

News release

Nunavut joins national call for housing dialogue

IQALUIT, Nunavut (March 12, 2001) - The Government of Nunavut has joined forces with other territories and provinces to press the federal government to meet with them prior to finalizing the affordable housing initiative proposed in the recent federal throne speech.

Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation Manitok Thompson, together with other provincial and territorial ministers, has stressed the need for continued dialogue and mutual cooperation between the federal, provincial and territorial governments on housing and housing challenges.

"It is critically important for provinces and territories to have the flexibility necessary to create innovative solutions for housing challenges in our own jurisdictions," Minister Thompson said. "This is especially true for Nunavut, given the unique circumstances for housing in our territory."

Minister's responsible for housing in Ontario and Manitoba, on behalf of all provinces and territories, have issued a communiqué indicating their concerns and urging the federal government to meet soon to discuss these important issues.

"Addressing the housing issue effectively is all about communication, cooperation and making sure we access every single avenue of funding assistance available for the housing of Nunavummiut," Minister Thompson said. "I hope we will receive a quick, positive response from the federal government."

-30-

For more information, contact:

Wende Halonen Manager, Communications and Planning Government of Nunavut **■** (867) 975-6000

=(867) 975-6099

Email: whalonen@gov.nu.ca

Communications 2001-33-C