



# News Release

For Immediate Release

## Contingency plans put in place for Cape Dorset students

**CAPE DORSET, Nunavut (September 7, 2015)** – After a fire completely destroyed Peter Pitseolak High School, on September 6, 2015, Department of Education and Cape Dorset school officials are drawing up contingency plans so high school students can go back to school.

“Weather permitting, deputy minister Kathy Okpik and I will be flying to Cape Dorset tomorrow to participate in a meeting with the local District Education Authority (DEA) on Tuesday evening, and a meeting with the parents of both schools on Wednesday evening,” said Minister of Education Paul Quassa. “I do feel for the community of Kingait. Losing a school in any of our communities is a devastating event. My department will work to minimize the impact on student learning and ensure that all Cape Dorset students are able to continue their schooling despite the circumstances. . .”

Classes will continue as regularly scheduled at Sam Pudlat school on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 8 and 9, 2015. There will be no class for Peter Pitseolak students on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 8-9, 2015. A split-shift schedule will be implemented starting on Thursday, September 10, 2015, at Sam Pudlat School. Elementary students will receive their schooling from 8 a.m. to 12:10 p.m., while high school students will be in class from 1 p.m. to 5:10 p.m.

Department officials are presently working on logistical issues to meet the short-term needs of the students. When classes resume for high school students, they will use supplies already available at Sam Pudlat School. Additional supplies are available in Iqaluit at the Department of Education warehouse and these supplies, including curricular materials such as textbooks, workbooks and other resources, will be flown to Cape Dorset in the near future.

