

News Release

Partnership Formed to Take Advantage of Infrastructure Funding

IQALUIT, Nunavut (**February 3, 2005**) – The Government of Nunavut and the Nunavut Association of Municipalities (NAM) have formed a partnership to develop plans for water, waste water and solid waste facilities in communities. The money for these new projects will come from Infrastructure Canada.

"I am extremely pleased that we are strengthening our relationship with NAM," said Community Government and Services Minister Peter Kilabuk. "The partnership we have forged with NAM for planning the use of this new infrastructure funding gives municipalities a voice in decisions affecting the health and well-being of Nunavummiut."

A Community Infrastructure Advisory Committee with membership from NAM and GN departments will be formed to develop and recommend long term capital plans and criteria for the use of the new funding.

"The formation of the Nunavut Community Infrastructure Advisory Committee allows for direct community input in the capital planning process," said Nunavut Association of Municipalities President Johnny Ningeongan. "The New Deal announcement provides funding to address some high priority needs in communities across Nunavut."

On February 1, the Federal Minister Responsible for Infrastructure and Communities, John Godfrey, announced the details of the New Deal for Cities and Communities. As part of that, Nunavut communities will receive \$37.5 million over five years and \$15 million per year after that. The funding is designated for environmentally sustainable municipal infrastructure.

"I am pleased the federal government recognizes that Nunavut needs more funds for infrastructure investments," said Kilabuk.

In meetings with NAM Board members in January Kilabuk invited their participation in a Community Infrastructure Advisory Committee to ensure better consultation with communities and increase their participation in the planning process. The new committee will make recommendations for projects under both federal and territorial funding programs geared towards municipal infrastructure.

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