



News Release

Pelly Bay officially changes its name to Kugaaruk

IQALUIT, Nunavut (December 7, 1999) – Community Government and Transportation Minister Jack Anawak, along with Culture, Language, Elders and Youth Minister Donald Havioyak and Mayor Raymond Kayaksark are pleased to announce that the community of Pelly Bay has officially changed its name to Kugaaruk.

The residents and elders of the community have always known Pelly Bay as Kugaaruk, which refers to a river flowing through the community that is used as a water supply and fishing.

"The people of Kugaaruk have demonstrated their approval and desire for the geographic change of the community through public petition and by the motion of the hamlet council and we are pleased to accept their request," Minister Anawak said.

The hamlet of Kugaaruk has complied with all established protocol for a change of geographic name.

"Since 1998, the hamlet of Pelly Bay had been in discussion with the Office of the Interim Commissioner, then the Government of Nunavut about changing the name to Kugaaruk," Mr. Kayaksark said.

"On behalf of the Government of Nunavut, I would like to offer my apologies for any confusion that may have been caused over the summer," Minister Havioyak said. "The confusion was partly due to the fact that the Government did not have a policy in place."

The official name change was effective Dec. 3, 1999.

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For more information, contact:

Wende Halonen
Manager, Communications
Government of Nunavut
☎ (867) 979-5822
☎ (867) 979-5833
Email:whalonen@gov.nu.ca

Quinn Taggart
Senior Administrative Officer
Municipality of Kugaaruk
☎ (867) 769-7281
Email:peilybay@polarnet.ca