
Backgrounder

NUNAVUT BROADBAND

The Government of Canada is providing a total contribution of \$21,601,175 to the Nunavut Broadband Development Corporation (NBDC) to increase satellite capacity, produce new bandwidth management tools and upgrade the existing QINIQ network, for the benefit of 25 communities:

- Artic Bay (Nanisivik)
- Arviat
- Baker Lake
- Cambridge Bay
- Cape Dorset
- Chesterfield Inlet
- Clyde River
- Coral Harbour
- Gjoa Haven
- Grise Fiord
- Hall Beach
- Igloolik
- Iqaluit
- Kimmirut
- Kugaaruk (Pelly Bay)
- Kugluktuk
- Pangnirtung
- Pond Inlet
- Qikiqtarjuaq (Broughton Island)
- Rankin Inlet
- Repulse Bay
- Resolute Bay
- Sanikiluaq
- Taloyoak (Spence Bay)
- Whale Cove

In December 2009, \$9,331,129 of the total federal investment was designated to purchase increased satellite capacity to support up to 6,800 subscribers on the QINIQ network. As well, \$750,000 applied as a capital expense to upgrade QINIQ network hardware. (See: <http://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/media/news-nouvelles/2009/20091203iqaluit-eng.html>)

In September 2010, an additional \$7.8 million of the total federal investment was dedicated to deliver the new bandwidth services of Qfile (previously referred to as Time Shift) and Meet Online Enterprise. (See: <http://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/media/news-nouvelles/2010/20100922iqaluit-eng.html>)

Today's announcement provides much-needed broadband support for education – dedicated satellite capacity that will improve Internet connections for Nunavut classrooms. A pilot project involving six schools (two from each region of Nunavut), with the full cooperation of the Government of Nunavut, ran from January to June 2010, for the purpose of establishing a typical classroom Internet usage profile. Based on the success of this pilot, NBDC worked with the Government of Nunavut to provide service to all 43 schools in 2011.

The full project details can be obtained at <http://www.nunavut-broadband.ca>.