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Minnova innocent of not providing proper ventilation

Decision not expected to affect contract bargaining, union and management say

In a judgement delivered Jan. 30, Judge R.D. Clarke concluded that charges laid by the Ministry of Labour under the Occupational Health and Safety Act against Minnova's Winston Lake Division should be dismissed.

The charges were laid following an inspection in December, 1990. The Ministry charged that Minnova had not provided the required flow of air to a specific work site at the mine.

The charges alleged that the number of pieces of equipment operating in the 510 level of the

mine exceeded the allowable brake horsepower for the area. The maximum allowable brake horsepower in that section was 250. Judge Clarke found that only a dozer, rated at 70 brake horsepower, was operating in the area.

Determined by airflow

Allowable brake horsepower in a workplace is determined on the basis of airflow. Regulations provide that 100 cubic feet per minute of air flow is required for each brake horsepower of the diesel engine or engines operating in each workplace.

Good news

The ruling is good news to Mine Manager Tom Dickson.

"We have always done everything we can to make certain our operation is completely safe in every way," Dickson said in a press release.

"This decision confirms that we are indeed doing things right when it comes to ventilation."

Ventilation systems at Winston Lake have been developed in concert with overall mine development. Since 1986 the total volume of air going into the mine has been increased three times; from 165,000 cubic feet per minute to the present level of 320,000 cubic feet per minute.

A new air exhaust raise was completed in May, 1991, at a cost of \$1 million.

No bearing

Minnova spokesperson John Wilcox said in an interview Feb. 7 that the court decision has no bearing on the contract negotiations between United Steel workers of America local 4464 and the company.

"We look at safety and continued on page 7

Theme chosen for Terrace Bay

by Darren Mca Donald The News

Terrace Bay Council has accepted a recommendation from the Tourism Committee to adopt "Modern Naturalism" as the community's theme.

The theme is a hybrid of the three themes suggested by Moore/George Associates.

The original themes -North of Superior, Resort, and Contemporary/Civic — didn't

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Ready for responsibility



"Are you boys ready to repeat the pledge of the wolf-club pack?". With those words Dustin Cole, 7 (left to right), Justin Mineau, 7, Darryl Morris, 7, Eric Peath, 9, and David Jason Leblanc, 7, were invested as cubs during a meeting held last Thursday night in Schreiber. Parents tied the kerchiefs on their sons, while leader Richard Saindon handed out badges.



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