



News Release



Nunavut and Manitoba sign transportation agreement

RANKIN INLET, Nunavut (December 10, 2001) – Nunavut Community Government and Transportation Minister Jack Anawak and Manitoba Transportation and Government Services Minister Steve Ashton have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that moves improved transportation links between the two jurisdictions a step closer.

“This agreement formalizes the working relationship of Nunavut and Manitoba as we explore ways to expand transportation systems between Nunavut and Manitoba,” Minister Anawak said. “I look forward to working with Manitoba because the transportation projects we will be looking at will enhance economic and social development both in Nunavut and Manitoba. It is a win-win situation for both of us.”

The MOU will facilitate joint planning of a Nunavut-Manitoba road link. The jurisdictions will develop terms of reference for the selection of a route. They will also explore opportunities for the joint use of staff, information exchanges and joint training initiatives in the area of airport and motor vehicle administration and operations, and other areas of mutual interest.

“Transportation is the foundation of Manitoba and Nunavut’s extensive trading and cultural relationship,” Minister Ashton said. “The MOU will permit us to build upon existing transportation and trading links to the benefit of both jurisdictions. Improved transportation links is part of Manitoba’s Northern Development Strategy.”

The Nunavut and Manitoba delegations met yesterday in Arviat, one of the communities in the Kivalliq Region that would benefit from a road link with Manitoba. The delegations then proceeded to Rankin Inlet, where the two ministers signed the MOU. Also present were several Kivalliq MLAs and mayors and the Rankin Inlet and Kivalliq chambers of commerce.

-30-

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