



News Release

New programs announced for arts promotion

Iqaluit, Nunavut (October 2, 2000) - Sustainable Development Minister Peter Kilabuk announces \$175,000 to establish programs to stimulate and promote the arts economy.

The funds will be used to purchase art for the Government of Nunavut Buildings, as well as for a Nunavut Art Bank.

The Art for the Government of Nunavut Buildings Program will ensure that new government offices will display work by local artists. Art will be purchased this winter. The Nunavut Art Bank will establish an ongoing program for the acquisition, lending, and display of the work of Nunavut artists. The program will allow art to be displayed in Government of Nunavut offices. The Art Bank will also be available to the private sector and is expected to generate revenue for future acquisitions through lending fees and donations.

“These programs will provide financial support for Nunavut artists, in addition to our existing funding programs,” Minister Kilabuk said. “Art is a reflection of our culture and society, but it should not be forgotten that artists produce one of our most important economic exports and have opened up many new business opportunities for trade within Canada and internationally.”

The Department of Sustainable Development will also contribute to the second annual Nunavut Arts Festival, organized by the Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association, to take place in Rankin Inlet November 10-15, 2000.

“It is my hope that these initiatives reflect the Government of Nunavut’s commitment to recognize and promote artists within Nunavut,” Minister Kilabuk said.

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