



News Release

Nunavut Coordinates Tsunami Disaster Relief

IQALUIT, Nunavut (January 5, 2005) – The Government of Nunavut is working with hamlets to coordinate tsunami disaster fund-raising efforts by Nunavummiut.

“Where necessary, it is our intention to help focus fund-raising activities that are occurring throughout the territory in response to the tsunami disaster. In the spirit of *Piliriqatigiinni*, individuals and groups have come together for a common cause,” says Premier Paul Okalik. “Once again, Nunavummiut are showing their generosity and compassion for their fellow human beings in a time of need.”

The Department of Community and Government Services has contacted the Nunavut Association of Municipalities to work with the organization on coordinating fund-raising activities in communities.

“We want to ensure that donations in Nunavut are distributed as quickly as possible,” says Community and Government Services Minister Peter Kilabuk. “This is a tragic event of enormous proportions and Nunavummiut want to help those who have lost everything.”

Nunavummiut who wish to make a donation can do so at hamlet offices.

“Our hearts and prayers go out to the many people who have lost loved ones as a result of this disaster. We can only hope that some sense of normalcy returns to the lives of people in Southeast Asia and that restoration efforts proceed in a timely manner,” says Okalik.

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