

J.C.M.P.

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~~180,000~~ to be housed in new town

More than 180,000 people will be housed in Fanling-Shek Wu Hui of the North District in the early 1990s as a result of a new town development plan for the district.

A number of recreational and sports facilities, including a sports complex, swimming pool complex, indoor games hall and cultural centre, have been included in the plan.

These will be in addition to the existing facilities in the area.

This was revealed yesterday by the North District Officer, Mr Stuart Harbinson, at a press conference to introduce the North District Festival '82.

Another feature of the new town will be the space reserved for open areas for recreational purposes, he said.

"A landscape study is to be conducted by a firm of consultants," he added.

He explained that the North District was a fast-growing district, and that recently many town people had moved to the district.

Inevitably, some conflicts had developed between the villages and town people.

He hoped the festival would help create better communication and understanding among the locals.

"We have put much effort into planning the programme, and we hope to attract and involve as many people as possible," said Mr Harbinson.

More than 20,000 people living in the district are expected to participate at the festival, said the chairman of the organising committee, Mr Law Chak-tong.

He said the festival was an important event for the local people, and it was also to celebrate the third anniversary of the formation of the North District.

The district board had contributed \$120,000 towards the expenses of the festival — one third more than last year.

The programme consists of 18 events, including Western dance, a photographic competition, exhibitions, variety shows and a sports carnival.

The highlight of the festival will be a model car and aeroplane show on December 11.

The festival is jointly organised by the District Office, Cultural Services Department (NT), Recreation and Sport Service, Music Office, Urban Services Department and local community organisations.

The two-week festival will start on Saturday and end on December 19.