

## News release

## Community meetings set this spring to discuss government support for harvesters

**IQALUIT** (**April 19, 2001**) – Sustainable Development Minister Olayuk Akesuk announced that a series of community meetings regarding proposed changes to the Government of Nunavut's programs for harvesters would be held throughout the territory this spring.

Public meetings will be held in eight communities. Harvesters and other interested members of the community will be invited to discuss the Government of Nunavut's harvester programs and make presentations to a four-member panel appointed by the Minister.

"I look forward to studying the results of this consultation process because it is important that Nunavummiut from the communities help design and create sustainable harvester support programs," Minister Akesuk said.

Panel members will include representatives from the Department of Sustainable Development, the regional wildlife organization, the hunters' and trappers' organization and local women's organizations.

The panel will report to Minister Akesuk on the results of each community meeting and a summary report, with recommendations regarding the government's harvesters' support programs, will be presented to the Minister by June 30, 2001.

Community meetings were held in Repulse Bay on April 17, 2001; in Baker Lake on April 18; and in Kugaaruk on April 19. The meetings will continue in Taloyoak on April 23, Kugluktuk on April 25, Resolute Bay on April 30, Pond Inlet on May 2, and Cape Dorset on May 4, 2001.

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