

News Release

For Immediate Release

RFQ issued for Iqaluit International Airport Improvement Project

IQALUIT, NU (June 29, 2012) – The Iqaluit International Airport Improvement Project is moving closer to the start of construction today with the issuing of a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for a new state-of-the-art airport in Iqaluit.

"The issuing of the RFQ for the Iqaluit International Airport Improvement Project is great news for all residents of Nunavut," said Minister of Economic Development & Transportation, Peter Taptuna. "This is a significant project that will serve the air transportation needs of Nunavummiut in Iqaluit, and the thousands who travel through Iqaluit for many years to come."

The RFQ is the first stage in the competitive selection process that invites interested groups, companies or consortiums to submit responses indicating their interest in, and qualifications for, the project. The next step will be to identify a shortlist of up to three groups who will then be invited to submit proposals to design, build, finance, maintain and operate the new facilities.

"The Government of Nunavut is excited to be moving forward with this phase of the Iqaluit International Airport Improvement Project, which marks the start of the work necessary to design and build this new airport," said Minister of Community and Government Services, Lorne Kusugak. "This new airport will enhance the transportation infrastructure in Nunavut and will provide innovative design and functional accessibility."

The Iqaluit International Airport Improvement Project includes a new airport building; expanded aprons for planes to park; new lighting systems; an upgraded runway; and a new combined services building that will house the fire-fighting vehicles/support equipment and the heavy equipment that maintain the runways and aprons.

The capital cost will be determined once a project agreement has been reached. Construction is anticipated to start in 2014 with completion slated for 2017. The project will mean significant job creation, direct and indirect, as well as training and economic development opportunities for Iqaluit and Nunavut as a whole.

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The RFQ can be viewed on the Nunavut Bid website: http://www.nunavuttenders.ca/

For more information on the Iqaluit International Airport Improvement Project, please visit: http://mxww.gov.nu.ca/

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