



CONSUMER HELP OFFICE IN THUNDER BAY

and Corporate Affairs Minister
 et, in co-operation with the Ethnic
 Centre, has announced the extension of
 er Help Office in Thunder Bay.

tion to the Consumer Help Office lo-
 others-on-Budgets, 224 Cummings St.,
 is now also available for consumers
 nic Referral Centre, 213 Algoma St.
 reen Miller, Consumer help officer
 on-Budgets works out of the ethnic
 Centre on Wednesdays, from 9 to 4 p.m.
 can be reached at 345-0551.

nic Referral Centre is a multi-cul-
 ce offering a wide variety of assist-
 eople of many nationalities. Since
 Canadians of Finnish, Spanish, Por-
 alian, Greek, French and English ori-
 een helped with social, housing and
 roblems.

consumer services to an existing or-
 has been found to be an effective
 ching specific groups in the popula-
 might otherwise be unaware of the
 ervices available to them. The
 elp Office complements Box 99, the
 s official consumer listening post
 as well as the regional and district

nic Referral Centre is aware of the
 ne many people who use the service
 l be able to provide Consumer ad-
 stance and information when needed.

BAD-SIGN

A sign at the space center
 reads: OUT TO LAUNCH.

SUBSIDIES FOR PURCHASE OF NEW CARS

"The Government is very concerned about the
 unequal treatment of taxpayers that has arisen
 as a result of different sales promotion tech-
 niques being used by auto manufacturers in
 providing cash subsidies to encourage new car
 sales," Arthur Meen, Ministry of Revenue, said.

"As the matter stands presently, where the
 subsidy is payable to the dealer, the price of
 the car to the customer is reduced at the time
 of sale and no Ontario Retail Sales Tax is
 payable on the subsidy. However, where auto
 manufacturers have chosen, for their own rea-
 sons, to pay the subsidy directly to the cus-
 tomer, the manufacturer has created a distinc-
 tly separate transaction. The dealer, in this
 instance, must charge the full unsubsidized
 price to the customer and Ontario Retail Sales
 Tax must be collected based on this higher
 price", Mr. Meen Stated.

"We are sympathetic to the customer who
 must pay the higher amount of tax in this sit-
 uation and, at my request, members of the
 Motor Vehicle Manufacturers Association repre-
 senting the four auto manufacturers met with
 my staff and me to discuss the matter.

As a result, I am proposing changes which
 will remove certain unfairness in the applica-
 tion of Retail Sales Tax caused by these sales
 promotions."

Each auto manufacturer has agreed to supply
 the Ministry of Revenue with names, addresses
 and the amount of the subsidy cheque sent to
 the auto purchaser under these various programs
 Immediately upon receipt of this information,

continued page 26