



## News release

### **Government approves \$3.5M to provide an additional 14 RCMP officers in Nunavut**

**Repulse Bay (September 18, 2001)** - Premier Paul Okalik announced the approval of \$3.53 million to increase the number of RCMP officers policing Nunavut communities by 14 members.

Premier Okalik, who holds the Justice portfolio, shared the news with councillors in Repulse Bay during a lunch meeting between Cabinet and the Hamlet yesterday. A new detachment will be opened in Repulse Bay with a policing complement of two RCMP officers.

“The safety of our residents is a priority and this increase in RCMP across Nunavut will address some of the concerns we have heard from communities,” Premier Okalik said. “We must also ensure the safety of our officers, so we have increased one-member detachments by an additional member.”

An additional RCMP officer will be added to each of the detachments in Grise Fiord, Kugaaruk and Kimmirut, increasing these detachments from one to two officers and establishing a minimum standard of two officers per detachment within Nunavut.

An additional RCMP officer will be assigned to each of the communities of Cambridge Bay, Kugluktuk and Arviat to address the increasing workload in those detachments.

An additional six RCMP officers, to be based in Iqaluit, will act as relief and travel periodically to the communities as required. These positions will be used to ensure that no RCMP officer is working alone in a community.

The Department of Justice will also increase funding to the RCMP to address inflation, community population growth and increased travel costs.

Premier Okalik and Cabinet Ministers are on retreat in Repulse Bay to discuss economic development in Nunavut.

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