Dance Festival set

By Darwin Sauer Alaska Highway News

The Peace River North Festival Association is conducting its annual Performing Arts Festival this weekend.

The event is intended to showcase young artists from the community. The festival will take place at the Immaculata school and runs from 4:30 p.m. on Friday to Sunday evening.

The event involves strictly dance this year.

There will be 215 performers competing in the festival. Categories include dance, tap, ballet, stage and baton.

Dancers from the Northern Dance Theatre Society and Jellison Studios will compete for top honors. Age groups range from four to 18 years old.

An adjudicator from Edmonton will be the judge for the event. Winners will advance to the provincial finals in May.

There will be \$1,500 dollars in scholarships awarded to the finalists. A \$500 adjudicator's award will be handed out to the best all around performer.

The dancer with the highest mark

over 85 in each category will receive \$100. The best original choreography will receive \$75. The finalists will also given plaques.

Each day is divided up into three mixed dance sessions.

Friday will start with an evening session at 4:30 p.m.

Saturday will include a morning session at 8:30 a.m., an afternoon session at 1:30 p.m. and an evening session at 6:30 p.m.

There will be a 8 a.m. morning session on Sunday. Each session will cost a dollar or four dollars for all five.

There will be an honors performance at 3 p.m. on Sunday. The honors session will be comprised of the finalist from all the dance categories. Awards and scholarships will be handed out after the performance.

Tickets for the honors performance are five dollars each and will be available at the Immaculata school throughout the festival.

Veda Brown, one of the festival coordinators, says the event is a good chance for the dancers to display their talents.

The festival has been well attended in past years and Brown, expects a good turn out this year.