

## **News Release**

For Immediate Release

## A Homeowner's Guide to Permafrost in Nunavut – Keep Your House on Solid Ground

**IQALUIT, Nunavut (May 13, 2013)** – The Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment, is pleased to announce the release of 'A Homeowner's Guide to Permafrost in Nunavut'.

The homeowners' guide is written in a non-technical, plain language format targeted at the average homeowner. The text is broken up with informative illustrations, checklists and useful photos. The guide provides information about what permafrost is, how climate change is affecting it, the impacts to houses, and the importance of preventing thaw.

"The goal is to provide homeowners of Nunavut with the knowledge and resources to make simple changes around their home," said the Honourable James Arreak, Minister of Environment. "This guide provides valuable information that will assist adaptation action relevant to our communities."

The guide was developed by the Department of Environment's Climate Change Section, in partnership with the Nunavut Housing Corporation, Natural Resources Canada, Centre d'études nordiques – Université Laval, the City of Iqaluit, and the Canada-Nunavut Geoscience Office. Funding support was provided by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development's Climate Change Funding Partnership.

Buildings that have been affected by permafrost thaw can be costly to not only homeowners, but also to government and private construction companies. By promoting good building maintenance practices and providing education and outreach, it is expected that some of these costs might be reduced or delayed. In using this guide, homeowners will be better equipped to make decisions about construction and the upkeep of their homes.

A digital copy of the guide can be found on the Nunavut Climate Change Centre's website: www.climatechangenunavut.ca.

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