



News release

Government of Nunavut implements new airport emergency response services

IQALUIT, Nunavut (February 7, 2001) - Community Government and Transportation Minister Jack Anawak announces the reinstatement of airport Emergency Response Services (ERS) in Iqaluit this week.

“Given the current and expected level of aircraft operations at the Iqaluit Airport, we recognize the urgent need to upgrade the Emergency Response Services capability and have an on-site facility,” Minister Anawak said.

This Government of Nunavut initiative is in response to the 1999 Iqaluit Airport Master Plan that recommended the re-introduction of an on-site airport Emergency Response Service. The Iqaluit Fire Department had been responsible for the provision of fire fighting coverage at the airport since the April 1997 closure of the ERS by the former government.

“The operation of the airport during the last few years would not have been possible without the dedication and commitment made by the Iqaluit Fire Department,” Minister Anawak said.

Iqaluit Airport is experiencing increased traffic, which includes a growing frequency by international air carriers using the polar route between North America and Asia.

Recent changes in federal regulations also mean that all Nunavut airports are required to have on-site Emergency Response Services within five years.

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