

Canadian TV show takes hard look at Arctic oil

North America's last great wilderness area, Lancaster Sound in Canada's high Arctic, is now the site of oil exploration, and a unique environment rich in animal and plant life is threatened.

To find out what the future holds for this extraordinary place, David Suzuki and a film crew from *The Nature of Things* recently visited Lancaster Sound. The material gathered

from that expedition, together with interviews with several of the Native peoples and with others directly concerned with what's happening in the Canadian Arctic, will be presented as a special one-hour edition of *The Nature of Things*. This film will show in Anchorage on September 15, on Channel 7, KAKM, at 8 p.m. followed by a panel discussion.

Appearing on the program

with David Suzuki are: Don Gamble, Director, Policy Studies CARC; David Nettlehip, Research Biologist, Canadian Wildlife Service; Justice Thomas Berger;

Carson Templeton, Winnipeg engineer; Andrew Thompson, lawyer, UBC; W.A. Henry, President, Norlands Petroleum; Gerry Glazier, G.M. Environment and

Social Affairs, Petro Canada; Elijah Erkloo and Titus Allooooloo of the Inuit community of Pond Inlet, NWT; Hon. Jake Epp, Minister, Indian Affairs and Northern Development; and Hon. John Fraser, Minister of the Environment.

Filmed by Rudolph Kovanic, the program captures some of the spectacular beauty of the landscape and wildlife of two of the most important seabird colonies of the North - Coburg Island in Jones Sound, and Cape Hay at the western entrance to Lancaster Sound. These two locations are nesting sites for half a million thick-billed murres, tens of thousands of kittiwawks, and many other species.

Through the fertile waters of Lancaster Sound itself pass 40 per cent of all North American beluga whales; 60 per cent of all eastern Arctic seabirds; and 85 per cent of North America's narwhals; also important populations of polar bears, ringed seals, walrus, and bowhead whales.

This edition of *The Nature of Things* was written and narrated by Professor John Livingston of the Department of Environmental Studies, York University; and produced by James Murray, Executive Producer of the series.



Shown here is Canadian Broadcasting Corporation commentator David Suzuki as he appears in the special CBC edition of *The Nature of Things* entitled "Arctic Oil" to be broadcast statewide on the Alaska public television stations and the state satellite system September 15, 1980. Suzuki and the film crew from the popular Canadian series recently visited Lancaster Sound and nearby Inuit communities to investigate energy development in the Canadian High Arctic. Filmed by Rudolph Kovanic, the film captures the spectacular beauty of the landscape and wildlife of the Arctic.