



News Release

Strategy Supports Economic Growth and Diversification of the Arts & Crafts Sector

IQALUIT, Nunavut (June 25, 2007) – Minister of Economic Development and Transportation David Simailak today released *Sanaugait: A Strategy for Growth in Nunavut's Arts and Crafts Sector*. The announcement coincides with the Nunavut Arts Festival.

“I am very pleased to make available to the public and to the artists of Nunavut our first strategic plan for developing and supporting the arts & crafts industry in our territory,” said Simailak. “By working together, we can support our vibrant and growing arts economy and ensure that the arts & crafts sector continues to play an important role in developing the Nunavut economy.”

The Government of Nunavut is committed to increasing the value of Nunavut's arts sector through investments to improve quality, stimulate innovation and support sustainability in partnership with Nunavut artists, their organizations and their communities.

Sanaugait provides seven goals and 19 specific objectives that will support expansion and diversification of the arts sector in Nunavut. The strategy also includes *Ukkusiksaqtarvik*, a carving stone supply action plan to help maintain a reliable supply of carving stone for artists in Nunavut.

The Nunavut Arts Strategy Working Group, comprised of arts associations and government representatives, will work together to implement the actions identified for each of the goals and objectives in the strategy. In 2009 the working group will prepare a comprehensive progress report and recommend any changes needed to ensure continued economic growth in the arts sector.

Copies of *Sanaugait: A Strategy for Growth in Nunavut's Arts and Crafts Sector* may be obtained through the Department of Economic Development & Transportation's website or at any of the department's offices throughout Nunavut.

- 30 -

For more information, contact:
Eva Michael, Communications
Tel: (867) 975-7808 or Toll Free 1 888 975-5999
E-mail : emichael@gov.nu.ca
Web site: www.edt.gov.nu.ca