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NR 11-36 NCW ENG – For Immediate Release



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Nunavut Community Wellness Plans Report Released

(November 28, 2011 -- Iqaluit, Nunavut) Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. President Cathy Towtongie, the Honourable Eva Aariak, Premier of Nunavut and the Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Federal Minister of Health today announced the release of the Nunavut Community Wellness Planning (NCWP) pilot projects. The project was undertaken in partnership between NTI, Government of Nunavut, Health Canada and six Nunavut communities. Health Canada provided \$2.4 million in funding for the project through the Aboriginal Health Transition Fund.

Six Nunavut communities—Arviat, Coral Harbour, Clyde River, Igloodik, Kugluktuk, and Kugaaruk—created community wellness plans, which were undertaken and led by each community with support from the NCWP project team. In addition to the community plans, a final report was created to evaluate the process undertaken in the development of community wellness plans.

“I am very happy to see so many different people and agencies come together to decide how to build healthy, strong communities. I believe all Nunavut communities should have the opportunity to create their own wellness plans,” said Towtongie. “The community wellness plans show the passion communities have toward improving well-being.”

“The Government of Nunavut’s *Tamapta* mandate emphasizes self-reliance, and this project does just that by supporting community-based solutions,” said Premier Eva Aariak. “I would like to thank our partners at Nunavut Tunngavik Inc, the Government of Canada and all six communities for a project that builds on our commitment to improve the health and well-being of Nunavummiut.”

“The Government of Canada is proud to have supported this successful project which has made a difference in improving capacity to develop health plans in Nunavut communities,” said the Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of Health. “We look forward to building on this partnership and continuing to make a positive impact on the health of all Nunavummiut.”

The Nunavut Community Wellness Planning Project was created in partnership with NTI, GN, and Health Canada’s Northern Region. It is the second trilateral health partnership to be directly managed and coordinated by Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., enabling the project to be delivered from an Inuit perspective.

Copies of the reports are available on NTI’s and Government of Nunavut’s websites.

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