



News Release

Canada-Nunavut Business Service Centre responds to hundreds of inquiries

IQAUIT, Nunavut (August 28, 2000) – Sustainable Development Minister Peter Kilabuk said the overwhelmingly positive response to the Canada-Nunavut Business Services Centre shows there is a great deal of interest in developing economic opportunities in the territory.

“The enthusiastic response and interest shown in the Business Centre which opened earlier this year is an indication of the strong economic potential available within Nunavut. There seems to be a sense that there are numerous opportunities available to do business here,” Minister Kilabuk said. “Every business, large or small, will definitely add to the GDP of Nunavut, and we are pleased to partner with the federal government and the private sector to help our economy grow.”

The Business Centre is a joint federal-territorial initiative between Industry Canada and the Government of Nunavut’s Department of Sustainable Development. Its mandate is to provide business and community economic development information to people looking to do business in Nunavut.

In only its second month of operation, the Iqaluit-based Business Centre has logged more than 1,000 requests for information. Most of those inquiries are from the Business Centre’s website (www.cbsc.org/nunavut) where both territorial and federal programs and guidelines are detailed.

Business Centre Manager Jo-Anne Falkiner said the majority of requests are for information about how to start a business.

“Our clients vary from local people with a vague idea about a possible business through to international companies looking to expand their markets into Nunavut,” Falkiner explained. “Some just come with ideas and others are looking for very specific market information – such as the number of cars on the road in Iqaluit. Still others are looking for policy and regulation information. It’s incredibly varied.”

Falkiner said anyone interested in obtaining information can visit the website or drop into the Iqaluit office, which contains a small library. The public can access to a workstation to search the web or do word processing. They can also take advantage of the on-line small business workshop or use the interactive business planner to write a business plan.

Offices are also in the works for Rankin Inlet and Kugluktuk.

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