster its claim that it has sovereignty over Northwest Passage

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**PUBLICATION:** The Guardian (Charlottetown)

**DATE:** 2007.08.11

**SECTION:** Canada

**PAGE:** A10

**SOURCE:** CP

**DATELINE:** RESOLUTE BAY, Nu.

**ILLUSTRATION:** Prime Minister Stephen Harper is greeted by Arctic Rangers as he arrives in Resolute Bay joined by Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor Friday. Canadian Press photo

**WORD COUNT:** 384

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# Harper announces army base, navy port to bolster Canada's Arctic claim

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**PUBLICATION:** The Telegram (St. John's)

**DATE:** 2007.08.11

**SECTION:** National

**PAGE:** A12

**SOURCE:** CP

**BYLINE:** Alexander Panetta

**DATELINE:** Resolute Bay, Nu.

**ILLUSTRATION:** Prime Minister Stephen Harper is greeted by Arctic Rangers as he arrives in Resolute Bay Friday. Harper announced the opening and funding for a new Canadian Forces Training Centre in the Arctic. – Photo by The Canadian Press

**WORD COUNT:** 443

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He said the Canadian Forces will install a new army training centre and a deepwater port at distant points of the Arctic archipelago that has been coveted for centuries as a possible trade route to Asia.

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"And a place so stunningly beautiful that no Canadian can experience it without feeling an overwhelming sense of romantic patriotism for our country."

# Harper–North

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**DATE:** 2007.08.10

**KEYWORDS:** BUSINESS DEFENCE ECONOMY INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE POLITICS

**PUBLICATION:** bnw

**WORD COUNT:** 125

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YELLOWKNIFE -- Word is expected today of two high–profile defence projects as Prime Minister Harper wraps up a three–day tour of the Far North.

He is to announce construction of a new deep–sea military port in Nunavut, as well as a Canadian Forces winter fighting school near the top of the Northwest Passage.

The new port will be used to argue that Canada owns not only the countless islands of the Arctic but also the waterways that other countries claim as international territory.

But Harper suggested yesterday that defending Canada's territorial claim will take more than military installations.

He says economic, environmental and social initiatives are also needed to bolster Canada's dominion over the Arctic.

The announcements had been scheduled for the Nunavut communities of Resolute Bay and Nanisivik but the weather may not co–operate.

A powerful windstorm kept Harpr and his entourage grounded overnight in Yellowknife.

(CP)

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# Harper announces plans to tighten grip on Arctic; Military training centre, deep-water seaport among measures designed to bolster sovereignty

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**IDNUMBER** 200708110116  
**PUBLICATION:** Times Colonist (Victoria)  
**DATE:** 2007.08.11  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** D10

**ILLUSTRATION:** Photo: Fred Chartrand, Canadian Press / Prime Minister Stephen Harper is greeted by Arctic Rangers yesterday as he arrives in Resolute Bay, Nunavut, joined by Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor. Harper announced plans to set up a new military training centre in the Arctic. ;

**BYLINE:** Randy Boswell and Mike De Souza

**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service

**WORD COUNT:** 854

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Prime Minister Stephen Harper made two major funding announcements yesterday to boost Canada's sovereignty in the resource-rich North as Denmark's science minister claimed his country has a strong case for ownership of the North Pole.

"Canada's new government understands that the first principle of Arctic sovereignty is: Use it or lose it," Harper said in Resolute Bay, Nunavut, as he announced that the community, about 600 kilometres from the magnetic North Pole, will be the site of a new \$4-million military training centre. The centre is to be manned by up to 100 Canadian Forces personnel at a strategic site along the Northwest Passage.

Harper also confirmed that the government will spend \$100 million to build Canada's first deep-water Arctic seaport at Nanisivik, on the northern tip of Baffin Island. The port would be key to shipping through the Northwest Passage, which is expected to provide a summer sea route to Asia within decades as global warming melts the ice floes.

The two initiatives will "benefit communities throughout the region by creating jobs and opportunities and enhancing the safety and security of the people who live here." And, along with a 900-person boost to the Canadian Rangers' 4,100-member patrol, the investments will "significantly strengthen Canada's sovereignty over the Arctic."

Meantime, however, Danish Science Minister Helge Sander was announcing that recent findings by his country's researchers suggest "Denmark could be given the North Pole."

His assertion comes on the eve of a Danish-led research expedition to the Arctic and amid intensifying interest among all northern nations in securing shipping and seabed rights in the oil-rich region around the North Pole.

The joint Danish-Swedish expedition, which will carry one Canadian scientist, will have its path cleared by a chartered Russian icebreaker. Its aim is to cement Denmark's claims to extended seabed territory north of Greenland, an island controlled by Denmark, Sander said in a Danish television interview.

Sander said "preliminary investigations done so far are very promising," suggesting the disputed Lomonosov Ridge — a 1,500-kilometre undersea mountain range that runs past the Pole between Siberia and North America — is a geological extension of the northern coast of Greenland.

"There are things suggesting that Denmark could be given the North Pole," he said.

Canadian scientists, however, believe the Lomonosov Ridge could be seen as a continuation of Ellesmere Island, giving Canada a strong counterclaim against potential Russian and Danish land grabs.

In Ottawa, the Danish ambassador to Canada, Poul Kristensen, told CanWest News that "it's no secret that Denmark, on behalf of Greenland" has interests in Arctic resources and "of course, potentially, we can make claims."

While scientists from the five polar nations continue to collaborate on research aimed at mapping the Arctic sea floor, the governments of Canada, Russia, the U.S., Denmark and Norway remain at odds over an area thought to contain one-quarter of the planet's untapped petroleum reserves.

Earlier this month, Russia ruffled feathers by dropping a Russian flag on the North Pole seabed at the end of a deep-sea expedition to claim the mineral riches of the Arctic.

Yesterday, Norwegian Foreign Minister Jonas Gahr Støre called Russia's move "show business more than political reality," adding that: "What is important is that the Russians follow the international legal regulations in force, as they are doing."

When it comes to potential Arctic oil, "we are speaking of values in the billions," said Denmark's Kristensen, "and therefore the area, of course, is of interest to us."

University of B.C. professor Michael Byers, Canada's leading expert on Arctic sovereignty, said in an interview that "all the other Arctic countries are fully committed to claiming the maximum amount of seabed to which they're entitled under the law of the sea convention."

Byers added that "chartering the Russia icebreaker is a particularly inspired move and should send a strong signal to Ottawa" to make sure this country does everything possible to "secure all the seabed that is rightfully ours. The only thing holding us back right now is a lack of political will."

Under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the five polar nations could acquire huge swaths of Arctic sea floor if they can prove the claimed areas are linked to their continental shelves.

Canada and Denmark have been collaborating over the past two years to gather data on the Lomonosov Ridge. Russia claimed ownership of the ridge in 2001, but the UN sent its scientists back to the Arctic to gather by 2009 more evidence to support the claim.

Canada has until 2013 to submit its territorial claims, but the federal scientist leading the sea floor studies, Jacob Verhoef, said earlier this week there's a chance the research mission could be in jeopardy because of the tight deadline, strained resources and unpredictable Arctic ice conditions.

On Thursday, a top U.S. climate researcher announced that the Arctic ice cover is shrinking faster this summer than at any time since reliable satellite images of the polar cap became available in 1979.

Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor, who has been under fire over his handling of Canada's military mission in Afghanistan, joined Harper for the announcement, despite repeated calls from the opposition for him to be fired or demoted in a cabinet shuffle expected next week.

Harper announces plans to tighten grip on Arctic; Military training centre, deep-water seaport and 20 measu



# Canada flexes military muscles in Arctic; Army training centre and new deepwater port key elements of plan

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**IDNUMBER** 200708110203  
**PUBLICATION:** The Toronto Star  
**DATE:** 2007.08.11  
**EDITION:** Met  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A03  
**BYLINE:** Alexander Panetta  
**SOURCE:** Canadian Press  
**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 Torstar Corporation  
**WORD COUNT:** 231

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The new port location, more than 1,000 nautical miles from the Arctic hub of Iqaluit, was chosen for its strategic location at the eastern entrance to the Northwest Passage.

The construction cost for the port is pegged at up to \$100 million.

# Harper plans military centre

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**IDNUMBER** 200708110045  
**PUBLICATION:** The Leader-Post (Regina)  
**DATE:** 2007.08.11  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** B5  
**BYLINE:** Randy Boswell and Mike De Souza  
**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service  
**WORD COUNT:** 602

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Prime Minister Stephen Harper made two major funding announcements Friday to boost Canada's sovereignty in the resource-rich North as Denmark's science minister claimed his country has a strong case for ownership of the North Pole.

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The centre is to be manned by up to 100 Canadian Forces personnel at a strategic site along the Northwest Passage.

Harper also confirmed that the government will spend \$100 million to build Canada's first deep-water Arctic seaport at Nanisivik, on the northern tip of Baffin Island. The port would be key to shipping through the Northwest Passage, which is expected to provide a summer sea route to Asia within decades as global warming melts the ice floes.

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On Friday, Norwegian Foreign Minister Jonas Gahr Støre called Russia's move "show business more than political reality," adding that: "What is important is that the Russians follow the international legal regulations in force, as they are doing."

When it comes to potential Arctic oil, "we are speaking of values in the billions," said Denmark's Kristensen, "and therefore the area, of course, is of interest to us."

University of British Columbia professor Michael Byers, Canada's leading expert on Arctic sovereignty, said in an interview that "all the other Arctic countries are fully committed to claiming the maximum amount of seabed to which they're entitled under the law of the sea convention."

# Canada throws Arctic gauntlet; PM Harper takes initiatives to ensure Canadian claim to northern sovereignty

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**IDNUMBER** 200708110074  
**PUBLICATION:** The StarPhoenix (Saskatoon)  
**DATE:** 2007.08.11  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** National  
**PAGE:** B8  
**ILLUSTRATION:** Colour Photo: CanWest News / Canada–Arctic–military ship HMCS Fredericton is on manoeuvres in Frobisher Bay at the southern tip of Baffin Island ;  
**BYLINE:** Randy Boswell and Mike De Souza  
**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service  
**WORD COUNT:** 851

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Prime Minister Stephen Harper made two major funding announcements Friday to boost Canada's sovereignty in the resource-rich North as Denmark's science minister claimed his country has a strong case for ownership of the North Pole.

"Canada's new government understands that the first principle of Arctic sovereignty is: Use it or lose it," Harper said in Resolute Bay, Nunavut, as he announced that the community, about 600 kilometres from the magnetic North Pole, will be the site of a new \$4-million military training centre. The centre is to be manned by up to 100 Canadian Forces personnel at a strategic site along the Northwest Passage.

Harper also confirmed that the government will spend \$100 million to build Canada's first deep-water Arctic seaport at Nanisivik, on the northern tip of Baffin Island. The port would be key to shipping through the Northwest Passage, which is expected to provide a summer sea route to Asia within decades as global warming melts the ice floes.

The two initiatives will "benefit communities throughout the region by creating jobs and opportunities and enhancing the safety and security of the people who live here." And, along with a 900-person boost to the Canadian Rangers' 4,100-member patrol, the investments will "significantly strengthen Canada's sovereignty over the Arctic."

At the same time, however, Danish science minister Helge Sander was announcing that recent findings by his country's researchers suggest "Denmark could be given the North Pole." His assertion comes on the eve of a Danish-led research expedition to the Arctic and amid intensifying interest among all northern nations in securing shipping and seabed rights in the oil-rich region around the North Pole.

The joint Danish-Swedish expedition, which will carry one Canadian scientist, will have its path cleared by a chartered Russian icebreaker. Its aim is to cement Denmark's claims to extended seabed territory north of Greenland, an island controlled by Denmark, Sander said in a Danish television interview.

Sander said "preliminary investigations done so far are very promising," suggesting the disputed Lomonosov Ridge — a 1,500-kilometre undersea mountain range that runs past the Pole between Siberia and North America — is a geological extension of the northern coast of Greenland.

"There are things suggesting that Denmark could be given the North Pole," he said.

Canadian scientists, however, believe the Lomonosov Ridge could be seen as a continuation of Ellesmere Island, giving Canada a strong counterclaim against potential Russian and Danish land grabs.

In Ottawa, the Danish ambassador to Canada, Poul Kristensen, told CanWest News that "it's no secret that Denmark, on behalf of Greenland" has interests in Arctic resources and "of course, potentially, we can make claims."

While scientists from the five polar nations continue to collaborate on research aimed at mapping the Arctic sea floor, the governments of Canada, Russia, the U.S., Denmark and Norway remain at odds over an area thought to contain one-quarter of the planet's untapped petroleum reserves.

Earlier this month, Russia ruffled feathers by dropping a Russian flag on the North Pole seabed at the end of a deep-sea expedition to claim the mineral riches of the Arctic.

On Friday, Norwegian Foreign Minister Jonas Gahr Støre called Russia's move "show business more than political reality," adding that: "What is important is that the Russians follow the international legal regulations in force, as they are doing."

Harper said last week that Russia's flag-planting trek to the Pole shows that "sovereignty in our Arctic is going to be an important issue as we move into the future."

Now the Danes — still at odds with Canada over the ownership of tiny Hans Island in the boundary waters between Ellesmere Island and Greenland — are again pressing their claims to the potentially lucrative sea floor around the Pole.

The Danish government first stated its intent to vie for possible North Pole riches in 2004, when its Hans Island feud with Canada — now being dealt with quietly by diplomats — was still prompting heated public exchanges over the remote and icy rock.

When it comes to potential Arctic oil, "we are speaking of values in the billions," said Denmark's Kristensen, "and therefore the area, of course, is of interest to us."

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Byers added that "chartering the Russia icebreaker is a particularly inspired move and should send a strong signal to Ottawa" to make sure this country does everything possible to "secure all the seabed that is rightfully ours. The only thing holding us back right now is a lack of political will."

Under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the five polar nations could acquire huge swaths of Arctic sea floor if they can prove the claimed areas are linked to their continental shelves.

Canada and Denmark have been collaborating over the past two years to gather data on the Lomonosov Ridge. Russia claimed ownership of the ridge in 2001, but the UN sent its scientists back to the Arctic to gather by 2009 more evidence to support the claim.

# Ice Station Stephen

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**IDNUMBER** 200708110037  
**PUBLICATION:** Edmonton Journal  
**DATE:** 2007.08.11  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** Opinion  
**PAGE:** A18  
**KEYWORDS:** OCEANS; GLOBAL WARMING; ENVIRONMENT  
**SOURCE:** The Edmonton Journal  
**WORD COUNT:** 441

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Canadian government officials have been right to dismiss recent Russian posturing in the high Arctic as empty showboating.

But fair as it was to mock the ceremonial planting of a Russian flag on the North Pole seabed, our own record in establishing tangible signs of sovereignty in the Arctic has been nearly as laughable.

In one of his first public statements as prime minister, Stephen Harper served up a surprisingly nationalist declaration to redress decades of neglect in our far North. Friday, he aimed to make good on the promise by announcing the construction of two new facilities within disputed waters.

The outpost of Resolute Bay will host an army training centre with 12 full-time staff designed to house several dozen soldiers at a time. The deep sea Baffin Island port Nanisivik, an abandoned but lately cleaned-up zinc mining village, will be expanded to accommodate naval and civilian pursuits. As well, the 4,100-member Canadian Rangers patrol -- the scarlet-clad, all-volunteer Inuit force -- will be expanded by 900 and provided with modern equipment.

Among the projects, the port at Nanisivik is the biggest-ticket item, with initial building costs estimated at up to \$100 million with the additional tab projected at \$200 million over 20 years. It won't be fully operational until 2015.

There is a degree of ironic circumpolar justice involved here. Acting on years of study by Liberal governments (and taunted by opposition critic Jean Chretien) Tory prime minister Joe Clark announced the construction of the nuclear-powered Polar 8 icebreaker 22 years ago.

That would have created the world's largest icebreaker and served notice of Canada's claim on the Northwest Passage. It was not to be, dying in the federal budget of 1990. (The finance minister of the day was one Michael Wilson, lately ambassador to the U.S., one of four nations other than Canada claiming rights in the Arctic.) Friday's announcements followed an earlier Harper government decision to commission a \$3-billion fleet of limited-range regional patrol boats, none with the power of the long-scuttled Polar 8 project.

The federal government's intention to materially put action to rhetoric is welcome, even if it is overdue, and even if it would not immediately affect such developments as the decision by Danish scientists to begin gathering evidence Sunday to support their country's claims on the potentially vast mineral wealth of the North Pole region.

Without a clear, abiding presence in the Arctic and the political will to spend some money achieving a literal beachhead, our fevered declarations of sovereignty ring hollow. The stakes, given the potential natural

resources of the region, might well be enormous.

# Fight over Arctic heats up; Denmark makes its case for ownership of North Pole as Harper moves to fortify Canadian sovereignty

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**IDNUMBER** 200708110006  
**PUBLICATION:** Edmonton Journal  
**DATE:** 2007.08.11  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A3

Photo: Agence France–Presse/getty images / The HMCSFredericton is on manoeuvres in Frobisher Bay at the southern tip of Baffin Island, taking part in a sovereignty exercise involving a Canadian submarine, Canadian Coast Guard vessel and fighter jets, as well as 800 soldiers, federal police and Inuit rangers. ; Photo: Agence

**ILLUSTRATION:** France–Presse/getty images / Russian adventurer and Duma deputy Artur Chilingarov, centre, flanked by explorer Vladimir Gruzdev, left, and Anatoly Sagalevich holds a Russian flag upon his arrival in Moscow on Tuesday. Chilingarov and his team of explorers had returned from an expedition to the North Pole where they planted a Russian flag in the sea floor to lay claim to potential natural resources. ;

**KEYWORDS:** PRIME MINISTERS; POLITICIANS; POLITICAL PARTIES; GOVERNMENT;CANADA

**BYLINE:** Randy Boswell and Mike De Souza

**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service

**WORD COUNT:** 955

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Prime Minister Stephen Harper made two major funding announcements Friday to boost Canada's sovereignty in the resource-rich North as Denmark's science minister claimed his country has a strong case for ownership of the North Pole.

"Canada's new government understands that the first principle of Arctic sovereignty is: Use it or lose it," Harper said in Resolute Bay, Nunavut, as he announced that the community, about 600 kilometres from the magnetic North Pole, will be the site of a new \$4-million military training centre. The centre is to be manned by up to 100 Canadian Forces personnel at a strategic site along the Northwest Passage.

Harper also confirmed that the government will spend \$100 million to build Canada's first deep-water Arctic seaport at Nanisivik, on the northern tip of Baffin Island. An old dock and gravel runway at the abandoned lead and zinc mining town will be refurbished to re-supply new Arctic patrol vessels.

The port would be key to shipping through the Northwest Passage, which is expected to provide a summer sea route to Asia within decades as global warming melts the ice floes.

The two initiatives will "benefit communities throughout the region by creating jobs and opportunities and enhancing the safety and security of the people who live here," Harper said.

And, along with a 900-person boost to the Canadian Rangers' 4,100-member patrol, the investments will "significantly strengthen Canada's sovereignty over the Arctic."



Meantime, however, Danish science minister Helge Sander was announcing that recent findings by his country's researchers suggest "Denmark could be given the North Pole."

His assertion comes on the eve of a Danish-led research expedition to the Arctic and amid intensifying interest among all northern nations in securing shipping and seabed rights in the oil-rich region around the North Pole.

The joint Danish-Swedish expedition, which will carry one Canadian scientist, will have its path cleared by a chartered Russian icebreaker.

Its aim is to cement Denmark's claims to extended seabed territory north of Greenland, an island controlled by Denmark, Sander said in a Danish television interview.

Sander said "preliminary investigations done so far are very promising," suggesting the disputed Lomonosov Ridge — a 1,500-kilometre undersea mountain range that runs past the Pole between Siberia and North America — is a geological extension of the northern coast of Greenland.

"There are things suggesting that Denmark could be given the North Pole," he said.

Canadian scientists, however, believe the Lomonosov Ridge could be seen as a continuation of Ellesmere Island, giving Canada a strong counterclaim against potential Russian and Danish land grabs.

In Ottawa, the Danish ambassador to Canada, Poul Kristensen, told CanWest News that "it's no secret that Denmark, on behalf of Greenland" has interests in Arctic resources and "of course, potentially, we can make claims."

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Now the Danes — still at odds with Canada over the ownership of tiny Hans Island in the boundary waters between Ellesmere Island and Greenland — are again pressing their claims to the potentially lucrative sea floor around the Pole. The Danish government first stated its intent to vie for possible North Pole riches in 2004, when its Hans Island feud with Canada — now being dealt with quietly by diplomats — was still prompting heated public exchanges over the remote and icy rock.

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Under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the five polar nations could acquire huge swaths of Arctic sea floor if they can prove the claimed areas are linked to their continental shelves.

Canada and Denmark have been collaborating over the past two years to gather data on the Lomonosov Ridge.

Russia claimed ownership of the ridge in 2001, but the UN sent its scientists back to the Arctic to gather by 2009 more evidence to support the claim.

Canada has until 2013 to submit its territorial claims, but the federal scientist leading the sea-floor studies, Jacob Verhoef, said earlier this week there's a chance the research mission could be in jeopardy because of the tight deadline, strained resources and unpredictable Arctic ice conditions.

On Thursday, a top U.S. climate researcher announced that the Arctic ice cover is shrinking faster this summer than at any time since reliable satellite images of the polar cap became available in 1979.

Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor, who has been under fire over his handling of Canada's military mission in Afghanistan, joined Harper for the announcement, despite repeated calls from the opposition for him to be fired or demoted in a cabinet shuffle expected next week.

# 'Use it or lose it' Harper makes move to solidify claim on Arctic passage

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**SOURCETAG:** 0708110325  
**PUBLICATION:** The Ottawa Sun  
**DATE:** 2007.08.11  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** 18  
**ILLUSTRATION:** photo by Fred Chartrand, CP Prime Minister Stephen Harper is saluted by an Arctic Rangers as he arrives in Resolute Bay yesterday.  
**BYLINE:** CP  
**DATELINE:** RESOLUTE BAY, NU.  
**WORD COUNT:** 285

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Canada will build two new military facilities within contested Arctic waters to bolster its sovereign claim over the fabled Northwest Passage, Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced yesterday.

He said the Canadian Forces will install a new army training centre and a deep-water port at distant points of the Arctic archipelago that has been coveted for centuries as a possible trade route to Asia.

"Protecting national sovereignty, the integrity of our borders, is the first and foremost responsibility of a national government, a responsibility which has too often been neglected," Harper said, citing what he called the "first principle of Arctic sovereignty: Use it or lose it."

The prime minister made the announcement barely 600 km from the magnetic North Pole in one of the coldest settlements on Earth.

The frigid hamlet of Resolute Bay will be home to a new army training centre for cold-weather fighting that houses up to 100 military personnel.

## DEEPSEA PORT

The prime minister also announced a new deepsea port will be built for navy and civilian purposes on the north end of Baffin Island, in the abandoned old zinc-mining village of Nanisivik.

Harper said both installations will help back up Canada's ownership claim to the waters and natural resources of the Northwest Passage -- a claim disputed by countries including the United States, Japan, and the entire European Union.

Speaking in a storage shed protecting him against howling winds on a barren, rock-strewn highland, Harper said the announcements tell the world Canada has a "real, growing, long-term presence in the Arctic."

The multimillion-dollar announcements stem from Conservative campaign commitments in the last election, and Harper's northern trip had been planned for months.

But they happen to coincide with Russia's dramatic move to place a flag underneath the North Pole while claiming the area's resources as its own.

Harper also announced the 4,100-member Canadian Rangers patrol will be increased by another 900 members.

Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor and a group of Rangers -- the rifle-toting, Inuit volunteer force -- were also on hand for Harper's announcement. KEYWORDS=NATIONAL

# Civilian uses also necessary for sovereignty

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**SOURCETAG:** 0708110182  
**PUBLICATION:** The London Free Press  
**DATE:** 2007.08.11  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A4  
**ILLUSTRATION:** photo of PAUL OKALIK Nunavut premier envisions cruise ships visiting Iqaluit.  
**BYLINE:** BOB WEBER, CP  
**WORD COUNT:** 254

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Prime Minister Stephen Harper's plan for two major military facilities in the Arctic has set off rapturous excitement in the communities affected and politely raised eyebrows in countries that oppose Canada's control of the Northwest Passage.

But most experts agree defence spending alone won't to make the country's sovereignty over the Arctic stick.

"As a middle power, our Arctic future is necessarily going to involve a civilian future," said Michael Byers, a professor of international law at the University of British Columbia. "It has to involve the improvement of northern infrastructure."

Yesterday, Harper announced a new army training centre in Resolute Bay and a new deep-sea port for navy and civilian purposes on the north end of Baffin Island.

Nunavut Premier Paul Okalik welcomed the news, although he pointed out a dock is already used at Nanisivik and the military expansion isn't likely to bring as much economic benefit as a new port in a location such as Iqaluit.

"It's something that will not have a whole lot of benefit for communities throughout Nunavut," he said.

Both Okalik and Byers said they hope Harper will still come through with another port that could be used by fishing boats and cruise ships.

The Nanisivik port sits right off the eastern gate to the Northwest Passage, a route that Canada claims as its own but which most other countries consider an international waterway.

Harper's announcement won't change that, said U.S. Ambassador David Wilkins.

"We respect Canada's right to open ports on this territory, to put troops where it deems necessary, and that still does not change our position. We are simply saying, as is most of the world, that the Northwest Passage is a strait to be (open to) international navigation. It's not a Canada-U.S. issue; it's a Canada-versus-the-rest-of-the-world issue." **KEYWORDS=CANADA**

# Port, army base set for Arctic Prime Minister Stephen Harper says Canada must 'use or lose' its north.

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**SOURCETAG:** 0708110178

**PUBLICATION:** The London Free Press

**DATE:** 2007.08.11

**EDITION:** Final

**SECTION:** News

**PAGE:** A4

**ILLUSTRATION:** photo by Fred Chartrand, CP PATROL: Prime Minister Stephen Harper is greeted by Arctic Rangers as he arrives in Resolute Bay joined by Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor yesterday. Harper announces the opening and funding for a new Canadian Forces Training Centre in the Arctic hamlet.

**BYLINE:** ALEXANDER PANETTA, CP

**DATELINE:** RESOLUTE BAY, NUNAVUT

**WORD COUNT:** 374

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The prime minister said the Canadian Forces will install a new army training centre and a deepwater port at distant points of the Arctic archipelago, which has been coveted for centuries as a possible trade route to Asia.

"Protecting national sovereignty, the integrity of our borders, is the first and foremost responsibility of a national government, a responsibility which has too often been neglected," Harper said.

The prime minister cited what he called the "first principle of Arctic sovereignty: use it or lose it."

Harper made the announcement barely 600 kilometres from the magnetic North Pole in one of the coldest settlements on Earth.

The frigid hamlet of Resolute Bay -- with a mid-summer temperature of two degrees when Harper spoke -- will be home to a new army training centre for cold-weather fighting that houses up to 100 military personnel.

The prime minister also announced that a new deep sea port will be built for navy and civilian purposes on the north end of Baffin Island, in the abandoned old zinc-mining village of Nanisivik.

Harper said both installations will help back up Canada's ownership claim to the waters and natural resources of the Northwest Passage -- a claim disputed by other countries, including the United States, Japan and the entire European Union.

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Port, army base set for Arctic Prime Minister Stephen Harper says Canada must 'use or lose' its north.

But they happen to coincide with Russia's dramatic move to place a flag underneath the North Pole while claiming the area's resources as its own.

And as he spoke, Danish scientists were preparing to head for the Arctic ice pack tomorrow seeking evidence to position Denmark in the race to claim the potentially vast oil and other resources of the North Pole region.

Harper also announced that the 4,100-member Canadian Rangers patrol will be increased by another 900 members.

He stood alongside Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor, who is expected to be moved in a cabinet shuffle early next week.

A group of Rangers -- the rifle-toting, Inuit volunteer force -- was also on hand.

"This remains a place where the principal forces of nature still hold sway, a place where men and women are braced into vigour by the huge trackless landscapes and the often harsh elements," Harper said.

"And a place so stunningly beautiful that no Canadian can experience it without feeling an overwhelming sense of romantic patriotism for our country." **KEYWORDS=CANADA**

# Harper boosts Arctic presence

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**SOURCETAG** 0708110444  
**PUBLICATION:** The Edmonton Sun  
**DATE:** 2007.08.11  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** 7  
**BYLINE:** ALEXANDER PANETTA, CP  
**DATELINE:** RESOLUTE BAY, Nunavut  
**WORD COUNT:** 283

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## NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY

"Protecting national sovereignty, the integrity of our borders, is the first and foremost responsibility of a national government, a responsibility which has too often been neglected," Harper said, citing what he called the "first principle of Arctic sovereignty: Use it or lose it."

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## RUSSIAN CLAIMS

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members.

Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor and a group of Rangers – the rifle-toting, Inuit volunteer force – were also on hand for Harper's announcement. KEYWORDS=CANADA

# Harper to assert sovereignty

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**SOURCETAG** 0708110667  
**PUBLICATION:** The Calgary Sun  
**DATE:** 2007.08.11  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** 7  
**BYLINE:** CP  
**DATELINE:** RESOLUTE BAY, Nu.  
**WORD COUNT:** 287

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He stood alongside Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor, who is expected to be moved in a cabinet shuffle early next week. **KEYWORDS=**CANADA

# Harper boosts Arctic claim; Prime minister announces multimillion-dollar investment in port and training centre

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**IDNUMBER** 200708110015

**PUBLICATION:** Vancouver Sun

**DATE:** 2007.08.11

**EDITION:** Final

**SECTION:** News

**PAGE:** A8

**ILLUSTRATION:** Colour Photo: CanWest News Service / Prime Minister Stephen Harper is greeted by Arctic Rangers as he arrives in Resolute Bay, joined by Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor. The PM announced a new port and training centre. ;

**KEYWORDS:** PRIME MINISTERS; POLITICIANS; POLITICAL PARTIES; GOVERNMENT; CANADA

**BYLINE:** Mike De Souza

**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service

**WORD COUNT:** 488

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Prime Minister Stephen Harper wrapped up his three-day northern sovereignty tour with a bang on Friday as he announced the construction of a pair of multimillion-dollar military facilities within the contested waters of Canada's Arctic territory.

"Canada's new government understands that the first principle of Arctic sovereignty is: Use it or lose it," he said in Resolute Bay, Nunavut, about 600 kilometres from the magnetic North Pole. "Today's announcements tell the world that Canada has a real, growing, long-term presence in the Arctic."

The facilities include a new army training centre and a deep-sea port inside of the Northwest Passage, which is expected to provide a summer shipping route to Asia in the next few decades because of the effects of global warming and melting ice flows.

The training facility would be manned by up to 100 Canadian Forces personnel in Resolute Bay, while the port for navy and civilians would be located on the site of an abandoned mine in the village of Nanisivik on the north end of Baffin Island.

The Harper government has staked claim to the waters as Canadian territory, but this has been disputed by other countries such as the United States, Japan and members of the European Union. The territory includes 36,500 islands, spanning 1.4 million kilometres that are believed to be rich in minerals and other natural resources such as oil.

Russia raised the stakes even higher last week when it concluded a deep-sea expedition by planting its flag on the seabed at the North Pole.

But Harper said the new facilities, along with an expansion of the Canadian Rangers 4,100-member patrol by about 900 Rangers, would bolster Canada's authority in the region.

"Taken together ... (these announcements) will significantly strengthen Canada's sovereignty over the Arctic," said Harper, who flew in for the announcement as planned, even though strong Arctic winds had kept his

Harper boosts Arctic claim; Prime minister announces multimillion-dollar investment in port and training cen 48

military aircraft grounded overnight in Yellowknife.

"These initiatives will also benefit communities throughout the region by creating jobs and opportunities and enhancing the safety and security of the people who live here."

Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor, under fire over his handling of Canada's military mission in Afghanistan, joined Harper for the announcement, despite repeated calls from the opposition for him to be fired or demoted in a cabinet shuffle expected next week.

The government said it would invest \$4 million to beef up existing federal buildings for the training facility along with an annual \$2 million in operating costs. While expected to accommodate several dozen soldiers on training missions, the facility would only employ 12 full-time staff.

The expanded Rangers program is expected to cost about \$12 million annually for 20 years to co-ordinate new patrol routes and modernized equipment. The government estimates construction costs for the port, which will be located at the eastern entrance of the Northwest Passage, at \$100 million, with operating and maintenance costs of about \$10 million per year over 20 years.

Environmental studies would begin next year. The port could open in 2012 and become fully operational by 2015.

# PM on Arctic sovereignty: Use it or lose it

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**IDNUMBER** 200708110129  
**PUBLICATION:** The Hamilton Spectator  
**DATE:** 2007.08.11  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** Local  
**PAGE:** A1  
**DATELINE:** RESOLUTE BAY, Nunavut  
**BYLINE:** Alexander Panetta  
**SOURCE:** The Canadian Press  
**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 Torstar Corporation  
**WORD COUNT:** 353

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"Protecting national sovereignty, the integrity of our borders, is the first and foremost responsibility of a national government, a responsibility which has too often been neglected," Harper said, citing what he called the "first principle of Arctic sovereignty: use it or lose it."

The prime minister made the announcement barely 600 kilometres from the magnetic North Pole in one of the coldest settlements on Earth.

The frigid hamlet of Resolute Bay — with a midsummer temperature of just 2 C when Harper spoke — will be home to a new army training centre for cold-weather fighting, housing up to 100 military personnel.

The prime minister also announced that a new deep sea port will be built for navy and civilian purposes on the north end of Baffin Island, in the abandoned zinc-mining village of Nanisivik.

Harper said both installations will bolster Canada's ownership claim to the waters and natural resources of the Northwest Passage, a claim disputed by countries including the United States, Japan and the entire European Union.

The multimillion-dollar announcements stem from Conservative campaign commitments in the last election, and Harper's northern trip had been planned for months.

But they also happen to coincide with Russia's dramatic move to place a flag underneath the North Pole while claiming the area's resources as its own.

And as he spoke, Danish scientists were preparing to head for the Arctic ice pack tomorrow seeking evidence to position Denmark in the race to claim the potentially vast oil and other resources of the North Pole region.

Harper also announced that the 4,100-member Canadian Rangers patrol in the north will be increased by another 900 members.

Canada's ownership claim to the waters has been all but ignored by other countries, due largely to the harshness of the barren, frigid climate in which maritime transportation remains impractical.

But with warming temperatures raising the prospect of increased resource exploitation and maritime traffic, the area has attracted renewed attention.

# Bases are nice, but Arctic needs infrastructure: analyst

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**IDNUMBER** 200708110115  
**PUBLICATION:** The Hamilton Spectator  
**DATE:** 2007.08.11  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** Canada/World  
**PAGE:** A5  
**ILLUSTRATION:** Photo: Fred Chartrand, the Canadian Press / Prime Minister Stephen Harper is saluted by one of Canada's Arctic Rangers in Resolute. ;  
**DATELINE:** RESOLUTE, Nunavut  
**BYLINE:** Bob Weber  
**SOURCE:** The Canadian Press  
**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 Torstar Corporation  
**WORD COUNT:** 394

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Prime Minister Stephen Harper's plan for two major military facilities in the Canadian Arctic has set off rapturous excitement in the communities affected and has politely raised some eyebrows in countries that oppose Canada's control of the Northwest Passage.

But most experts agree that defence spending alone won't be enough to make the country's long-held sovereignty over the Arctic stick.

"As a middle power, our Arctic future is necessarily going to involve a civilian future," said Michael Byers, a professor of international law at the University of British Columbia.

"It has to involve the improvement of northern infrastructure."

Yesterday, Harper announced a new army training centre in the High Arctic hamlet of Resolute Bay at the south end of Cornwallis Island, off the northwest tip of Baffin Island. He also made known that a new deep-sea port will be built for navy and civilian purposes on the north end of Baffin Island in the abandoned old zinc-mining village of Nanisivik.

Nunavut Premier Paul Okalik welcomed the news, although he pointed out an existing dock is already in use at Nanisivik and the military expansion isn't likely to bring as much economic benefit as a new port in another location such as Iqaluit.

"It's something that will not have a whole lot of benefit for communities throughout Nunavut," he said. "There's no real added benefit in (Nanisivik) for Nunavut.

"It will not be as beneficial as we hoped."

Both Okalik and Byers said they hope Harper will still come through with another port that could also be used by fishing boats and visiting cruise ships.

The Nanisivik port sits right off the eastern gate to the Northwest Passage, a route that Canada claims as its own, but which most other countries consider an international waterway. Harper's announcement isn't going to

change that, said U.S. Ambassador David Wilkins.

"We respect Canada's right to open ports on this territory, to put troops where it deems necessary, and that still doesn't change our position," he said from Ottawa.

"We are simply saying, as is most of the world, that the Northwest Passage is a strait to be (open to) international navigation. It's not a Canada–U.S. issue; it's a Canada–versus–the–rest–of–the–world issue."

Still, Byers called the port and the school "excellent decisions."

He said 80 ships were active in the Northwest Passage last season and hundreds of airplanes fly overhead daily, and it's high time Canada made its authority better known internationally.

The winter warfare school has been on the army's wish list since at least 2000 when an internal report noted that Arctic operations often deteriorate into "exercises in survival."

But Dennis Bevington, New Democrat MP for the Western Arctic, said the Conservatives need to rebalance their northern policy away from the military and more toward development and diplomacy.

"We do need a more integrated approach," he said.



# Snubbing of Churchill outrages Manitoba politicians

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**PUBLICATION:** WINNIPEG FREE PRESS

**DATE:** 2007.08.11

**PAGE:** A6

**SECTION:** City

**WORD COUNT:** 509

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Mia Rabson Mia Rabson Prime Minister Stephen Harper's decision to shun Churchill as a location for either of the two new military facilities in the Arctic has outraged Manitoba politicians.

The Manitoba government and the mayor of Churchill both said it would be cheaper and far better to make Churchill the centre of Canada's northern security operations, rather than locating them in the High Arctic.

On the final day of his three-day Northern tour Friday, Harper said a new army training centre for cold-weather fighting will be located in Resolute Bay. Also, a new deepsea port will be built for the navy and civilian purposes on the north end of Baffin Island in the abandoned old zinc-mining village of Nanisivik.

Churchill is about 1,800 kilometres south of Resolute Bay.

Churchill Mayor Mike Spence said once again the federal government is passing up a huge opportunity by locating the security operations in Churchill, Canada's only existing deepwater Arctic port.

"Damn right I'm disappointed," said Spence. "There seems to be a lack of vision in our federal government, which continues to overlook the infrastructure which is readily available here." He said Churchill has numerous advantages over the chosen locations, including being land-linked, with a rail line, large runway and services such as a hospital.

With the Churchill Gateway Development Corporation looking to make the port a link on a new Arctic trade route connecting Asia to North America, putting the northern security operations in Churchill also makes economic sense, said Spence.

"It would be the beginning of a new vision for northern Canada," he said.

Manitoba Premier Gary Doer also expressed disappointment Friday.

"We think the government erred by going further north," Doer said, from Moncton, where he was attending the annual premiers' conference.

"We promoted Churchill and we still think it's the best solution." Doer wrote to Harper twice in the last year asking him to consider Churchill for the northern security centre, and also discussed the idea with him during meetings in Ottawa last December.

In June he invited Harper to visit Churchill during his planned summer tour in the Arctic but that didn't happen. Doer said he isn't going to give up, though.

"We'll continue to promote Churchill," he said. "Sometimes governments change their minds." Liberal MP Tina Keeper, who represents the Churchill riding, said Churchill got "snubbed" by Harper but she said she isn't sure anything will come of his promises this week.

"Arctic sovereignty has come up because of this whole thing with Russia," she said. "I'm uncertain if this is really true or if it's just political posturing." -- with files from Canadian Press mia.rabson@freepress.mb.ca  
Battle of the Arctic What's been announced?: New army training school at Resolute Bay, costing \$4 million to refurbish existing federal buildings with \$2 million a year to operate centre; new deepwater port on north end of Baffin Island, initial construction cost up to \$100 million, operating and maintenance costs projected at \$200 million over 20 years.

What's at stake?: Control over Northwest Passage, a potentially invaluable sea-trade route amid global warming, untold mineral wealth beneath.

Why the anger here?: Churchill is seen as a better option for either facility, logistically and cost-wise due to existing infrastructure.

# Two new sites to back claim Arctic is ours PM promises training centre, port

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**PUBLICATION:** WINNIPEG FREE PRESS

**DATE:** 2007.08.11

**PAGE:** A6

**SECTION:** Canada Wire

**WORD COUNT:** 657

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CP Wire Alexander Panetta RESOLUTE BAY, Nu. — Canada will build two new military facilities within contested Arctic waters to bolster its sovereign claim over the fabled Northwest Passage, Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced Friday.

He said the Canadian Forces will install a new army training centre and a deepwater port at distant points of the Arctic archipelago, which has been coveted for centuries as a possible trade route to Asia.

"Protecting national sovereignty, the integrity of our borders, is the first and foremost responsibility of a national government, a responsibility which has too often been neglected," Harper said, citing what he called the "first principle of Arctic sovereignty: use it or lose it." The prime minister made the announcement barely 600 kilometres from the magnetic North Pole in one of the coldest settlements on Earth.

The frigid hamlet of Resolute Bay — with a midsummer temperature of 2 C when Harper spoke — will be home to a new army training centre for cold-weather fighting that houses up to 100 military personnel.

The prime minister also announced that a new deepsea port will be built for navy and civilian purposes on the north end of Baffin Island, in the abandoned old zinc-mining village of Nanisivik.

Harper said both installations will help back up Canada's ownership claim to the waters and natural resources of the Northwest Passage — a claim disputed by countries including the United States, Japan, and the entire European Union.

Speaking in a storage shed protecting him against howling winds on a barren, rock-strewn highland, Harper said the announcements tell the world that Canada has a "real, growing, long-term presence in the Arctic." The multimillion-dollar announcements stem from Conservative campaign commitments in the last election, and Harper's northern trip had been planned for months.

But they happen to coincide with Russia's dramatic move to place a flag underneath the North Pole while claiming the area's resources.

And as he spoke, Danish scientists were preparing to head for the Arctic ice pack on Sunday seeking evidence to position Denmark in the race to claim the potentially vast oil and other resources of the North Pole region.

The month-long Danish expedition will seek evidence that the Lomonosov Ridge, a 2,000-kilometre underwater mountain range, is attached to the Danish territory of Greenland, making it a geological extension of the Arctic island.

That might allow the Nordic country to stake a claim under a United Nations treaty that could stretch all the way to the North Pole.

Harper also announced that the 4,100-member Canadian Rangers patrol will be increased by 900 members.

He stood alongside Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor, who is expected to be moved in a cabinet shuffle early next week. A group of Rangers — the rifle-toting, Inuit volunteer force — was also on hand.

He cited the early 20th-century novelist John Buchan — a future governor general, Lord Tweedsmuir — who wrote that Canada is a place where men face the primeval forces of nature and are made vigorous by a place so beautiful that it readily inspires one of the most priceless assets of a people: romantic patriotism.

"This remains a place where the principal forces of nature still hold sway, a place where men and women are braced into vigour by the huge trackless landscapes and the often harsh elements," he said.

"And a place so stunningly beautiful that no Canadian can experience it without feeling an overwhelming sense of romantic patriotism for our country." — Canadian Press Battle of the Arctic What's been announced?: New army training school at Resolute Bay, costing \$4 million to refurbish existing federal buildings with \$2 million a year to operate centre; new deepwater port on north end of Baffin Island, initial construction cost up to \$100 million, operating and maintenance costs projected at \$200 million over 20 years.

What's at stake?: Control over Northwest Passage, a potentially invaluable sea-trade route amid global warming, untold mineral wealth beneath.

Why the anger here?: Churchill is seen as a better option for either facility, logistically and cost-wise due to existing infrastructure.

# Feds to spend millions to bolster Arctic claim; Rhetoric between nations heating up as ice melts away

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**IDNUMBER** 200708110043  
**PUBLICATION:** The Windsor Star  
**DATE:** 2007.08.11  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A8

**ILLUSTRATION:** Photo: Fred Chartrand, CanWest News Service / NORTHERNEXPOSURE: Stephen Harper announces Friday the opening and funding for a new Canadian Forces Training Centre in the Arctic. ;

**BYLINE:** Randy Boswell and Mike De Souza

**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service

**WORD COUNT:** 851

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Prime Minister Stephen Harper made two major funding announcements Friday to boost Canada's sovereignty in the resource-rich North as Denmark's science minister claimed his country has a strong case for ownership of the North Pole.

"Canada's new government understands that the first principle of Arctic sovereignty is: Use it or lose it," Harper said in Resolute Bay, Nunavut, as he announced that the community, about 600 kilometres from the magnetic North Pole, will be the site of a new \$4-million military training centre. The centre is to be manned by up to 100 Canadian Forces personnel at a strategic site along the Northwest Passage.

Harper also confirmed that the government will spend \$100 million to build Canada's first deep-water Arctic seaport at Nanisivik, on the northern tip of Baffin Island. The port would be key to shipping through the Northwest Passage, which is expected to provide a summer sea route to Asia within decades as global warming melts the ice floes.

The two initiatives will "benefit communities throughout the region " by creating jobs and opportunities and enhancing the safety and security of the people who live here." And, along with a 900-person boost to the Canadian Rangers' 4,100-member patrol, the investments will "significantly strengthen Canada's sovereignty over the Arctic."

Meantime, however, Danish science minister Helge Sander was announcing that recent findings by his country's researchers suggest "Denmark could be given the North Pole." His assertion comes on the eve of a Danish-led research expedition to the Arctic and amid intensifying interest among all northern nations in securing shipping and seabed rights in the oil-rich region around the North Pole.

The joint Danish-Swedish expedition, which will carry one Canadian scientist, will have its path cleared by a chartered Russian icebreaker. Its aim is to cement Denmark's claims to extended seabed territory north of Greenland, an island controlled by Denmark, Sander said in a Danish television interview.

Sander said "preliminary investigations done so far are very promising," suggesting the disputed Lomonosov Ridge — a 1,500-kilometre undersea mountain range that runs past the Pole between Siberia and North America — is a geological extension of the northern coast of Greenland.

"There are things suggesting that Denmark could be given the North Pole," he said.

Canadian scientists, however, believe the Lomonosov Ridge could be seen as a continuation of Ellesmere Island, giving Canada a strong counterclaim against potential Russian and Danish land grabs.

In Ottawa, the Danish ambassador to Canada, Poul Kristensen, told CanWest News that "it's no secret that Denmark, on behalf of Greenland" has interests in Arctic resources and "of course, potentially, we can make claims."

While scientists from the five polar nations continue to collaborate on research aimed at mapping the Arctic sea floor, the governments of Canada, Russia, the U.S., Denmark and Norway remain at odds over an area thought to contain one-quarter of the planet's untapped petroleum reserves.

Earlier this month, Russia ruffled feathers by dropping a Russian flag on the North Pole seabed at the end of a deep-sea expedition to claim the mineral riches of the Arctic.

On Friday, Norwegian Foreign Minister Jonas Gahr Støre called Russia's move "show business more than political reality," adding that: "What is important is that the Russians follow the international legal regulations in force, as they are doing."

Harper said last week that Russia's flag-planting trek to the Pole shows that "sovereignty in our Arctic is going to be an important issue as we move into the future."

Now the Danes — still at odds with Canada over the ownership of tiny Hans Island in the boundary waters between Ellesmere Island and Greenland — are again pressing their claims to the potentially lucrative sea floor around the Pole.

The Danish government first stated its intent to vie for possible North Pole riches in 2004, when its Hans Island feud with Canada — now being dealt with quietly by diplomats — was still prompting heated public exchanges over the remote and icy rock.

When it comes to potential Arctic oil, "we are speaking of values in the billions," said Denmark's Kristensen, "and therefore the area, of course, is of interest to us."

University of British Columbia professor Michael Byers, Canada's leading expert on Arctic sovereignty, said in an interview that "all the other Arctic countries are fully committed to claiming the maximum amount of seabed to which they're entitled under the law of the sea convention."

Byers added that "chartering the Russia icebreaker is a particularly inspired move and should send a strong signal to Ottawa" to make sure this country does everything possible to "secure all the seabed that is rightfully ours. The only thing holding us back right now is a lack of political will."

Under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the five polar nations could acquire huge swaths of Arctic sea floor if they can prove the claimed areas are linked to their continental shelves.

Canada and Denmark have been collaborating over the past two years to gather data on the Lomonosov Ridge. Russia claimed ownership of the ridge in 2001, but the UN sent its scientists back to the Arctic to gather by 2009 more evidence to support the claim.

# PM announces millions for Arctic; Harper plans base, seaport as Denmark makes bid to own Pole

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**IDNUMBER** 200708110003

**PUBLICATION:** The Ottawa Citizen

**DATE:** 2007.08.11

**EDITION:** Final

**SECTION:** News

**PAGE:** A1 / FRONT

**ILLUSTRATION:** Colour Photo: Fred Chartrand, Reuters / Prime Minister Stephen Harper, right, and Gordon O'Connor, the defence minister, announced yesterday that Resolute Bay, Nunavut, located 600 kilometres from the magnetic North Pole, will be the site of a \$4-million military training centre. ;

**BYLINE:** Randy Boswell and Mike De Souza

**SOURCE:** The Ottawa Citizen

**WORD COUNT:** 979

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Prime Minister Stephen Harper made two major funding announcements yesterday to boost Canada's sovereignty in the resource-rich North as Denmark's science minister claimed his country has a strong case for ownership of the North Pole.

"Canada's new government understands that the first principle of Arctic sovereignty is: Use it or lose it," Mr. Harper said in Resolute Bay, Nunavut, as he announced that the community, about 600 kilometres from the magnetic North Pole, will be the site of a new \$4-million military training centre. The centre is to be manned by up to 100 Canadian Forces personnel at a strategic site along the Northwest Passage.

Mr. Harper also confirmed that the government will spend \$100 million to build Canada's first deep-water Arctic seaport at Nanisivik, on the northern tip of Baffin Island. The port would be key to shipping through the Northwest Passage, which is expected to provide a summer sea route to Asia within decades as global warming melts the ice floes.

The two initiatives will "benefit communities throughout the region by creating jobs and opportunities and enhancing the safety and security of the people who live here." And, along with a 900-person boost to the Canadian Rangers' 4,100-member patrol, the investments will "significantly strengthen Canada's sovereignty over the Arctic."

Meantime, however, Danish science minister Helge Sander was announcing that recent findings by his country's researchers suggest "Denmark could be given the North Pole." His assertion comes on the eve of a Danish-led research expedition to the Arctic and amid intensifying interest among all northern nations in securing shipping and seabed rights in the oil-rich region around the North Pole.

The joint Danish-Swedish expedition, which includes one Canadian scientist, will have its path cleared by a chartered Russian icebreaker. Its aim is to cement Denmark's claims to extended seabed territory north of Greenland, an island controlled by Denmark, Mr. Sander said in a Danish television interview.

Mr. Sander said "preliminary investigations done so far are very promising," suggesting the disputed Lomonosov Ridge -- a 1,500-kilometre undersea mountain range that runs past the Pole between Siberia and North America -- is a geological extension of the northern coast of Greenland.

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While scientists from the five polar nations continue to collaborate on research aimed at mapping the Arctic sea floor, the governments of Canada, Russia, the U.S., Denmark and Norway remain at odds over an area thought to contain one-quarter of the planet's untapped petroleum reserves.

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Mr. Byers added that "chartering the Russia icebreaker is a particularly inspired move and should send a strong signal" to the federal government to make sure this country does everything possible to "secure all the seabed that is rightfully ours. The only thing holding us back right now is a lack of political will."

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Canada and Denmark have been collaborating over the past two years to gather data on the Lomonosov Ridge. Russia claimed ownership of the ridge in 2001, but the UN sent its scientists back to the Arctic to gather by 2009 more evidence to support the claim.

Canada has until 2013 to submit its territorial claims, but the federal scientist leading the sea floor studies, Jacob Verhoeff, said earlier this week there's a chance the research mission could be in jeopardy because of the tight deadline, strained resources and unpredictable Arctic ice conditions.

PM announces millions for Arctic; Harper plans base, seaport as Denmark makes bid to own Pole61



On Thursday, a top U.S. climate researcher announced that the Arctic ice cover is shrinking faster this summer than at any time since reliable satellite images of the polar cap became available in 1979.

Defence Minister Gordon O'Connor, who has been under fire over his handling of Canada's military mission in Afghanistan, joined Mr. Harper for the announcement, despite repeated calls from the opposition for him to be fired or demoted in a cabinet shuffle expected next week.

# PM expands northern presence; Canada's Claim; Port, Base Announced;

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**PUBLICATION:** National Post

**DATE:** 2007.08.11

**EDITION:** National

**SECTION:** News

**PAGE:** A4

**ILLUSTRATION:** Black & White Photo: Fred Chartrand For National Post /Prime Minister Stephen Harper is greeted by members of the Arctic Rangers patrol force in Resolute Bay, Nunavut, yesterday. ; Black & White Photo: Steven Murray & Andrew Barr, National Post / The Arctic's Changing Landscape ;

**BYLINE:** Mike De Souza

**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service

**WORD COUNT:** 636

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Prime Minister Stephen Harper moved to strengthen Canada's territorial claims in the Arctic yesterday, announcing new investments to bolster a reserve patrol force in the region as well as construction of a pair of multi-million-dollar military facilities.

"Canada's new government understands that the first principle of Arctic sovereignty is: Use it or lose it," Mr. Harper said in Resolute Bay, Nunavut, about 600 kilometres from the magnetic North Pole. "Today's announcements tell the world that Canada has a real, growing, long-term presence in the Arctic."

Despite strong winds that delayed the announcement, grounding the Prime Minister's military plane overnight in Yellowknife, Mr. Harper said the harsh climate and beautiful landscapes of the North are part of what inspires patriotism among Canadians.

"As the delay in our voyage here demonstrates, this remains a place where the principal forces of nature still hold sway, a place where men and women are braced into vigour by the huge trackless landscapes and the often harsh elements," he said.

About two dozen federal employees, along with 13 Arctic Rangers clad in their trademark red uniforms, attended the announcement in a storage shed about the size of two football fields that will be home to a new military training facility.

Mr. Harper also announced the \$100-million construction of a deep-sea port inside the eastern entrance to the Northwest Passage -- a disputed route that could open up a shortcut for ships to travel from the Atlantic Ocean through the Canadian North to Asia. While the treacherous passageway is filled with ice floes, climate scientists predict it could become a summer shipping route within decades because of the effects of global warming.

The Harper government has staked claim to the waters of the Northwest Passage as Canadian territory, but this has been disputed by countries such as the United States, Japan and members of the European Union that describe it as an international waterway. The territory includes 36,500 islands, spanning 1.4 million kilometres, that are believed to be rich in minerals and other natural resources such as oil.

Russia raised the stakes in the Arctic last week when it concluded a deep-sea expedition by planting its flag on the seabed of the North Pole.

But Mr. Harper said Canadians are determined to defend their territory.

"Even Canadians who have never been north of 60 feel it," he said. "It's embedded in our history, our literature, our art, our music and our Canadian soul. That's why we react so strongly when other countries show disrespect for our sovereignty over the Arctic. And that's why we're gathered in Resolute, a community whose very name expresses our intent and purpose here today."

Mr. Harper said the new facilities, along with an expansion of the Canadian Rangers, a part-time reserve patrol force, from 4,100 up to 5,000 members, are delivering on commitments he made in the last federal election campaign and during a visit to the North last summer to bolster Canada's authority in the region.

The training facility would be manned by up to 100 Canadian Forces personnel in Resolute Bay, costing about \$2-million for annual operations and maintenance with 12 full-time staff members, while the port for navy and civilians would be located on the site of an abandoned mine in the village of Nanisivik on the north end of Baffin Island, requiring about \$10-million in recurring costs per year.

The government said it would invest \$4-million to beef up existing federal buildings for the training facility.

The expanded Rangers program is expected to cost about \$12-million annually for 20 years to modernize equipment and coordinate new patrol routes.

Environmental studies on the port would begin next year, leading to construction by 2010. Under the government's plan, the port could open in 2012 and become fully operational by 2015.

[nationalpost.com](http://nationalpost.com)

With so many scrambling to lay claim to the North Pole, has anyone thought to check with Google Maps? See who Google thinks owns the Arctic at [nationalpost.com/posted](http://nationalpost.com/posted)

**KEYWORDS:** ENVIRONMENT; OCEANS; GLOBAL WARMING; TERRITORIAL ISSUES

# Time to 'use it or lose it,' Harper declares; \$4m for new army training centre. Denmark joins rush to claim North Pole

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**IDNUMBER** 200708110002  
**PUBLICATION:** Montreal Gazette  
**DATE:** 2007.08.11  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A1 / FRONT  
**KEYWORDS:** PRIME MINISTERS; POLITICIANS; POLITICAL PARTIES; GOVERNMENT; CANADA  
**BYLINE:** RANDY BOSWELL and MIKE DE SOUZA  
**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service  
**WORD COUNT:** 610

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Prime Minister Stephen Harper made two major funding announcements yesterday to boost Canada's sovereignty in the resource-rich North as Denmark's science minister claimed his country has a strong case for ownership of the North Pole.

"Canada's new government understands that the first principle of Arctic sovereignty is: Use it or lose it," Harper said in Resolute Bay, Nunavut.

He said the community, about 600 kilometres from the magnetic North Pole, will be the site of a new, \$4-million military training centre to be manned by as many as 100 Canadian Forces personnel at a strategic site along the Northwest Passage.

Harper also confirmed the government will spend \$100 million to build Canada's first deep-water Arctic seaport at Nanisivik, on the northern tip of Baffin Island.

The port will be key to shipping through the Northwest Passage, which is expected to provide a summer sea route to Asia within decades as global warming melts ice floes.

The two initiatives will "benefit communities throughout the region by creating jobs and opportunities and enhancing the safety and security of the people who live here," Harper said.

Along with a 900-person boost to the Canadian Rangers' 4,100-member patrol, the investments will "significantly strengthen Canada's sovereignty over the Arctic," he said.

Meantime, Danish Science Minister Helge Sander was announcing that recent findings by his country's researchers suggest "Denmark could be given the North Pole."

His assertion came on the eve of a Danish-led research expedition to the Arctic and amid intensifying interest among all northern nations in securing shipping and seabed rights in the oil-rich region around the North Pole.

The joint Danish-Swedish expedition, which will carry one Canadian scientist, will have its path cleared by a chartered Russian icebreaker.

Time to 'use it or lose it,' Harper declares; \$4m for new army training centre. Denmark joins rush to claim North Pole

Its aim is to cement Denmark's claims to extended seabed territory north of Greenland, an island controlled by Denmark, Sander said in a Danish television interview.

Sander said the findings suggest the disputed Lomonosov Ridge – a 1,500-kilometre undersea mountain range that runs past the Pole between Siberia and North America – is a geological extension of the northern coast of Greenland.

"There are things suggesting that Denmark could be given the North Pole," Sander said.

Canadian scientists believe the Lomonosov Ridge could be seen as a continuation of Ellesmere Island, giving Canada a strong counterclaim against potential Russian and Danish land grabs.

In Ottawa, the Danish ambassador to Canada, Poul Kristensen, told CanWest News that "it's no secret that Denmark, on behalf of Greenland" has interests in Arctic resources and "of course, potentially, we can make claims."

While scientists from the five polar nations continue to collaborate on research aimed at mapping the Arctic sea floor, the governments of Canada, Russia, the United States, Denmark and Norway remain at odds over an area thought to contain one-quarter of the planet's untapped petroleum reserves.

This month, Russia ruffled feathers by dropping a Russian flag on the North Pole seabed at the end of a deep-sea expedition to claim the mineral riches of the Arctic.

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"What is important is that the Russians follow the international legal regulations in force," Støre said.

As for the Danes, they are still at odds with Canada over the ownership of tiny Hans Island, in the boundary waters between Ellesmere Island and Greenland.

The Danish government first stated its intent to vie for possible North Pole riches in 2004, when its Hans Island feud with Canada – now being dealt with quietly by diplomats – was prompting heated public exchanges over the remote, icy rock.

When it comes to potential Arctic oil, "we are speaking of values in the billions," said Kristensen, "and therefore the area, of course, is of interest to us."

Under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the five polar nations could acquire huge swaths of Arctic sea floor if they can prove the claimed areas are linked to their continental shelves.

– On Thin Ice: Gazette reporter Peggy Curran and photographer John Kenney travelled with a team of scientists to experience the effects of global warming firsthand. Follow their trip at [www.montrealgazette.com](http://www.montrealgazette.com)

# PM visit suggests old mine site become new Arctic military port

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**IDNUMBER** 200708090142  
**PUBLICATION:** The Record (Kitchener, Cambridge And Waterloo)  
**DATE:** 2007.08.09  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** Front  
**PAGE:** A3  
**ILLUSTRATION:** Photo: CANADIAN PRESS / Prime Minister Stephen Harper follows Environment Minister John Baird prior to announcing the expansion of Nahanni National Park, Fort Simpson, N.W.T. ;  
**SOURCE:** Record news services  
**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 Torstar Corporation  
**WORD COUNT:** 435

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Prime Minister Stephen Harper kicked off a three-day Arctic sovereignty tour yesterday and suggestions that he will visit a remote site on the north tip of Baffin Island tomorrow is fuelling speculation that Canada's new Arctic military port will be located on the site of a former mine.

The dock at the Nanisivik mine, located near the eastern gateway to the Northwest Passage, remains in regular use and can easily accommodate large vessels, said Robert Carreau of Breakwater Resources, which operated the mine until shutting it in 2001.

"It's a bona fide deepwater port," he said, capable of handling vessels of at least 50,000-tonne capacity.

The dock was built in 1974 by federal funds and has been used ever since to move supplies and ore concentrate from Breakwater's lead-zinc mine. The Coast Guard has also used it as a refuelling station.

Meanwhile, yesterday, Harper announced the expansion of one of the country's most rugged, beautiful and remote national parks.

Harper said the government will add 5,400 square kilometres of land to the Nahanni National Park Reserve — a world heritage site — barring it from further development.

Protected areas include mineral hot springs, limestone formations with geological significance, towering waterfalls and deep, mist-shrouded canyons.

"Canada is blessed with magnificent geography from coast to coast to coast, but none more spectacular than Nahanni Park," Harper said.

"Today's announcement will ensure that more of this precious land, and the unique wildlife populations it sustains, will be protected for future generations."

As for the Nanisivik site, military planners have been eyeing the area located in the sheltered Strathcona Sound since at least spring 2006.

"They were pleased we wouldn't be on the open ocean," Carreau said.

Breakwater and the Coast Guard still use the dock.

"It's in fairly good shape," said Mike Hecimovich of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, which owns the site.

Infrastructure in place includes the dock, a breakwater and a functioning tank farm that used to store fuel for the mine. A nearby airstrip capable of handling planes up to the size of a 737 is also in regular use by the nearby community of Arctic Bay.

The government of Nunavut, which currently owns the airstrip, is decommissioning it while it builds a replacement, but the old one is still usable, said spokesperson Methusalah Kunuk.

"We try to maintain it to a minimum standard," he said.

The airstrip includes a small terminal and cargo facility. Although the port has tides as high as five metres, its ice-free season is long for such a high latitude. The waters are ice-free from July to the end of September, said Carreau. With icebreaking support, the port is usable from May into October.

Breakwater is currently in the second year of its reclamation plan and expects to complete it by the end of next summer, said Carl McLean of Indian and Northern Affairs.

The navy needs a place where it can safely refuel and resupply, as well as move soldiers on- and offshore.

Today, Harper is scheduled to visit the community of Resolute, which some say will become the site of a new winter warfare school.

# Arctic mine to become military port?; Prime minister kicks off Arctic sovereignty tour by expanding national park by 5,400 sq. kilometres

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**IDNUMBER** 200708090093  
**PUBLICATION:** Times & Transcript (Moncton)  
**DATE:** 2007.08.09  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** C1  
**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 Times & Transcript (Moncton)  
**WORD COUNT:** 601

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Infrastructure in place includes the dock, a breakwater and a functioning tank farm that used to store fuel for the mine. A nearby airstrip capable of handling planes up to the size of a 737 is also in regular use by the nearby community of Arctic Bay. Harper's northern trip is meant to bolster Canada's sovereignty over the North. It comes after a Russian miniature submarine dropped a small flag on the ocean bottom at the North Pole symbolizing Russia's claim to the area -- and the resources it contains.

Liberal critic Ujjal Dosanjh has dismissed Harper's tour as a sham in light of the Russian gesture.

"The prime minister is busy draping himself in the Canadian flag and praying that nobody notices that he's not actually doing anything."

The Canadian military, meanwhile, is in the midst of a significant Arctic exercise -- Operation Nanook -- around the southern tip of Baffin Island. About 600 people from the Forces, the RCMP and the coast guard, are taking part.

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Protected areas include mineral hot springs, limestone formations with geological significance, towering waterfalls and deep, mist-shrouded canyons.

"Canada is blessed with magnificent geography from coast to coast to coast, but none more spectacular than Nahanni Park," Harper said. "Today's announcement will ensure that more of this precious land, and the unique wildlife populations it sustains, will be protected for future generations."

Later, Harper flew into the sprawling, remote park aboard a twin-engine float plane, passing over huge canyons, valleys, waterfalls and ancient burial and archeological sites.

He stopped to visit the towering Victoria Falls, which is twice the height of Niagara Falls.

The announcement brings the total area under protection for the park — home to wolves, grizzly bears, lynx, woodland caribou, Trumpeter Swans, Dall's sheep and mountain goats — to 28,000 square kilometres. That's five times the size of Prince Edward Island.

While environmentalists welcome the Nahanni expansion, they have been pushing for inclusion of the entire watershed, which would involve up to 38,000 square kilometres. The NDP dismissed the announcement as a "Harper half-loaf."

"The Harper Conservatives have chosen an arbitrary portion of land rather than protecting the entire watershed," said party leader Jack Layton. "This is a missed opportunity."

# Harper announces expansion of park in remote North; PM begins Arctic tour by increasing protection of springs, canyons at Nahanni reserve

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**IDNUMBER** 200708090128  
**PUBLICATION:** The Toronto Star  
**DATE:** 2007.08.09  
**EDITION:** Met  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A18

**ILLUSTRATION:** FRED CHARTRAND cp pool photo Prime Minister Stephen Harper joked about an anticipated cabinet shuffle yesterday while touring Nahanni National Park, N. W.T., with Herb Norweigan, chief of the De Cho tribe, shown on the left in the photo. He playfully grabbed Environment Minister John Baird, centre, and pretended to pull him toward the drop over the 90-metre Virginia Falls. "That's one way of shuffling a cabinet," Harper said. ;

**BYLINE:** Alexander Panetta  
**SOURCE:** Canadian Press  
**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 Torstar Corporation  
**WORD COUNT:** 391

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"Canada is blessed with magnificent geography from coast to coast to coast, but none more spectacular than Nahanni Park," Harper said.

"Today's announcement will ensure that more of this precious land, and the unique wildlife populations it sustains, will be protected for future generations."

Harper's northern trip, which will also include military announcements, is meant to bolster Canada's sovereignty over the North. It comes after a Russian miniature submarine dropped a small flag on the ocean bottom at the North Pole symbolizing Russia's claim to the area – and the resources it contains.

Liberal critic Ujjal Dosanjh has dismissed Harper's tour as a sham in light of the Russian gesture.

"The Prime Minister is busy draping himself in the Canadian flag and praying that nobody notices that he's not actually doing anything."

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Harper announces expansion of park in remote North; PM begins Arctic tour by increasing protection of springs

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The Nahanni announcement brings the total area under protection for the park to 28,000 square kilometres.

While environmentalists welcome the expansion, they have been pushing for inclusion of the entire watershed – up to 38,000 square kilometres. However, that would also likely include the site of a zinc mine with an ore body worth an estimated \$2.5 billion.

# Baffin Island site for military base?

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**IDNUMBER** 200708090105  
**PUBLICATION:** The Hamilton Spectator  
**DATE:** 2007.08.09  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** Canada/World  
**PAGE:** A3  
**DATELINE:** OTTAWA  
**SOURCE:** The Canadian Press  
**COPYRIGHT:** © 2007 Torstar Corporation  
**WORD COUNT:** 203

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Suggestions that Prime Minister Stephen Harper will visit a remote site on the north tip of Baffin Island is fuelling speculation that Canada's new Arctic military port will be located on the site of a former mine.

Harper is currently on a three-day tour of the Arctic to promote Canadian sovereignty in the region.

Although the trip has been planned for months, the recent visit to the sea floor under the North Pole by a Russian submarine has given his announcements greater prominence.

Yesterday, Harper added about 5,000 square kilometres to the Nahanni National Park Reserve in the Northwest Territories, fulfilling a pledge made by two environment ministers.

Today he is scheduled to visit the community of Resolute, which some say will become the site of a new winter warfare school.

On Baffin Island, the dock at the Nanisivik mine, located near the eastern gateway to the Northwest Passage, remains in regular use and can easily accommodate large vessels, said Robert Carreau of Breakwater Resources, which operated the mine until shutting it in 2001.

The dock was built in 1974 by federal funds and has been used ever since to move supplies and ore concentrate from Breakwater's lead-zinc mine. The Coast Guard has also used it as a refuelling station.

A nearby airstrip capable of handling planes up to the size of a 737 is also in regular use by the nearby community of Arctic Bay.

# Editorial – A port for the Arctic

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**PUBLICATION:** WINNIPEG FREE PRESS

**DATE:** 2007.08.08

**PAGE:** A10

**SECTION:** Editorial Leaders

**WORD COUNT:** 490

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None Stephen Harper will assert his prime ministerial presence in the Arctic this week on a trip that begins today and which will take him across Nunavut and the Northwest Territories.

Although the visit was not planned specifically for the purpose, it will also by happy coincidence serve as a response to last week's more dramatic Russian visit to the Arctic, when the nuclear-powered ice-breaker *Rossiya* crashed its way to the North Pole and planted the Russian flag on the seabed, asserting Moscow's sovereignty over territory that Canada claims.

Canadian ice-breakers at the North Pole would make a more convincing statement of control over the Arctic islands and the northern seas than political speeches in Nunavut, but the light ice breakers that the government has settled on have not been built yet and won't work in the High Arctic in any case.

In Nanisivik on Friday, Mr. Harper is expected to give some indication of how he will implement a second important part of his plan to reaffirm this country's sovereignty — a deep-water port, an airport capable of handling large planes and, perhaps, a military training centre in the Far North.

The betting is that the prime minister has picked Nanisivik as both the site of the announcement and the location of the port — it already has an airport and a dock that could be developed and it is in Baffin Island, which is a political advantage.

This may surprise Manitobans, who know that Canada already has a deep-water northern port in Churchill, which, as columnist Dan Lett pointed out in the Free Press Sunday, "is a natural base from which Canada could exert its sovereignty over the Arctic." As well as being a fully developed deep-water port, it is a railway terminus and has an airport that already can handle large cargo planes.

Churchill is apparently not in the running, though, and it may be that, in truth, it is not far enough north to make the international political statement that the government needs to make. Manitobans, however, will naturally be suspicious that a different kind of politics may be at play. As Mr. Lett pointed out, a port in Nunavut works to Quebec's economic advantage and to Manitoba's economic detriment.

It would not be the first time a federal Conservative government has left this province to twist in the wind in the hope of gaining political points in Quebec. If true, however, it would be the first time that it has been done at a threat to the territorial integrity of the nation. At a time when international dispute of Canada's claim to the Arctic is growing, Mr. Harper needs to convince the country that, wherever Canada's northern military presence is concentrated, it is being done in the country's best interests, not the Conservative party's.

## For the record

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**IDNUMBER** 200708080010  
**PUBLICATION:** Montreal  
Gazette  
**DATE:** 2007.08.08  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A2  
**KEYWORDS:** 0  
**SOURCE:** The Gazette  
**WORD COUNT:** 42

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A story in yesterday's paper referred to the Nunavut community Nanisivik as being the "site of an abandoned lead-zinc mine." In fact, the Nanisivik mine is a closed mine undergoing reclamation by Breakwater Resources.

# It's the Canadian way -- rhetoric, spending

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**IDNUMBER** 200708070036  
**PUBLICATION:** The Leader-Post (Regina)  
**DATE:** 2007.08.07  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** B7  
**DATELINE:** OTTAWA  
**BYLINE:** Norma Greenaway  
**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service  
**WORD COUNT:** 729

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OTTAWA -- Assert Canada's Arctic sovereignty by depositing a titanium-encased Maple Leaf flag on the North Pole seabed?

Forget it.

It's not the Canadian way.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper is expected to rely, instead, on a combination of vigorous rhetoric and fresh spending and building initiatives to bolster Canada's territorial claims in the Arctic as he hopscotches across the North this week.

Among other things, the prime minister will presumably end the suspense and name the site for a long-promised deep-water port in the region, and possibly a military training centre as well.

The plan for a trip Friday to the Nunavut community of Nanisivik, site of an abandoned lead-zinc mine that still boasts an airport and an aged dock, has heightened speculation it could end up a winner.

Harper also will visit the nearby Northwest Passage community of Resolute Bay, a scientific research centre and another contender for fresh federal investments.

Harper's expedition opens Wednesday and involves stops in half a dozen spots in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut before wrapping up Friday in Iqaluit.

The first official stop is Fort Simpson, N.W.T., followed by a flying visit to nearby Nahanni National Park Reserve, home to a storied collection of wildlife, mountain ranges, hot springs, waterfalls and canyons, to illustrate the development challenges in the Arctic.

"The protection and enhancement of the environment along with sustainable development is something we must factor into any activity in the North," Carolyn Stewart Olsen, a spokeswoman for Harper, wrote in an e-mail.

Although planned for some weeks, the trip has proved timelier than anyone could have anticipated.

It will give Harper the opportunity to counter the Russian government's latest startling bid to assert its sovereignty over a vast, potentially energy-rich stretch of the Arctic by planting a Russian flag -- which was encased in titanium -- on the North Pole seabed.

Since the Kremlin-backed expedition came to light late last month, Harper has faced stepped up calls from politicians and a leading Canadian expert on Arctic sovereignty to fight back diplomatically and also on the ground by changing course and purchasing full-fledged, year-round icebreakers capable of going anywhere, including the area the Russians are claiming.

Harper announced plans last month to spend about \$7 billion on the construction, retrofitting and maintenance of up to eight specially reinforced Arctic patrol vessels capable of operating in ice up to a metre thick.

"Canada has a choice when it comes to defending our sovereignty over the Arctic," Harper said at the time.

"We either use it or lose it. And make no mistake, this government intends to use it."

Harper also promised anew that a deep-water port would be built in the Arctic to service the vessels.

The announcement of patrol vessels fell short, however, of the Conservatives' election promise to build three armed icebreakers capable of crashing through six-metre thick ice.

NDP Leader Jack Layton dismissed Harper's chosen vessels as "slushbreakers," and accused the government of relying too heavily on military activities to protect the country's Arctic sovereignty.

In an interview and an open letter to the prime minister, Layton said a more comprehensive approach to asserting sovereignty would require improving the social and economic health of remote communities, and investing in polar icebreakers for the Canadian Coast Guard that would be capable of breaking ice for commercial vessels and research activities.

They also could help re-supply northern communities and provide search and rescue support.

Michael Byers, Canada Research Chair in global politics and international law at the University of British Columbia, has advocated purchasing two heavy icebreakers and putting more money into mapping Canada's northern continental shelf in support of future territorial claims.

Premier Joe Handley of the Northwest Territories and Mary Simon, a national Inuit leader, also have called on the government to revive the position of circumpolar ambassador, a job it axed last year.

Five polar countries — Canada, Russia, the U.S., Norway and Denmark — are competing to secure subsurface rights to the Arctic seabed, a vast expanse believed to hold billions of dollars in oil and gas deposits.

Harper's tour comes almost a year to the day after his first official trip North, during which he declared "action to protect our territorial integrity in the Arctic has never been more urgent."

The trip attracted almost no media coverage. Indeed, many Canadians would not have known the prime minister was in the North except that he took a high-profile verbal beating from critics for choosing the Arctic tour over accepting an invitation to appear at the 16th International AIDS conference in Toronto.

This time, Harper, who is traveling without his wife and children, is seeking national coverage.

In a rare nod to the parliamentary press gallery in Ottawa, Harper has arranged to have a small media entourage accompany him.

The prime minister has often made it difficult for Ottawa-based reporters to cover his domestic trips outside of the capital by providing little advance notice of his plans.



# Dief's Arctic highway proposal rekindled

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**PUBLICATION:** The Leader-Post (Regina)  
**DATE:** 2007.08.07  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A1 / FRONT  
**BYLINE:** Randy Boswell  
**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service  
**WORD COUNT:** 709

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On the eve of a three-day trip to the Arctic by Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Northwest Territories Premier Joe Handley is renewing calls for the federal government to keep a promise made 50 years ago by another Conservative prime minister -- John Diefenbaker -- and build a permanent highway to the Arctic Ocean.

Amid the uproar last week over Russia's audacious flag-planting expedition to the North Pole seabed, Handley told CanWest News Service that completing his territory's long-dreamed-of "road to Tuk" -- a year-round, all-weather route linking the coastal town of Tuktoyaktuk to southern Canada via the Mackenzie Valley Highway -- would mean far more than any Russian submarine dive, showing the world this country is serious about reinforcing its presence and asserting its sovereignty in the North.

Handley calls the planned road to the town of 950 residents "the final step in connecting Canada's three coasts," and has argued that "a highway to the Arctic would help assert Canadian sovereignty over Canadian Arctic waterways as shipping routes become increasingly accessible."

Vehicles can currently reach Tuktoyaktuk only in winter over ice roads, and even the highway routes that end hundreds of kilometres short of the Arctic coast involve the use of ferries to cross various waterways.

A \$700-million plan to build bridges and complete the highway to Tuktoyaktuk, to be funded largely by the federal government, calls for about 1,000 kilometres of road construction across frozen tundra and along the Mackenzie River.

The new route would extend the Mackenzie Valley Highway from the town of Wrigley to the Dempster Highway near Inuvik before the final link to Tuktoyaktuk -- envisioned as the future Canadian outlet for tens of billions of dollars worth of Beaufort Sea and Mackenzie Delta gas and oil.

During the election campaign that brought the federal Conservatives to power in January 2006, Harper wrote to Handley and said his party "supports the concept" of a Mackenzie Valley Highway extension and was "prepared to discuss details regarding the cost, timing and funding of this proposal."

Decrying the federal government's "lack of real action" on Arctic issues -- and dismissing Harper's recent promise to buy up to eight new Arctic Ocean patrol vessels as "weak" because the ships can't penetrate the ice pack year-round -- Handley told CanWest News Service that an unbroken road to the polar sea would be a fitting symbol of Canada's Arctic aspirations, and a critical step in "ensuring there's adequate infrastructure" for both future development and for the thousands of people already living in the North.

After Russia's seafloor touchdown at the pole on Thursday, Harper said the feat showed that Arctic sovereignty "is going to be an important issue as we move into the future" and that his government will

continue to "put a real emphasis" on the North.

Along with the fleet of reinforced patrol ships, the federal government has promised to finance a deep-water port in the Arctic, the location of which is expected to be revealed during Harper's trip this week. Three sites considered contenders for the port -- Iqaluit, Resolute Bay and Nanisivik -- are on Harper's itinerary.

Handley said the federal government's claim that the Arctic is a top priority needs to be backed up by consistent "support for infrastructure and economic investment" across the North, adding that an eventual deep-water port at Tuktoyaktuk -- at the western gate to the Northwest Passage -- and "the road to the Arctic Ocean" should rank high on Canada's to-do list.

The road was first envisioned in 1958 as part of the Diefenbaker government's "Roads to Resources" strategy, but the planned highway stalled in the 1970s when the proposed Mackenzie Valley Pipeline was shelved amid controversy over its possible impact on native communities and the environment.

The pipeline plan has since been revived, and two years ago Handley and Northwest Territories Transportation Minister Michael McLeod released a report urging completion of the Arctic Ocean highway.

"It is time for Canada to be connected coast to coast to coast," they argued at the time. "Completion of the Mackenzie Valley Highway will improve the social and economic opportunities for the people of Canada and will ensure a sovereign, strong and prosperous nation for generations to come."

# Harper set to begin Arctic tour; Prime minister expected to calm fears over Canada's sovereignty

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**IDNUMBER** 200708070012  
**PUBLICATION:** Vancouver Sun  
**DATE:** 2007.08.07  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A4  
**KEYWORDS:** PRIME MINISTERS; POLITICIANS; POLITICAL PARTIES; GOVERNMENT; CANADA  
**DATELINE:** OTTAWA  
**BYLINE:** Norma Greenaway, with files from Randy Boswell  
**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service  
**WORD COUNT:** 596

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OTTAWA -- Assert Canada's Arctic sovereignty by depositing a titanium-encased Maple Leaf flag on the North Pole seabed? Forget it. It's not the Canadian way.

Instead, Prime Minister Stephen Harper is expected to rely on a combination of vigorous rhetoric and fresh spending and building initiatives to bolster Canada's territorial claims in the Arctic as he hopscoches across the North this week.

Among other things, the prime minister will presumably end the suspense and name the site for a long-promised deep-water port in the region, and possibly a military training centre as well.

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Harper also will visit the nearby Northwest Passage community of Resolute Bay, a scientific research centre and another contender for fresh federal investments.

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The first official stop is Fort Simpson, N.W.T., followed by a flying visit to nearby Nahanni National Park Reserve, home to a storied collection of wildlife, mountain ranges, hot springs, waterfalls and canyons, to illustrate the development challenges in the Arctic.

"The protection and enhancement of the environment, along with sustainable development, is something we must factor into any activity in the North," Carolyn Stewart Olsen, a spokeswoman for Harper, wrote in an e-mail.

Although planned for some weeks, the trip has proved timelier than anyone could have anticipated. It will give Harper the opportunity to counter the Russian government's latest startling bid to assert its sovereignty over a vast, potentially energy-rich stretch of the Arctic by planting a Russian flag -- which was encased in titanium -- on the North Pole seabed.

Since the Kremlin-backed expedition came to light late last month, Harper has faced calls from politicians and a leading Canadian expert on Arctic sovereignty to fight back diplomatically and on the ground by changing course and purchasing full-fledged, year-round icebreakers capable of going anywhere, including the area the Russians are claiming.

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"Canada has a choice when it comes to defending our sovereignty over the Arctic," Harper said at the time. "We either use it or lose it. And make no mistake, this government intends to use it."

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However, the announcement of patrol vessels fell short of the Conservatives' election promise to build three armed icebreakers capable of crashing through six-metre thick ice.

NDP leader Jack Layton dismissed Harper's chosen vessels as "slushbreakers," and accused the government of relying too heavily on military activities to protect the country's Arctic sovereignty.

In an interview and an open letter to the prime minister, Layton said a more comprehensive approach to asserting sovereignty would require improving the social and economic health of remote communities, and investing in polar icebreakers for the Canadian Coast Guard that would be capable of breaking ice for commercial vessels and perform a variety of research activities.

They also could help resupply northern communities and provide search and rescue support.

Five northern countries — Canada, Russia, the United States, Norway and Denmark — are all competing to secure subsurface rights to the Arctic seabed, a vast expanse believed to hold billions of dollars in oil and gas deposits.

Harper's tour this year comes almost a year to the day after his first official trip north, during which he declared "action to protect our territorial integrity in the Arctic has never been more urgent."

# PM to bolster our Arctic claims

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**IDNUMBER** 200708070016  
**PUBLICATION:** Times Colonist (Victoria)  
**DATE:** 2007.08.07  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** A4

**ILLUSTRATION:** Photo: NTV, Agence France–Presse, Getty Images / A Russian television image from Friday shows a robotic arm of the Mir–1 mini–submarine placing a Russian flag on the seabed at the North Pole at a depth of 4,261 metres. ;

**DATELINE:** OTTAWA  
**BYLINE:** Norma Greenaway  
**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service  
**WORD COUNT:** 400

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# PM to bolster sovereignty in North

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**PUBLICATION:** WINNIPEG FREE PRESS

**DATE:** 2007.08.07

**PAGE:** A9

**SECTION:** Canada Wire

**WORD COUNT:** 329

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CNS Norma Greenaway OTTAWA -- Assert Canada's Arctic sovereignty by depositing a titanium-encased Maple Leaf flag on the North Pole seabed? Forget it. It's not the Canadian way.

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Since the Kremlin-backed expedition came to light late last month, Harper has faced stepped up calls from politicians and a leading Canadian expert on Arctic sovereignty to fight back diplomatically and also on the ground by changing course and purchasing full-fledged, year-round icebreakers capable of going anywhere, including the area the Russians are claiming.

-- CanWest News Service

# Harper looks to the north; PM's trip to boost territorial claims

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**IDNUMBER** 200708070068  
**PUBLICATION:** The Windsor Star  
**DATE:** 2007.08.07  
**EDITION:** Final  
**SECTION:** News  
**PAGE:** C1 / FRONT  
**ILLUSTRATION:** Colour Photo: Ed Struzik, CanWest News Service, File /SPECTACULAR: Virginia Falls in Nahanni National Park, nearly twice the height of Niagara Falls, is one stop on the prime minister's northern jaunt. ;  
**DATELINE:** OTTAWA  
**BYLINE:** Norma Greenaway  
**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service  
**WORD COUNT:** 374

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OTTAWA – Assert Canada's Arctic sovereignty by depositing a titanium–encased Maple Leaf flag on the North Pole seabed? Forget it. It's not the Canadian way.

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"The protection and enhancement of the environment along with sustainable development is something we must factor into any activity in the North," Carolyn Stewart Olsen, a spokeswoman for Harper, wrote in an e–mail.

Although planned for some weeks, the trip has proved timely after the Russian government sank a Russian flag on the North Pole seabed.

Harper has faced calls from politicians and some Arctic specialists to fight back diplomatically.



There has been pressure to purchase full-fledged, year-round icebreakers capable of going anywhere, including the area the Russians are claiming.

## ROAD TO TUK

Northwest Territories Premier Joe Handley wants the federal government to keep a promise made 50 years ago by another Conservative prime minister -- John Diefenbaker -- and build a permanent highway to the Arctic Ocean.

Handley told CanWest News that completing a year-round, all-weather route linking the coastal town of Tuktoyaktuk to southern Canada via the Mackenzie Valley Highway would mean far more than any Russian submarine dive.

Handley calls the planned road to the town of 950 residents "the final step in connecting Canada's three coasts."

Vehicles can currently reach Tuktoyaktuk only in winter over ice roads.

About 1,000 kilometres of road and bridge construction across frozen tundra and along the Mackenzie River would be needed at a cost of at least \$700 million.

# PM to show how he'll 'use, not lose' Arctic; Harper expected to announce site of long-promised deepwater port

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**IDNUMBER** 200708070006

**PUBLICATION:** The Ottawa Citizen

**DATE:** 2007.08.07

**EDITION:** Final

**SECTION:** News

**PAGE:** A3

**ILLUSTRATION:** Photo: David Ljunggren, Reuters / Resolute Bay, Nunavut, a scientific research centre, is seen as a contender for federal investments aimed at bolstering Canada's territorial claims when Prime Minister Stephen Harper heads North tomorrow. ;

**BYLINE:** Norma Greenaway, with files from Randy Boswell

**SOURCE:** The Ottawa Citizen; CanWest News Service

**WORD COUNT:** 697

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Although planned for weeks, the trip has proved timelier than anyone could have anticipated. It will give Mr. Harper the opportunity to counter the Russian government's latest startling bid to assert its sovereignty over a vast, potentially energy-rich stretch of the Arctic by planting a Russian flag — which was encased in titanium — on the North Pole seabed.

Since the Kremlin-backed expedition came to light late last month, Mr. Harper has faced stepped-up calls from politicians and a leading Canadian expert on Arctic sovereignty to fight back diplomatically and also on the ground by changing course and purchasing full-fledged, year-round icebreakers capable of going anywhere, including the area the Russians are claiming.

Last month, Mr. Harper announced plans to spend about \$7 billion on the construction, retrofitting and maintenance of up to eight specially reinforced Arctic patrol vessels capable of operating in ice up to a metre thick.

"Canada has a choice when it comes to defending our sovereignty over the Arctic," Mr. Harper said at the time. "We either use it or lose it. And make no mistake, this government intends to use it."

The prime minister also promised anew that a deep-water port would be built in the Arctic to service the vessels.

The announcement of patrol vessels fell short, however, of the Conservatives' election promise to build three armed icebreakers capable of crashing through six-metre-thick ice.

NDP leader Jack Layton dismissed Mr. Harper's chosen vessels as "slushbreakers," and accused the government of relying too heavily on military activities to protect the country's Arctic sovereignty.

In an interview and an open letter to the prime minister, Mr. Layton said a more comprehensive approach to asserting sovereignty would require improving the social and economic health of remote communities, and investing in polar icebreakers for the Canadian Coast Guard.

Michael Byers, Canada Research Chair in global politics and international law at the University of British Columbia, has advocated purchasing two heavy icebreakers and putting more money into mapping Canada's northern continental shelf in support of future territorial claims.

Premier Joe Handley of the Northwest Territories and Mary Simon, a national Inuit leader, also have called on the government to revive the position of circumpolar ambassador, a job it axed last year.

Five polar countries — Canada, Russia, the U.S., Norway and Denmark — are competing to secure subsurface rights to the Arctic seabed, a vast expanse believed to hold billions of dollars in oil and gas deposits.

Mr. Harper's tour comes almost a year to the day after his first official trip North, during which he declared "action to protect our territorial integrity in the Arctic has never been more urgent."

The trip attracted almost no media coverage. Indeed, many Canadians would not have known the prime minister was in the North except that he took a high-profile verbal beating for choosing the Arctic tour over accepting an invitation to appear at the 16th International AIDS conference in Toronto.

# PM to spread the wealth in Arctic; Northern Expedition; Harper To Bolster Canada's Territorial Claims During Trip

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**IDNUMBER** 200708070090

**PUBLICATION:** National Post

**DATE:** 2007.08.07

**EDITION:** National

**SECTION:** News

**PAGE:** A4

**ILLUSTRATION:** Black & White Photo: Nathan Vanderklippe, CanWest NewsService / Prime Minister Stephen Harper has promised that a deep-water port would be built in the Arctic to service Canadian vessels. ;

**DATELINE:** OTTAWA

**BYLINE:** Norma Greenaway

**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service

**WORD COUNT:** 525

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PM to spread the wealth in Arctic; Northern Expedition; Harper To Bolster Canada's Territorial Claims During

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**KEYWORDS:** PRIME MINISTERS; POLITICIANS; POLITICAL PARTIES; GOVERNMENT; CANADA

# PM is heading north to assert sovereignty; May unveil site of deep-water port. Follows Russian claim to North Pole seabed

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**SECTION:** News  
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**DATELINE:** OTTAWA  
**BYLINE:** NORMA GREENAWAY  
**SOURCE:** CanWest News Service  
**WORD COUNT:** 475

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Ottawa Citizen