

News Release

For Immediate Release

Arviat hamlet office opening

ARVIAT, Nunavut (November 24, 2015) – Residents of Arviat joined Minister of Community and Government Services Joe Savikataaq and Arviat Mayor Bob Leonard to officially celebrate the opening of the community's new hamlet office today.

"As a former hamlet employee who worked in the old office, I understand the importance of this investment for the whole community," said Minister Hunter Tootoo, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, via a statement read at the event. "It's a growing community and I look forward to continued progress in all communities across Nunavut."

"I am pleased to be here, in my home community, to officially open Arviat's hamlet office," said Minister Savikataaq. "Investing in quality infrastructure strengthens community economy, wellness and prosperity. The Government of Nunavut is committed to helping all communities succeed. I'm confident this facility will inspire development programs and initiatives in Arviat."

"As one of the largest and fastest-growing communities in Nunavut, the workload of the Hamlet is always increasing, and we had long outgrown our previous space," said Mayor Leonard. "I would like to thank everyone who came together to make this happen – the Hamlet council and administration, the Government of Nunavut, the Government of Canada, the various engineers, architects and contractors, and everyone who had a part to play."

The former Arviat hamlet office was aged and unable to meet the needs of the growing community. This new energy-efficient building includes staff offices and a larger council chamber, allowing for public meetings and lower operational costs for the hamlet.

With an improved seating area where residents can view council proceedings and keep up to date on events in their community, the new 570-square-metre hamlet office provides an improved forum for community engagement.

Total expenditures to date for this project are \$10,082,000. The Government of Nunavut contributed \$2,348,000 towards the project, and the Government of Canada provided \$7,734,000.

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