

News Release

Government of Nunavut Invests in Kugluktuk Infrastructure Projects

KUGLUKTUK, Nunavut (May 23, 2008) – Premier Paul Okalik along with MLA for Kugluktuk Joe Allen Evyagotailak today announced investments in critical infrastructure for Kugluktuk. Over \$4.102 million will target improvements to the community's water treatment system, the hamlet office, the airport shelter and public housing units.

"This shows our commitment to ensuring Nunavummiut have access to key infrastructure that will allow communities to grow and prosper," said Premier Okalik who was visiting Kugluktuk to attend the high school graduation. "In particular, we are responding to Kugluktuk's need for safe and clean drinking water which will contribute to a better quality of life for the people in this community."

Joe Allen Evyagotailak, MLA for Kugluktuk, welcomes the news. "We are pleased these projects are going ahead and that our voices are being heard on local issues. This news will have a positive impact on our airport operations, our water supply and our workforce."

The Government of Nunavut will invest \$450,000 in 2008-09 to develop a solution to the water quality problems in Kugluktuk. Substantial improvements have already been made with the installation of an auxiliary pump which will become a permanent fixture. Further work will include the design of a new intake pumphouse and a new location for the intake pipe.

The community will receive a new hamlet office with the Government of Nunavut contributing \$3 million over two years. The proposed site for the building is being surveyed and pile work will begin in the summer. Tendering will then take place for the rest of the project.

The Government of Nunavut will invest over \$200,000 to build an equipment storage shelter at the Kugluktuk airport. The shelter will protect the snow removal equipment which keeps the runways safe and operational. Design will begin in 2008-09 with construction to take place in 2009-10.

Public housing in Kugluktuk will also get a boost. The Government of Nunavut will spend \$452,000 to repair and modernize a number of units in 2008-09. These retrofits complement the existing commitment to build 34 units for Kugluktuk from 2006-10.

The hamlet office building and the water treatment plant are part of Budget 2008. All investments demonstrate the Government of Nunavut's commitment to building healthy communities.

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