



# Communique

## Cabinet Advances Pinasuaqtavut Priorities

**KUGLUKTUK, Nunavut (September 9, 2007):** Reviewing the Pinasuaqtavut priorities of cultural and economic development were the focus of a Cabinet Retreat held September 6-8, 2007.

“The Retreat allowed Cabinet to review government operations, progress on the priorities set out in Pinasuaqtavut and set direction for the implementation of these priorities,” said Premier Paul Okalik. “There is support around the table for the Inuit Societal Values Pilot Project, completion of sectoral strategies for economic development as well as the strengthening of financial management and training.”

Cabinet reviewed the successes of the Inuit Societal Values Pilot Project (ISV) in Clyde River. They directed the Department of Culture, Languages, Elders and Youth to pursue further ISV projects and plan for the breaking ground for the Nunavut Culture School and Nunavut Trade School.

Economic sectoral strategies developed to date, such as the Mining and Fisheries Strategies, have created new opportunities and employment across the territory. Cabinet directed the Department of Economic Development & Transportation to complete the remaining strategies, explore the potential to export seal pelts to Greenland, and develop solutions for tourism operators faced with high insurance costs.

Throughout the meeting, Cabinet emphasized the importance of strengthening financial management across government and its agencies and directed staff to develop in conjunction with other regions, Inuit specific training programs for financial positions. Cabinet further directed the Department of Community & Government Services to present solutions for the future management of large scale projects and materials transportation that could benefit from economies of scale.

Cabinet reviewed progress on the Education Act, the implementation of the Northern Housing Trust Fund and devolution of resources to Nunavut from Canada. Cabinet directed staff to submit a review of the Medical Client Travel Policy, a Nurse Recruitment and Retention Strategy and a Public Health Strategy. Cabinet further directed staff to plan for an alcohol abuse treatment facility and programs.

Cabinet supported plans to reduce the use of fossil fuels. Cabinet agreed to a Homeowner Rebate for Energy Efficiency in which 50 per cent of improvements will be rebated up to \$1000.

The retreat was followed with community meetings and a feast in Kugluktuk hosted by MLA Joe Allen Eviyagotailak and Mayor Derrick Power.

Specific program announcements will follow providing greater detail on the Cabinet’s direction.

- 30 -

Media Contact:  
Wende Halonen  
☎ (867) 975-6046