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Economic Development News for Nunavummiut

Hanatiligiyit Tuhaktakhait Nunavumiut

Nouvelles sur le développement économique pour les Nunavummiut



2004-Г \%PC>\% 2004 Edition

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The Nunavut Economic Developers Association is an important part of the network that serves Nunavummiut



Community economic development

INAC works with regional partners to create opportunities for business

Supporting the economic development of Nunavut is a priority for the Government of Canada. And in the coming year, a new Northern Strategy will ensure economic development is actively pursued in partnership with the people of Nunavut, the NWT and Yukon – while respecting the fragile ecosystems of the North.

"The key for us is partnerships," says Hagar Idlout-Sudlovenick, the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and Inuit Relations for the Nunavut Regional Office of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC). "We are committed to working with the Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., and community organiza-

tions to improve the quality of life in communities."

To help make communities stronger, INAC with its partners organize training events, provide funding, and manage resource access and development. Most of INAC's economic development programs are delivered by the three regionally-based

Community Economic Development Organizations (CEDOs).

CEDOs act as a "one-stop-shop" for training and economic development programs. They are each linked to their regional Inuit association to ensure regional and cultural values are reflected in their services.

The Kitikmeot Economic Development Commission, Kivalliq Partners in Development and Kakivak Association in turn work with the Economic Development Officers (EDOs) based in hamlet offices. Training and enthusiasm are helping to make the CEDO-EDO links stronger.

continued on page 2



Indian and Northern Affairs Canada Affaires indiennes et du Nord Canada



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Community economic development

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TUKIMUT

(10 Keep moving forward')

Economic Development News
for Nunavummiut

2004 Edition

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© Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada Together CEDOs and EDOs help people seeking training or business opportunities access the many programs they deliver on behalf of INAC, other federal departments, the Government of Nunavut and agencies like Aboriginal Business Canada. The approach used varies by region.

Nunavut's three CEDOs are considered among the best in Canada. A federal audit completed in late 2003 found they were the most cost effective in the country, thanks to their innovative and effective approach to community economic development.

CEDOs have the ability to influence both training and business trends in their region. "We've adopted a much broader approach to what constitutes community development," says Gordon Miles, Business Service Manager with Kakivak Association.

"People need the right skills to get the job they want or to start a business," says Miles. CEDOs usually steer training funds to those who are acquiring businessoriented skills.

And business skills are very important — basic book-keeping, office organization, and marketing. "To get any type of money for your business, you need a good business plan," says George Gotschall, former Business Development Officer for the Kitikmeot Economic Development Commission.

"It's a challenge to learn how to think in a business fashion rather than going along day to day, it can be overwhelming," he adds. "But it's part of a CEDO's job to help people find these skills or acquire them directly. We really are here to help."

CEDOs provide support for businesses big and small.

A \$1,000 grant program for tools has had an enormous impact on the arts in Nunavut, says Beth Beattie. The Executive Director of the Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association is quick to point out that about 3,000 people are involved in the arts here, more than 10 per cent of the population.

A good business plan must be prepared before applying to banks, CEDOs or INAC for funding

"The majority of artists are stone carvers, and most of them are subsistence hunters," she says. "This small grant allows them to buy or repair the tools they use to earn cash for fuel, bullets and equipment needed to hunt for their families."

CEDOs deliver the Small Art Grants program funded by the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. And when they see good results from an investment, they can help people build on their success by accessing the right funding and training opportunities.

For example, the Economic Development Officer in Kimmirut helped organize an art society for the community, which in turn transformed an old store house into a gallery. By pooling their talents, the artists of Kimmirut are now able to market and sell their art effectively. When a cruise ship stopped by last summer, more than \$13,000 of art was sold in two hours to the passengers who visited the new gallery.

"It's important to work collaboratively on these programs," says Idlout-Sudlovenick.

continued on page 6

TUKIMUT SPIS Economic Development News for Nunavummiut

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An 80-member crew worked on the Resolution Island site in 2003, most of them Beneficiaries of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement

Resolution Island

Military base clean up builds talented Inuit workforce, restores island environment for use by future generations

When the Government of Canada looked for innovative ways to clean up contaminated sites in the North, it saw an opportunity for on-the-job training for Inuit workers. And with 150 contaminated sites awaiting clean up in Nunavut alone, these workers could look forward to years of steady, well-paid jobs.

Qikiqtaaluk Corporation (QC) welcomed the opportunity to clean up the environment and build a skilled Inuit workforce. And with expertise gained from cleaning up the Resolution Island site, QC is now undertaking the clean up of the Polaris mine site on behalf of the mine's owners. QC was also a lead contractor for clean-up work at the Cape Hooper Distant Early Warning (DEW) line site in Nunavut.

"QC provides direct opportunities for Inuit in the Baffin region and beyond," says Harry Flaherty, QC's Director of Environ-



mental Services. "Through our partnership with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), we have acquired the expertise to tackle the remediation of DEW line sites across the North as well as deliver a full range of environmental services."

Resolution Island lies off the southeastern tip of Baffin Island, just 310 kilometres from Iqaluit as the raven flies. It is also known by the Inuit name *Tujjaat*, or

"land with scarce vegetation." Now considered one of the largest contaminated sites in Canada, it is a legacy of the days when 45 military sites dotted the North, their radars and antennas monitoring the activities of Canada and the USA's cold war opponents.

Qikiqtaaluk Corporation can now deliver a full range of environmental services

Abandoned by the United States Air Force in the early 1960s, the Resolution Island site was heavily contaminated from 10 years of operation. PCBs, asbestos, mercury and other chemical contamination were just part of the problem. There were also physical hazards from vacant buildings and many dump sites.

INAC is responsible for bringing the site into compliance with federal environmental standards. INAC hired QC,

continued on page 6

Resolution Island

WORK COMPLETED TO DATE (as of December 31, 2003)

 $2,100 \text{ m}^3$

of contaminated soils (PCBs, mercury, lead, zinc etc.) excavated and shipped off site for treatment

200,000

litres of hydrocarbons safely burned on site

9

waste dumps cleaned up after hazardous materials removed

WORK TO BE COMPLETED

Excavation of 2,900 m³ of contaminated soils

Construction of a secured/lined landfill for contaminated soils

Remediation and closure of 2 more waste dumps

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Road construction is challenging and weather conditions

Infrastructure development

Environment, economics key factors for Bathurst Inlet Port and Road Project approval

Infrastructure is key to economic development in Nunavut. Airports, ports and roads connect people and projects. Work is now underway to determine if a port and road project to serve the Kitikmeot region should go ahead.

If it goes ahead, the deep-water port and 211-kilometre all-weather road would serve a critical area of Nunavut that has enormous mineral potential. The port/road system could serve the Ekati, Diavik and Lupin mines as well as the many exploration camps in the area. It would also be

a less expensive way to transport supplies and fuel to Kitikmeot communities.

If it goes ahead, the deep-water port and 211-kilometre all-weather road would serve a critical area of Nunavut that has enormous mineral potential

The decision-making process started in 2000, when the technical committee was formed by the Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Nuna Logistics Ltd., Inmet Mining Corporation, the Kitikmeot Corporation, the Hamlet of Kuglugtuk and the Government of Nunavut.

The studies needed to assess environmental and economic impacts began in 2001. The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) examined all the information in 2002 and advised the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development to hold a public review. Later that same year, however, changes were made to the mining activities planned for the area.

A new project description was prepared, re-screened by NIRB and the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) agreed that NIRB should conduct a public review. NIRB is now in the process of talking to people to see what parts of the project need to be studied for environ-

continued on page 5

KIVALLIQ-MANITOBA ROAD: Partnerships key to feasibility study

The Bathurst port/road project is not the only big infrastructure project on the books. A \$725,000 pre-feasibility study is now underway into a road linking the Kivallig region of Nunavut with northern Manitoba.

The study was announced in October 2003 with completion planned for later this year. Through research and public consultation it will narrow down options for what type of road should be built and the route it should follow.

INAC provided \$500,000 needed for the study through its Regional Partnerships Fund. The Kivalliq Inuit Association invested \$100,000 and the Government of Nunavut the remaining \$125,000.

A road link would greatly lower the costs of supplying the Kivalliq region, as materials could be trucked to Arviat or Rankin Inlet for distribution. There is a lot of exploration for diamond and gold deposits in the region, as well as good potential for a mine to be open within five years.

The pre-feasibility study is an important first step. Ultimately the go-ahead will depend on funding as well as approval from the federal, provincial, and territorial regulators.

TUKIMUT SPIS CONOMIC Development News for Nunavummiut

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John Hickes plans to invite B&B guests to join him and his dog team for an outdoor adventure

Infrastructure development

continued from page 4

mental and socio-economic effects. Then, they will ask the road and port proponent to submit information for the public to review.

INAC contributed \$3 million over four years to help fund the first phase of the Bathurst port and road study, with the Government of Nunavut and the private sector providing matching funds.

"There is no doubt that a new transportation corridor in the Kitikmeot would bring many benefits to the communities and resource companies," says INAC's acting Regional Director General, Hagar Idlout-Sudlovenick.

"But sound economics are fundamental to our support. And respect for the unique environment of the region must always be shown."

Traditional knowledge was an important part of the environmental research. The Naonaiyaotit Traditional Knowledge Project and the Tuktu and Nogak caribou and calves project were two key elements of the environmental baseline study. The calving grounds of the Bathurst caribou are north of the port/road project.

The results of the Tuktu and Nogak study can be found in the book *Thunder on the Tundra*, now available in northern bookstores.

PROFILE: John Hickes

Bed & breakfast the newest business for Kivalliq entrepreneur

John Hickes' plan for "semiretirement" looks like a hectic career for most folks. But after years of working outside of Nunavut, he is looking forward to slowing down in his home town of Rankin Inlet – with only four businesses to tend.

"I'm not really dead yet," Hickes says with a smile when asked to talk about his latest venture, the Nanuk B&B Lodge. "I enjoy meeting people, I've got a few stories to tell. My first interest is tourism."

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, working through its regional associate Kivalliq Partners in Development, contributed \$227,500 towards building the eight-room bed and breakfast facility. The Opportunity Fund provides financial aid to Inuit businesses that in turn allows them to lever additional financing in order to start up or expand.

A former Mayor and councillor of Rankin Inlet, Hickes is personally committed to strengthening the economic base of his community. "There's no question that Rankin is the hub for East-West-North-South distribution for Nunavut," he says. "At some point, everyone travelling in Nunavut will pass through Rankin Inlet.

"We're seeing this with tourism; Iqaluit is saturated so the overflow is coming here. And we're already hosting numerous conference-type workshops." The Nanuk B&B Lodge as a result is designed to host business and tourism travellers, filling the gap identified in a Chamber of Commerce report prepared two years ago.

Hickes juggles his various careers with ease but he's the first to stress that hard work is essential to succeed in any business. "It takes a lot of time, a lot of work. Tourism is a lifestyle, you have to enjoy what you're doing."

Funding is a real challenge for any northern business person, he says. "It's hard for Northerners to build an equity base, because of the high costs here and poor access to financial institutions. Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Atuqtuarvik Corporation, and the community economic development organizations are essential partners in helping businesses establish themselves in Nunavut."

'Rankin is the hub for Nunavut... at some point, anyone travelling in or around the territory will pass through here'

Hickes owned a motel in Churchill for 15 years, a restaurant in Thompson for eight years, and was President and CEO of Nunasi Corporation for eight years. His professional career focussed on Aboriginal business issues and training, as well as economic and community development.

These days, Hickes is the principal owner of Nanuk Enterprises Ltd. and operates Tumi tours, a small outdoor adventure business that allows him to enjoy his dog team as well as fishing and polar bear tours. He is also the President and CEO of the Nunavut Development Corporation.

Economic Development News for Nunavummiut

Snacks create skills for Kugaaruk youth

A snack bar used for fundraising is turning into a real business, thanks to the energy of the Hivunihaq Youth Society of Kugaaruk (Pelly Bay).

"They're really keen to start this business," says Vince Ningark, who is actively involved with the society when he's not busy with his job as Economic Development Officer for the hamlet. "They're getting experience with bookkeeping, financial accounting, and may even earn extra credits at school because of this."

Hivunihaq has about 11 members who meet twice a month. More than a year ago they started to raise funds for activities by operating a concession stand at community events at the arena and school. A four-day-long trip on the land last fall was funded by profits from the concession.

Then the ideas started - why not have a permanent concession stand, with a steady stream of revenues that could fund other youth activities?

Ningark worked with the Kitikmeot Economic Development Commission to put together a proposal for an "arcade" to serve the youth of Kugaaruk. The facility would have large TVs, using X-Box and Game Boy gear instead of conventional arcade games so they could update games frequently. A foozball table and two pool tables would bring in revenue along with the enlarged concession stand.

The Aboriginal Business Canada Youth Entrepreneur Strategy was approached for start-up funding. They liked the idea of a youth-led business that would still involve elders and families.

"If all the approvals come this spring, we'll be able to order our materials in time for this year's sealift and have the arcade ready to open by spring next year," says Ningark. "The key was to turn our volunteer-run concession stand into a business."

And having already succeeded once at starting a business – and learning the skills needed to run one – he's hopeful that Kugaaruk youth will move quickly into business and government jobs, to the benefit of the community.

Community economic development

continued from page 2

"Strategic investments are the best way to help start new businesses, create jobs, and attract additional resources from the private sector."

Investing in people who are willing to work hard is how government builds an economy, one job at a time. "It's a myth that there is easy money to be had from government," Gotschall says. "It doesn't matter how good an idea you have, we're in the business to support business. But when all the pieces fall into place, it's great to see people succeed."

For more information on these and other programs, contact:

• INAC Nunavut Regional Office at 867-975-4500 or e-mail nuinfo@inac.gc.ca

- Kitikmeot Economic Development Commission at 867-983-2095 or www.kedc.ca
- Kivalliq Partners in Development at 867-645-2130 or www.kpid.nu.ca
- Kakivak Association at 867-979-0911 or www.qikiqtani.nu.ca
- Economic Development Officer at your hamlet office

Information about INAC economic development programs is set out in:

- "Economic Development Program Information" (booklet) published by INAC, QS-5349-019-BB-A2
- "Intergovernmental Affairs and Inuit Relations in Nunavut" (pamphlet) published by INAC, QS-Y198-000-HE-A1

Resolution Island clean up

continued from page 3

the economic development arm of the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, to carry out the work. Project management teams bring together experts from QC, INAC and Queen's University, which provides laboratory services to the project.

The Resolution Island project's last season employed an 80-member crew to do clean up, co-ordinate transportation, carry out community consultations and build a road to the contaminated area. QC is proud of the fact that since work began in 1997 more than 85 per cent of the work force has been Inuit. As well, more than 70 per cent of all purchases for the project were made through Inuit-owned companies.

"Our staff are mostly seasonal. But because of the training opportunities, we see most come back each year," said Flaherty.
"Training accounts for about 30 per cent of the time worked on this project. We support classroom sessions as well as direct field work, with a strong focus on certification programs."

To date, INAC has spent \$35 million on cleaning up Resolution Island. Of that total, about \$7.5 million remained in Nunavut through salaries paid to local workers. An estimated 30 organizations directly benefit from the project.

The Government of Canada usually spends more than \$100 million each year on cleaning up contaminated sites on federal lands. The 2004-05 fiscal period will see an extra \$175 million invested in an 'accelerated' program that includes the Fox-M and PIN-4 DEW line sites in Nunavut, as well as Resolution Island.

"The North is one of Canada's most sensitive ecosystems," says acting Regional Director General Hagar Idout-Sudlovenick. "It is vital to the future of the people who live in the North, and for its threatened species, that we work as quickly as possible to deal with the highest risk sites."

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Training

Since the Resolution Island Project began in 1997, formal training has been delivered on-site in the following areas:

First Aid / CPR

Transportation of Dangerous Goods

Boom Truck Operation and Safety

Workplace Hazardous Material Information System

Hazardous Waste Operations & Emergency Response

Construction Trades

Heavy Equipment Operation

Safety

Environmental Technologies, and

Mechanics

TUKIMUT SPIS Economic Development News for Nunavummiut

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Klengenberg says that reliability and a willingness to learn are essential for success

PROFILE: Helen Klengenberg

Life long learning leads to success

Be reliable, be willing to work and above all be willing to learn and Helen Kimnik Klengenberg says you'll succeed at whatever you want.

As she looks around the brand new office of her newest business, Akhaliak Promotional Products and Printing Services Ltd., Klengenberg points out the desktop publishing program on the computer screen in front of her.

"I learned how to type when I was hired as a clerk typist," she says. "Now I'm learning how to do graphics to help my printing business. I started working when I was 13, sweeping floors at the Kugluktuk Co-op for \$1.50 an hour, and I don't think I've stopped since!"

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada contributed \$150,000 towards the start-up costs of the printing business through its Opportunity Fund. Klengenberg also obtained help from Aboriginal Business Canada, Atuqtuarvik Corporation, and the Baffin Business Development Corporation.

"If you want to start a business, you need to find out what contributions and grants are available, before you think about loans," says Klengenberg. "As an Inuitowned business, I want to take advantage of everything that's available. I did quite a bit of my research on the internet."

Klengenberg knows that her attitude towards service has helped her succeed at many different careers. "I always made myself available, so people wound up saying 'Hire Helen, she's reliable and hard working'," she says with a smile. "That is how I got to be a clerk typist without knowing how to type."

She tells the story of the Hudson's Bay store in Kugluktuk, where her family lived out on the land until the 1970s. "When my family came into town, it didn't matter what time it was, the manager would open up the store so we could shop," she remembers. "It was great!"

Akhaliak staff are ready to help their clients at all hours

Today, it's Klengenberg and her employees who are available at all hours to meet the needs of their clients. "For the territorial election, we had people who needed posters and pamphlets right away because time was so short," she explains. "They needed to know they could count on us."

In addition to owning Akhaliak ("northern lights") Printing, Klengenberg owns Akhaliak Consulting and is a partner in Aarluk Consulting. As well, she is a member of the federal Task Force on Aboriginal Languages and Cultures and serves as a Justice of the Peace.

Although she dropped out of school in Grade 10 – "don't do what I did, kids!" – Klengenberg made up for it later by earning two degrees at university, as well as a certificate in municipal administration.

She still hunts and, if all goes well, hopes to return to Kugluktuk in a few years to live on the land and be closer to her roots.



The first webcast of INAC's Connecting Youth in Canada project featured students from Inuksuk High School in Iqaluit. Using the internet, more than 5,000 students across Canada talked about issues and topics of concern to them. The October event was the first of four that will connect Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal youth throughout the year. For more information visit www.inac.gc.ca/connex

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Employers from across the North showed youth what kind of jobs are available and the skills needed to fill them

Rankin Inlet career fair

Students encouraged to start planning ahead

What do I want to be when I grow up? This is a burning question for students in schools across Nunavut. In Rankin Inlet, a career fair held in early December helped them find some answers.

Organized by Patrick Tagoona on behalf of Kivalliq Partners in Development, some 20 employers and organizations participated. Some offered short presentations. Most had draws for prizes, which encouraged students to visit all the displays.

"Exams were on at the same time as the career fair, but most students made a point of visiting the career fair," said Tagoona.

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) is a major employer in Nunavut. Meeting our goal of creating a better quality of life for Inuit and Northerners requires skilled employees in a wide variety of fields.

The INAC booth at the career fair was hosted by Hazel Ootoowak, Ceporah Kilabuk and Elayne Wyatt. They shared information on opportunities for youth seeking a career with the federal government.

New this year is the Inuit Summer Student Initiative for Nunavut students. INAC will hire up to five high school and university students to carry out work that complements their academic studies. In addition to a good wage, the summer job will provide valuable government workplace experience. A lesson plan as well as a work plan will be followed for each position.



booth was the new role model poster series. These profile four INAC staff members who are Beneficiaries of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. A pamphlet on youth opportunities was also helpful.

A better quality of life for Inuit and Northerners requires skilled employees in a wide variety of fields

"Career fairs are a wonderful resource for students," says Beverly Ungungai-Foster, the Manager of Inuit Training and Development for INAC Nunavut. "We were pleased to participate as an employer because INAC has many opportunities for Nunavummiut with the right skills."

Youth Employment Strategy funding provided by INAC earlier to Kivalliq Partners in Development covered most of the costs of the career fair. In addition to the fair itself, Aboriginal comedians Don Burnstick and Derek Starlight gave several performances for the community and students.

"The youth told me later how much they enjoyed the shows," said Tagoona. "It

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Lupin Mine, off in the distance, is the only active mine in Nunavut right now

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Mineral sector strong thanks to exploration

Despite having just one operating mine, the mineral sector is still a powerful force in Nunavut's economy. About \$82 million was spent on exploration in 2003, with an estimated \$17 million staying in Nunavut through purchased goods, services and salaries.

"Mines aren't the whole story, exploration is a big part of the picture," says Stephen Traynor, Director of Operations for Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) in Nunavut. "Exploration companies hire local residents and businesses to provide supplies and catering services, help with technical studies and research... it's not just mines that provide jobs."

And the exploration work is paying off. There are three potential mines in the approval process, with the Jericho diamond project the most advanced. The Nunavut Impact Review Board gave its approval to the project in February, but there are still water licences, land leases, explosive permits and other regulatory steps to take before Tahera Corporation has the first diamond ready for sale.

More good news is expected this year. INAC issued a record-setting 1,518 prospecting permits, covering 26 million hectares of land (57.2 million acres). In 2003, a total of 190 permits were issued for 3.7 million hectares (8.14 million acres). Competition for the prospecting permits this year was so intense, folks started to line up outside the department's Iqaluit office two weeks before the December 1 application date – staying put through blizzards and bitter cold temperatures.

"Most communities will be home to at least one exploration project in their area," predicts Traynor. "We're expecting another record year given the number of prospecting permits issued. There is potential for dozens or even hundreds of seasonal exploration-related jobs to be created this year."

It's important to remember that most mineral deposits don't become mines, he added. "Maybe one deposit out of a thousand will turn into a mine, but in the meantime there are plenty of jobs."

INAC issued a record 1,518
prospecting permits in February,
covering 26 million hectares

And unlike the processes used in the 1980s to open the Nanisivik, Polaris and Lupin mines, today's mining companies must negotiate Inuit Impact Benefit Agreements

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Economic Development News for Nunavummiut

The numbers add up when it comes to mining!

2

number of field programs conducted by NTI in summer 2003: Whale Cove (gold and base metals) and Sanikiluag (copper)

3

mine projects now undergoing environmental assessment: Meadowbank (gold), Jericho (diamond) and Doris North (gold)

10

Canadian provinces and territories saw less spent on exploration expenditures in 2003 than Nunavut. Only Ontario and Ouebec had more!

13

Nunavut prospectors holding claims in Nunavut

20

per cent of exploration expenditures made in Nunavut staying here in the form of salaries, contracts and purchases

25

per cent of the total subsurface IOL (Inuit Owned Lands) now being explored

26

prospectors who received funding (of up to \$5,000) through the Nunavut Prospector Program last year

43

million acres of Crown lands subject to mineral tenure in Nunavut in 2003 (mineral claims, prospecting permits and exploration agreements)

82

million dollars spent on exploration in 2003, up from \$75 million spent in 2002

350

graduates to date from GN's Introductory Prospecting Course, which began in 2000

1518

prospecting permits issued in February 2004, most for the Kivalliq, north Baffin and east Kitikmeot regions

1927

applications for claims received by Mining Recorder last year

2002

year in which GN launched High School Math and Science Awards, modest scholarships for students in Grades 8, 10 and 12 who are thinking of pursuing a career in science and technology

85,300

line kilometres covered in air survey in 2003 of magnetic properties of the area south of Committee Bay (between Kugaaruk and the Melville Peninsula)

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Look for the Food Mail logo in your store next to affordable, nutritious food choices



Food Mail

Healthy food builds healthy communities

Fresh affordable food is important for northern families. Using the Government of Canada's Food Mail program they can make healthy food choices easily.

The Food Mail subsidy for northern Canadians was more than \$30 million in 2003-04. Nunavut accounts for about 55 per cent of Food Mail expenditures.

By subsidizing the cost of shipping nutritious perishable food and other essential items by air to Nunavut communities, the Government of Canada makes it possible for retailers to sell fresh food at lower prices. Fruits, dairy, meat and vegetables from the south complement traditional Inuit foods.

The primary purpose of the Food Mail program is to improve the nutrition and health of all Northerners. A healthy community is then ready to meet the challenges of today's economy, especially work and training opportunities.

Thanks to Food Mail, the cost of the perishable food portion of a weekly food basket is still lower in many Nunavut communities than in 1991.

Starting January 1, 2004, Food Mail could no longer be used for fruit-flavoured drinks or sweetened fruit juices. Additional changes may be made in the future to ensure that the program funding is focussed on foods with the greatest nutrition and health benefits. Fruit drink crystals with vitamin C added are still eligible for the "Non-Perishable Food" rate.

Food Mail helps improve the nutrition and overall health of Northerners

For more information about becoming a Food Mail customer, contact Canada Post at 1-888-550-6333 or visit the Web site at www.canadapost.ca.

For more information about the Food Mail Program contact the Co-ordinator by phone at (819) 994-4810 or e-mail at foodmail@inac.gc.ca or visit the Web site at www.inac.gc.ca.

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Highspeed internet

Improved access to the 'new economy' will benefit all Nunavummiut

The internet eliminates many obstacles for people trying to study, do business or simply communicate with others.

Soon all Nunavummiut will be able to access high speed internet ("broadband") from every community thanks to the hard work of the Nunavut Broadband Development Corporation (NBDC).

The Government of Canada is the major funder of NBDC. Industry Canada and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada have worked in partnership to support hardware purchases and installation, training, and business plans needed to make high speed a reality for all communities. About \$3.8 million has been provided directly so far, with \$1 million worth of bandwidth (satellite time) to be provided in kind for the next 15 years.

Better internet access will not only help Nunavummiut actively participate in the 'new economy' but help preserve Inuit culture and language. High speed internet allows two-way audiovisual communication to take place. This is far easier for Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtunspeaking users than the slow, text-based system that is all dial-up access can handle.

Currently high speed access is limited to a few government offices in Nunavut and Iqaluit residents.

NBDC expects it will take five years and a total investment of \$18 million to achieve a self-sustaining service. The equipment needed to bring high speed access to each community should be installed by October 2004.

For more information about NBDC, visit their web site at: www.nunavut-broadband.ca

TUKIMUT SPIS Economic Development News for Nunavummiut

Mineral sector

continued from page 9

to ensure Inuit interests and values are respected. Much more attention will be paid to ensuring qualified Nunavummiut are part of the workforce hired by mines in the future.

Prospecting is also of growing importance to Nunavummiut. Several Nunavut-based prospectors made significant discoveries over the past five years, such as the sapphire deposit near Kimmirut. Last year, the Nunavut Prospector's Program provided contributions of up to \$5,000 to 26 prospectors from across Nunavut. Twelve of these prospectors hold mineral claims in Nunavut, with interesting gold, platinum, base metal and gemstone prospects.

A six-day-long Introductory Prospecting Course is held in communities throughout Nunavut each year, organized by the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. The course is an important first step for those who want to prospect as a hobby or a career, building on their traditional knowledge of the land. Many of the people who take the course wind up working for exploration companies in their area.

Nunavut-based prospectors discovered the Sapphire deposit near Kimmirut

INAC's Lands Administration section manages mine and mineral rights on Crown lands on behalf of the Government of Canada. INAC's Mineral Resources section works closely with the Government of Nunavut's Department of Economic Development and Transportation, the Canada-Nunavut Geoscience Office and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated's Lands and Resources Department on information management, field research and industry promotion.

Resource development benefits all Nunavummiut. "Mineral and oil and gas development in the coming decade will be the catalyst that brings the ports, better airports and roads that communities need," predicts Gord MacKay, Director of Minerals and Petroleum Resources for the Department of Economic Development and Transportation.

He points to studies now underway for a port/road system to serve the mining industry in the Bathurst Inlet area as well as a road connecting the Kivalliq with northern Manitoba. "The infrastructure improvements that come as a result of resource development will benefit tourism, artists and other important sectors of Nunavut's economy," MacKay says.

"Long after the mine has closed – because all mines close, sooner or later – there will still be substantive and sustainable benefits left as a legacy for the people and communities of Nunavut."

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada Affaires indiennes et du Nord Canada INAC: Indian and Northern Affairs Canada geology archives • experienced staff • legal responsibility for managing resources collect and distribute data

review exploration data filed as assessment work develop policy issues related to mineral development and exploration on Crown land (98 per cent of sub-surface land base) collaborate with partners on

outreach and education issue tenure on Crown lands



C-NGO: Canada-Nunavut Geoscience Office

GN, INAC, Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), NTI form management board geoscience data and mapping management and distribution of existing database outreach and capacity building

MINING PARTNERSHIPS



GN: Government of Nunavut

focus on community awareness and education encourage grassroots exploration with prospector training courses and grants



NTI: Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated

manage Inuit-owned subsurface resources (38,000 km²)

issue exploration agreements and production leases to industry

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Career fair

continued from page 8

wasn't all about laughs, though, Don and Derek also spoke out strongly about the importance of staying in school."

Beneficiaries of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement who plan to attend college. university or a training institute can use the internet to access a wide range of financial assistance. INAC operates the "E-Directory" of scholarships, bursaries and awards for Aboriginal students. Just go to the main INAC web site at www.inac.gc.ca and click on the link that appears on the welcome page. The full address for the E-Directory is pse-esd.aincinac.gc.ca/abs.

Any Nunavut student can turn to FANS -Funding Assistance for Nunavut Students – for information about scholarships, bursaries, and other types of financial assistance. The Government of Nunavut administers FANS. Contact FANS toll free at 1-877-860-0680 for information and an application form.