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News Release

For Immediate Release

Kugaaruk school fire update

Kugaaruk, Nunavut (March 8, 2017) – After a fire destroyed Kugaardjuq School on March 1, 2017, Nunavut's Department of Education and the Kugaaruk District Education Authority (DEA) are finalizing contingency plans to get students back to school. Departmental staff and community leaders have already identified suitable locations for temporary instruction, and some classes will resume this week.

"My staff are working with the Department of Community and Government Services and the Hamlet of Kugaaruk to look at alternate classroom spaces to ensure students can continue their studies as soon as possible," said Minister of Education Paul Quassa. "On behalf of the Government of Nunavut, I would like to thank Kugaaruk's fire department, hamlet council, DEA, school staff, and the entire community for their overwhelming support and cooperation."

Kugaardjuq School is a public institution and all expenses related to rebuilding the facility, as well as the replacement of resources and supplies are the responsibility of the territorial government. Anyone interested in donating to help staff or students impacted by the fire are asked to send monetary donations to the Kugaaruk DEA through Michael MacIntyre at mmacintyre@kitikmeot.edu.nu.ca rather than supporting private fundraising efforts. Unfortunately, in-kind donations cannot be accepted due to lack of storage space.

The Department of Education will continue to provide information on intermediate and long-term plans for Kugaaruk as the situation unfolds.

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