

## News Release

## Nunavut Government Expands Tsunami Relief

**IQALUIT** (**January 13, 2005**) – Premier Paul Okalik has announced that the Government of Nunavut will expand its tsunami relief effort by contributing \$30,000 to the Canadian Red Cross on behalf of all Nunavummiut.

The financial contribution builds upon the territorial government's effort in coordinating the collection of pledges being made at hamlet offices throughout Nunavut.

"This gesture of international solidarity with the victims of the tsunami reflects the widespread desire of Nunavummiut to participate in this global relief effort. Through this modest contribution the Government of Nunavut is supporting the generous contributions that have come forward from individuals, public institutions and private businesses across Nunavut," said Okalik.

With the assistance of the Department of Community and Government Services (CGS) and the Nunavut Association of Municipalities hamlet offices across the territory have already collected in excess of \$25,000. The government will continue with its coordination of fund raising until further notice.

"I want to thank Nunavummiut for displaying *Inuuqatigiitsiarniq* (caring for people). So many have reached out in big and small ways to those who have been affected by the tsunami disaster," said CGS Minister Peter Kilabuk.

-30-

Media contact: Bill Clay, Premier's Office (867) 975-5059