



News Release

Rankin Inlet will get Correctional Centre

IQALUIT, Nunavut (February 15, 2007) Plans are underway to build a healing correctional centre in Rankin Inlet, Premier and Justice Minister Paul Okalik said today.

“I am pleased that all three regions of Nunavut will have a correctional facility. Rankin Inlet has been chosen as the site for construction of a correctional facility that will provide a unique model of healing programming to inmates from the Kivalliq,” said Okalik.

The Department of Justice has consulted with the hamlet, Rankin Inlet MLAs, Kivalliq Inuit Association, among other local stakeholders about the facility. On site consultations were conducted this week. The input received will be used to guide the design of the programming for the facility, as well as the training of staff and the facility’s relationship with the community.

It is expected that the facility will have the capacity for 36 offenders. This will meet the capacity needs of Kivalliq.

The next step will be for the Government of Nunavut to complete a project brief and hire consultants for the design phase of construction. It is expected that site preparation could begin in 2008. The estimated completion date for construction will be in 2011.

“I am pleased to see a correctional facility that will create jobs and keep many offenders close to their community of Rankin Inlet,” said Rankin Inlet North MLA Tagak Curley.

“I support the construction of this centre in Rankin Inlet. The community has the essential services and counseling resources required to support the operation of this building,” said Rankin Inlet South-Whale Cove MLA Levinia Brown.

The mayor of Rankin Inlet, Lorne Kusugak also welcomed today’s announcement. “The people of Rankin Inlet are very interested in working with the corrections staff to develop healing programs for the new facility. Even though the residents of the facility have committed offences, they are still deserving of compassion. Assisting them will help to heal our families,” the mayor said.

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Media Contact:
Wende Halonen
Communications, Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs
☎ (867) 975-6046