

# Backgrounder

## Northern Organizations Partner to Improve Inuit Employment Skills

The Government of Canada, Government of Nunavut (GN) and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI) are rolling out an innovative new learning and development pilot project to help Inuit develop skills for potential employment in the public service in Nunavut.

The Inuit Learning and Development Pilot project will provide Inuit who have a high school or equivalent, college or university education with practical work experience in federal government departments, the Government of Nunavut (GN) and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI), as well as formal learning, coaching, and mentoring opportunities. The project will include four 4-month work assignments in different positions for up to 16 trainees.

The Government of Canada and its partners are committed to improving learning and development training for Nunavut Land Claims Agreement beneficiaries in Nunavut to prepare them for job opportunities in the public service in order to achieve a more representative workforce. This pilot project will provide participants with practical work experience, learning, coaching and mentoring tailored to their needs so they are aware of and prepared for career opportunities in the public service.

Participants will be placed on four paid workplace assignments at different government departments and/or Inuit organizations over 16 months where they will work full-time in various entry-level positions. They will be given structured coaching and skills training on the job. They will also participate in classroom learning and complete online teaching modules. The first group of participants is expected to begin their placements in May 2013.

Participants will gain on-the-job experience in various federal government departments including the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Service Canada, the RCMP, Natural Resources Canada, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Environment Canada, Parks Canada, Public Prosecution Service of Canada, Public Works and Government Services Canada and with the Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. The work placements could be positions such as clerks, finance officers, environmental technicians, or other entry level jobs. All work placements for the pilot project will be in Iqaluit. Participants who complete the pilot project successfully may be placed in an inventory for potential employment in the public service.

Funding is provided by in-kind contributions from the organizations hosting participants. Host organizations will also cover the compensation of the participants at an entry-level rate plus northern allowances.

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