



News Release

Nunavut applauds federal action in defense of seal industry

IQALUIT, Nunavut (February 11, 2011) – The Government of Canada today announced a move to proceed with formal action at the World Trade Organization against the EU ban in defense of Canadian seal harvesters, a move applauded by the Government of Nunavut.

“The European Union’s (EU) actions have already caused economic losses to Inuit and are based on myth and misinformation perpetuated by anti-sealing groups,” said Minister of Environment, the Hon. Daniel Shewchuk. “This is a battle that must be tirelessly fought, and we commend Canada’s initiative in taking a stand against this senseless ban.”

The EU’s exemption for Inuit and Aboriginal trade in seal products has been meaningless and has failed to protect Inuit from economic losses resulting from the market collapse. The Government of Nunavut has provided funding and support to the legal challenge against the EU seal ban regulation, which is currently before the court.

“We stand in firm support of this action,” said Minister Shewchuk. “In the meantime, we will continue to support and promote individuals and organizations that are proudly demonstrating the vitality, sustainability and positive impacts of Nunavut’s unique sealing culture and industry.”

###

For More Information Contact:

Wayne Lynch
Director, Fisheries and Sealing Division
Department of Environment
867-975-7750
wlynch@gov.nu.ca

ᐱᓄᓐ ᓄᓐᓄᓐ ᓄᓐᓄᓐ ᓄᓐᓄᓐ ᓄᓐᓄᓐ ᓄᓐᓄᓐ ᓄᓐᓄᓐ ᓄᓐᓄᓐ ᓄᓐᓄᓐ ᓄᓐᓄᓐ ᓄᓐᓄᓐ, www.gov.nu.ca.

News releases are available in Inuktitut, English, Inuinnaqtun and French on www.gov.nu.ca.

Tuhaqtaghat itut Inuktitut, Qablunaatit, Inuinnaqtun Uiviititullu talvani www.gov.nu.ca.

Les communiqués de presse sont disponibles en inuktitut, en anglais, en inuinnaqtun et en français à : www.gov.nu.ca.