



News Release

Short list for Nunavut Cultural School Announced

IQALUIT, Nunavut (July 4, 2006) – The Honourable Louis Tapardjuk, Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, today announced that four communities have been short listed as the potential location for the Nunavut Cultural School - Piqqusilirivvik. Arviat, Baker Lake, Clyde River and Igloolik were all considered to have strong proposals based on the criteria provided with the initial call for submissions.

“The Government of Nunavut is committed to ensuring that Inuit culture, language and heritage remain strong in our communities,” said Tapardjuk. “The development of Piqqusilirivvik has been a major goal of Pinasuaqtavut 2004-2009 that is close to being fulfilled.”

The Government of Nunavut has directed Minister Tapardjuk to further review the four communities on the short-list. Representatives from the Departments of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth and Education, and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated will consult with each community on the short-list to further assess their suitability as a location of Piqqusilirivvik. A final decision is likely to be made in fall 2006.

“These four communities all submitted excellent proposals that proved their commitment to this project,” said Tapardjuk. “The review committee looks forward to consulting with them to determine where the best possible location will be.”

The establishment of Piqqusilirivvik and its subsequent programming will help strengthen and foster Inuit culture and language. One of the main concerns has been the passing on of elders and the loss of knowledge and wisdom. Piqqusilirivvik will be a means by which this can be transferred to future generations.

The four communities were short listed from a total of nine proposals submitted.

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For more information, contact:
Ellen Hedstrom
Communications Manager
(867) 975.5531