



News Release

Interest in Nunavut Prospector Development Program surpasses expectations

IQALUIT, Nunavut (July 11, 2000) - Minister of Sustainable Development, Peter Kilabuk, releases figures on the Nunavut Prospectors Program, which, for the second year in a row, has seen growth in the number of people applying under the program.

In 1999, 33 Nunavut prospectors were funded under the program. This year to date, 40 prospectors have qualified and received assistance.

“ This is a program that was designed and developed by this government for those Nunavumiut who are interested in exploring our mineral potential,” said Minister Kilabuk. “I am not surprised to see more and more interest in the program”.

The technical and financial support offered under the Program builds on the prospecting courses that the Government of Nunavut, through the Department of Sustainable Development has been delivering in communities throughout Nunavut. This year basic prospecting courses have been delivered in Gjoa Haven, Arviat, Iqaluit, Pangnirtung, and Taloyoak to 52 potential prospectors. Courses are planned for the fall in Baker Lake and Kugluktuk.

The Nunavut Prospectors Program provides prospectors in Nunavut with technical support from government geologists, and financial assistance of up to \$5000 to carry out prospecting activities in Nunavut.

“The source of our wealth is the land – as it has been for thousands of years, and as it will be for generations to come”, Minister Kilabuk added. “Nunavumiut must be involved in all aspects of the development of our resource base. I am delighted that there has been such a strong interest in the program”.

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