

## News Release

## Reusable bag program launched in Nunavut

**Iqaluit, Nunavut** (**July 19, 2008**) – Environment Minister Olayuk Akesuk today handed out samples of reusable shopping bags during Parks Day at Sylvia Grinnell Park to introduce a program aimed at reducing the use of plastic shopping bags in Nunavut.

"I am pleased to launch this campaign today," Minister Akesuk said. "This project will help reduce the amount of litter around Nunavut and decrease garbage going into our landfills."

Every household in Nunavut will receive four reusable bags free of charge. As well, there will be information posters for schools and community centres, and reminder posters for retailers. The bags are made of recyclable material, are machine washable, and are designed to carry 11 kg (approximately 25 lbs) of groceries or other goods.

The Department of Environment will distribute 40,000 reusable bags to households across Nunavut over the summer.

The City of Iqaluit has also contributed to this project.

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