



News Release

Pond Inlet Celebrates Official Opening of Community Hall

Pond Inlet, Nunavut (March 25, 2008) – Minister Levi Barnabus, on behalf of Minister of Community and Government Services Levinia Brown, today celebrated the official opening of Pond Inlet’s new community hall. The \$4.33 million project is a joint Canada-Nunavut investment under the Municipal Infrastructure Fund.

“I am very pleased to help the residents of Pond Inlet celebrate this wonderful addition to the community,” said Minister Barnabus. “This investment reflects our commitment to meeting Nunavut’s infrastructure challenges at the local level.”

The new hall is larger and will allow the residents of Pond Inlet to gather and celebrate as a community. This infrastructure investment was approved on September 20, 2006 and was completed in December 2007. This project was identified as a high priority during the Nunavut Community Infrastructure Advisory Committee’s 2006 Nunavut - wide community consultation tour.

Infrastructure Canada’s Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund assists smaller communities across Canada in meeting their infrastructure needs in areas such as water and wastewater treatment, culture, recreation, tourism, and “green” projects that reduce community environmental impacts. In Nunavut, this fund is administered by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

Under the initial Canada-Nunavut Municipal Infrastructure Fund agreement in August 2005, the federal and territorial governments each committed \$16 million to the fund, with participating local governments expected to match this amount. In 2007, the Government of Canada and the Government of Nunavut each provided an additional \$3.1 million to the Canada-Nunavut Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund as part of their commitment to help smaller communities meet their pressing infrastructure needs.

-30-

For more information, please contact:

Shawn Maley
Community and Government Services
Government of Nunavut
(867) 645-8101
smaley@gov.nu.ca

Laura Hepditch
A/Communications Manager
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
Nunavut Regional Office
(867) 975-4728
hepditchl@inac.gc.ca