

News Release

Hall Beach Celebrates Opening of New Elders Centre

IQALUIT, Nunavut (**July 6, 2004**) – Culture, Language, Elders and Youth Minister Louis Tarpardjuk was joined by Premier Paul Okalik and Hall Beach Mayor Jopie Kaernerk to open Hall Beach's new elder drop-in centre. The centre will contribute to the overall health and well being of the elders in the community.

"The centre is a necessary and needed facility for both the elders and community members of Hall Beach," Tarpardjuk said. "The Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth is pleased to have provided the hamlet with capital contribution funding to make the it a reality."

"The centre will act as a focal point for community members to consult with elders on issues related to the Inuit culture and heritage and in the promotion of language skills of all ages and groups within the community," said Kaernerk. "It will provide for a brighter future for elders and residents alike."

The Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth sets aside capital contribution money for elder, youth and heritage facilities. The department also offers \$2,000 per year to every elder and youth committee in Nunavut. Nunavummiut can apply for capital contribution funding no later then March 15 of every year.

"This centre is an example of how the Government of Nunavut is using the principles of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit to make its programs and services more responsive to the people we serve. We are doing this in the spirit of Inuuqtigiitsiarniq, respecting others, relationships and caring for people" said Okalik.

For more information on capital contributions or the other funding opportunities and how to receive an application, or for assistance in filling out an application, Nunavummiut can call toll free 1-866-934-2035, or visit the department's web site at www.gov.nu.ca/cley.

Dozens of Amittummiut joined the celebrations and community feast in front of the elder drop in-centre.

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