

News Release

CANADA-NUNAVUT PARTNERSHIP TO CREATE JOBS, STIMULATE REGIONAL ECONOMY

Iqaluit, Nunavut, July 7, 2009 – The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Canada's Minister of Health, and the Honourable Eva Aariak, Premier of Nunavut, today announced that communities in Nunavut will benefit from more than \$7.2 million in joint government investments for two key infrastructure projects through the new federal Infrastructure Stimulus Fund.

The Governments of Canada and Nunavut and the City of Iqaluit will each contribute up to \$748,740 for the structural repair of the rink in the Arctic Winter Games Arena. The construction of a new hamlet office in Taloyoak will benefit from up to \$2.5 million from federal stimulus funding and a matching contribution from the Government of Nunavut.

"Under the strong leadership of Prime Minister Stephen Harper, our Government is taking action to put shovels in the ground and flow money faster to stimulate the economy and create jobs for Nunavut," said Minister Aglukkaq. "Thanks to the close partnership between our governments, we can work together to help Nunavut communities and our regional economy thrive now and in the future."

"We are pleased to work in partnership with our federal counterparts to stimulate the economy and improve our infrastructure," stated Premier Aariak. "The City of Iqaluit and Hamlet of Taloyoak are just part of the overall plan to develop our infrastructure."

"Our Government's investment in Nunavut infrastructure will create jobs, improve the quality of life of Nunavut residents, and help boost the regional economy," said John Baird, Canada's Transport and Infrastructure Minister.

"I am very pleased to see these projects moving ahead with the help of our municipal and federal partners," said the Honourable Lorne Kusugak, Nunavut Minister of Community & Government Services. "There are a number of infrastructure projects in the works and we look forward to more positive news to assist communities in the future."

Canada and Nunavut are working together to create jobs and boost the economy, while making significant investments that help communities improve their infrastructure. Both

governments have agreed to work together to ensure that these funds are delivered quickly and efficiently to municipalities in Nunavut.

The Government of Canada's 2009 Economic Action Plan is accelerating and expanding the existing federal investment of \$33 billion in infrastructure across Canada with almost \$12 billion in new infrastructure stimulus funding over the next two years.

A backgrounder with information on the projects and details about the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund is attached.

###

For further information on infrastructure projects in Nunavut, visit <u>www.creatingjobs.gc.ca</u>.

To learn more about Canada's Economic Action Plan, visit <u>www.actionplan.gc.ca</u>.

Contacts:

Josee Bellemare Press Secretary Office of the Honourable Leona Aglukkaq Minister of Health 613-957-0200 Yasmina Pepa Press Secretary Office of Premier Aariak Government of Nunavut 867-975-5059

Chris Day Press Secretary Office of Canada's Transport and Infrastruct Minister 613-991-0700

Infrastructure Canada 613-948-1148