

News Release

GN hires North Sky Consulting to prepare Nunavut Report Card

Iqaluit, Nunavut (May 21, 2009) – The Government of Nunavut has arranged for North Sky Consulting to conduct the research and public consultation needed for a comprehensive review of the government's strengths and weaknesses, Premier Eva Aariak announced today.

"Our work over the next five years must build on our successes as well as improve the things that are not working well," Premier Aariak said. "A review of our programs, spending, hiring, and respect for Inuit culture and values will give us the information we need to set realistic priorities for the work that lies ahead."

The review is called for in *Tamapta*, the Government of Nunavut's vision and priorities statement for the coming five years. The 'Report Card' project will guide the detailed work plan for implementing the government's vision of ensuring that all Nunavummiut have their basic needs met.

From now until October, all Nunavummiut will be able to participate through a variety of creative ways, including an online survey, toll free phone service, and a Nunavut-wide phone-in show. North Sky Consulting will begin the evaluation of government actions and activities in June, including visits to every community for several days of meetings with organizations and individuals, as well as a public meeting in each community. A *Report Card on Government* summarizing the findings of these processes will be given to all MLAs on October 1, 2009.

North Sky Consulting was selected by the government using a public tender process conducted in April. The government wanted to hire an external consulting group that, while knowledgeable about Nunavut and the north, could conduct the review independently from the Government of Nunavut.

The team is led by Piers McDonald, a successful business person who has also served in public office as Premier of Yukon and Minister of Education. Project team members are experienced in government operations, public policy development, and in public consultation processes required to ensure success.

The team includes members based in Nunavut. Members have extensive experience across the north both as working consultants and as senior civil servants in public governments. All travel and accommodation arrangements and bookings are being handled through local Nunavut businesses.

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"We need to take a good, hard look at where we are and where we want to go," Premier Aariak said. "It is the best way to ensure that our work for a vibrant future for Nunavut is positive."

"I encourage all Nunavummiut to participate in this project because we work best when we work together," she added.

North Sky Consulting has established an office in Iqaluit. A schedule for community consultation will be published shortly. Community consultations will begin in early June.

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For more information please call:

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