



News Release

Nunavut Film Makers Receive Support for Projects

IQALUIT, Nunavut (November 24, 2006) – A total of \$475,000 in territorial government funding for 16 film, television and new media projects in Nunavut has been announced by Minister of Economic Development & Transportation Olayuk Akesuk and Eva Aariak, Chairperson, Nunavut Film.

“A vibrant film industry strengthens Inuit culture and language and provides expanded economic opportunities in our communities,” said Akesuk. “I am pleased that so many Nunavummiut are participating in this industry and that our youth are taking a prominent role.”

Projects receiving funding this year include: workshops in film making, the development of a promotional DVD, creation of a web cast, training for scriptwriting, camera operation, production, and editing, and a trade mission to Copenhagen, Denmark.

“I am pleased to see that the film industry organizations in Nunavut have fostered strong partnerships. I’m confident that everything we accomplish in the coming year will be the result of close working relationships with Economic Development & Transportation, Ajjit and Nunavut Film.” said Aariak.

The film projects receive support in five program areas: support for labour expenses, development loans, marketing assistance, professional development, and industry development and training.

“I want to thank the Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Film and Ajjit for their support in helping to build the film industry. Tauqsijit is pleased to be able to hold production workshops for Inuit youth. Youth workshops are always new and exciting, each in their own special way,” said Jolene Arreak of Tauqsijit.

Independent review committees assessed the applications and made recommendations to the Department of Economic Development & Transportation and Nunavut Film. Applications were received from all across Nunavut.

Recipients of the funds are: Ajjit Nunavut Media Association, Drumsong Communications Inc., Igloodik Isuma Productions, Inuit Broadcasting Corporation, Inuit Communications Systems Ltd., the community of Kugluktuk, Piksuk Media, Tauqsijit Artist Collaboration and three independent film makers: Myna Ishulutak, G. Aaron McKenty, and Beth McKenty, all of Iqaluit.

The department delivers the film, television and new media program in partnership with Nunavut Film. *A listing of projects funded in 2006-2007 is available upon request.*

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