

News Release

GN Helping Nunavummiut Benefit from Cruise Ship Visits

IQALUIT, Nunavut (June 23, 2011) – The Department of Economic Development & Transportation is taking immediate steps to help ensure that Nunavut communities benefit from cruise ship tourism, and that visitors leave with world-class memories.

"Earlier this year, we consulted with communities on their tourism assets and priorities," said Minister of Economic Development & Transportation Peter Taptuna. "Across the territory we heard that Nunavummiut want to know cruise itineraries in advance so that they can coordinate activities and take advantage of the opportunities available in their own communities. Increasing the benefits from cruise visits and improving visitor experiences is an important first step to supporting self-sustaining partnerships."

For the 2011 cruise season, Community Economic Development Officers and interested community members may access the following programs and funds to coordinate cultural events, arts & craft fairs, tours or other activities:

- The Arts & Crafts Development Program
- Small Business Support Program
- Community Capacity Building Program

Currently, cruise ship operators plan to visit twelve Nunavut communities this summer. The itineraries are posted on the website of the Department of Economic Development & Transportation at <u>www.edt.gov.nu.ca</u>. Updates and new cruise ship itineraries will be added as the information becomes available.

"Consultations held this year will lead to a new Tourism Strategy early in 2012," said Minister Taptuna. "The new strategy will be developed in partnership with Inuit organizations, other levels of government and the industry association."

Given the community concerns expressed during consultations, the strategy will include a Cruise Ship Management Plan. This year's coordination is the first step towards maximizing the benefits of cruise ships and will allow Nunavut to enhance its recognition in the world as an international cruise ship destination.

Under *CL^cC Tamapta*, the Government of Nunavut is committed to supporting community-based sustainable economies through partnerships so communities will become more economically active, productive and self-reliant.

###

Backgrounder attached.

Media contact:

Matthew Illaszewicz Manager, Communications Department of Economic Development & Transportation (867) 975-7818 millaszewicz@gov.nu.ca www.edt.gov.nu.ca

Communications

BACKGROUNDER: CRUISE ITINERARIES

	SHIP	*ESTIMATED ARRIVAL	MAX CAPACITY
Bathurst Inlet	Clipper Adventurer	August 30	200
	Clipper Adventurer	September 7	200
Cambridge Bay	MV Bremen	August 22	190
	MV Hanseatic	August 22	200
	Kapitan Khlebnikov	September 1	200
Cape Dorset	Clipper Adventurer	August 8	200
	M/S Le Boreal	August 31	250
	Clipper Adventurer	September 20-21	200
Gjoa Haven	MV Hanseatic	August 23	200
	MV Bremen	August 25	190
	Clipper Adventurer	August 28	200
Grise Fiord	Clipper Adventurer	September 10	200
Iqaluit	M/S Le Boreal	September 3-4	250
	Clipper Adventurer	September 24	200
Kimmirut	Clipper Adventurer	August 12	200
	M/S Le Boreal	September 1	250
	Clipper Adventurer	September 19	200
Kugluktuk	Clipper Adventurer	September 1	200
Pangnirtung	Clipper Adventurer	September 16	200
Pond Inlet	MV Hanseatic	August 4	200
	MV Hanseatic	August 18	200
	M/S Le Boreal	August 18	250
	Clipper Adventurer	August 23	200
	Kapitan Khlebnikov	August 27	200
Qikiqtarjuaq	M/S Le Boreal	August 21	250
	M/S Le Boreal	August 25	250
Resolute Bay	MV Bremen	August 28	190

*Subject to change. For the most current itineraries, contact the cruise ship operator or check <u>www.edt.gov.nu.ca</u>.

BACKGROUNDER

PROGRAMS FOR DEVELOPING COMMUNITY BENEFITS FROM CRUISE VISITS

Nunavummiut may access programs and services from the Department of Economic Development & Transportation to operate cultural programs, arts & crafts fairs, tours and other community programs.

Arts and Crafts Development Program

Artists and art organizations may apply for support to develop marketing skills, websites, and materials; establish new markets; purchase art materials, supplies and equipment; and promote Nunavut arts and artists.

Small Business Support Program

This program is primarily focused on providing up and coming small businesses, community organizations and individuals with support to grow. It contains three funds:

- 1. Small Business Opportunities Fund aims to help business start-ups and expansions. It also pays for business plans and market development.
- 2. Entrepreneur Development Fund assists new businesses through training and other support. It also provides funding for accounting and bookkeeping support and how to start a business courses.
- 3. Sustainable Livelihood Fund supports activity in the tourism, arts & crafts and harvesting sectors. It also helps pay for large insurance premium costs

Community Capacity Building Program

The Community Capacity Building Program increases the capacity of communities to promote community economic development by providing money to the employment and training of a Community Economic Development Officer and the preparation of a community economic development plan.

For support developing a program and getting funding contact your local Community Economic Development Officer or a Tourism Officer at Economic Development & Transportation:

Kitikmeot Wendy Bolt Manager Community Economic Development Toll-free phone: 1-888-975-5999 Phone: (867) 982-7442 Fax: (867) 982-3204 Email: <u>wbolt@gov.nu.ca</u>

North Baffin Nellie Erkloo Manager Community Economic Development Toll-free phone: 1-888-899-7338 Phone: (867) 899-7344 Fax: (867) 899-7348 Email: nerkloo@gov.nu.ca South Baffin Jorgen Gronfeldt Manager Community Economic Development Toll-free phone: 1-888-975-5999 Phone: (867) 473-2661 Fax: (867) 473-2663 Email: jgronfeldt@gov.nu.ca

Headquarters Dushyenth Ganesan Senior Advisor, Tourism Development Toll-free phone: 1-888-975-5999 Phone: (867) 975-7872 Fax: (867) 975-7870 Email: dganesan@gov.nu.ca