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## News Release

## **Data Shows Positive Changes for Nunavut Students**

IQALUIT, Nunavut (September 10, 2007) - The recently released Statistics Canada Center for Education summary on Canadian Public School Indicators shows that the investment the Government of Nunavut is making in education is strengthening the system and supporting students in their studies.

"This data highlights our government's continued commitment and investment in delivering the best possible education to Nunavummiut", said Education Minister Ed Picco. "We continued our fundamental shift in 2006 by investing additional resources for assessment, evaluation and bilingual education to help strengthen our school system."

The student-educator ratio in Nunavut has decreased steadily over the last seven years, meaning there are now fewer students per educator in Nunavut schools. The ratio has gone from 19.2 in the 1999/2000 school year to 16.2 in 2004/2005.

According to the Statistics Canada report, the number of educators in Canada has increased 1.3 per cent since 1998/1999. Nunavut and the Northwest Territories held the highest increase in the number of educators since 1998/1999. Nunavut surpassed the rest of Canada between 2003/2004 and 2004/2005 with a 17.8 per cent increase in the number of educators.

The Government of Nunavut continues to work hard to help as many students successfully complete their education as possible. From 1999/2000 to 2004/2005, the Nunavut graduation rate has increased by 29.1 per cent which was the greatest increase in all of Canada. Canada's average increase was less than 10 per cent.

The summary reported data on Kindergarten to Grade 12 education statistics across Canada from 1998/1999 through 2004/2005.

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