

News Release

Government of Nunavut to increase Northern Allowance benefit by 15%

IQALUIT, Nunavut (January 17, 2000) – The Government of Nunavut will increase the Northern Allowance benefit paid to all employees in its departments, boards and agencies by 15 per cent, effective April 1, 2000.

"By increasing the Northern Allowance, the Government of Nunavut is recognizing the increasing cost of living in Nunavut," Finance Minister Kelvin Ng said. "This is a significant adjustment that will benefit all government employees."

The Government of Nunavut had committed to review the Northern Allowance and based on the analysis to date, approved a 15 per cent increase to all employees. The final stage of the review, yet to be completed, involves ensuring there is consistent treatment among its employees throughout Nunavut. Further adjustments may be made based on the results of that final review.

The Northern Allowance benefit is an allowance paid to its employees to assist them with the cost of living and vacation travel. The allowance is based on the cost of living and travel to and from the community of employment.

Minister Ng said he was pleased to make the announcement and hopes it reflects the value the Government of Nunavut places on its employees and its commitment to treat all employees fairly and equally.

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