

Nunatsiavut

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It's Official! Nunatsiavut Government Signals a New Era

It's unlikely that Labrador Inuit will ever forget December 1, 2005. During a historic and emotional day of ceremony at the Jens Haven School gym in Nain, the government of Nunatsiavut — "our beautiful land" — came into being. The last ever meeting of the Board of the Labrador Inuit Association passed a resolution declaring the Labrador Inuit Constitution in effect. Soon after, LIA's directors were sworn in as Ministers of the new Transitional Nunatsiavut Assembly.

LIA President William Andersen III became Transitional President of

Nunatsiavut. "I am very honoured to have been the one to become the first president of Nunatsiavut," he said. "I was the one who started the process of land claims and I thought it was fitting that I closed it."

Joining President Andersen in the new 18-person House of Assembly were Transitional First Minister Tony Andersen; Health, Education, Social and Economic Development Minister Ben Ponniuk; Finance and Human Resources Minister and Treasurer Gary Baikie; and Environment, Land and Resources Minister Zippie Nochasak.

Continued on Page 4...



Photo: First Nunatsiavut Government December 1, 2005.

Inside

LIA Board, Committees and Affiliates	2
President's Message	3
Meet Our Members – Ruth Flowers, Speaker of the Nunatsiavut Government	5
Tackling Dental and Mental Health Issues	6
Hebron Relocates Receive Long-awaited Compensation	6
First Ministers Meeting	7
Inuit Domestic Harvest Level (IDHL) Program Seeks Input	8
Power Inequity and the Lower Churchill Issue	9
Rigolet Gas Crisis: Finding a Solution	9
Language and Culture	10
LILCA Beneficiaries to Receive Compensation Packages	11
Youth Propose Alternatives to Compensation	11
The First Day of Nunatsiavut Government	12



Note to readers: This is the last issue of Nunatsiavut as a publication of LIA. The Nunatsiavut Government will continue this publication with a new format. Your input and ideas on new directions are welcome as we go forward. Nunatsiavut Government is in the process of updating all our communications materials, including our website. Inuit Laws passed by the Nunatsiavut Assembly will be posted there shortly. In the meantime, we ask for your patience during this transitional period. Please contact the Nunatsiavut Government representatives in your community or the appropriate Department for the information you need.

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Nunatsiavut welcomes submissions of articles for publication. We reserve the right to edit all submissions.

You can contact us at any of the offices above or contact Perry & Butland Communications by telephone: 709-753-0794, by fax: 709-753-0795, or by e-mail: skean@jpperry.nf.ca

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President's Message



William Andersen III, President, LIA.

Greetings from a new era for Labrador Inuit. On December 1, the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement (LILCA) came into effect, and the Nunatsiavut Government came into being. That is such a short and simple statement but everyone who has followed our progress in these pages over the years knows the long, hard road we took to get here. As I've said all along, now the real work begins.

We have already started to carry out some important initiatives. As of December 20, all Hebron relocatees received their compensation funds. While financial compensation is important to people who lost so much through no fault of their own, what I'm hearing in our communities is that the larger benefit is a sense of healing and hope. You can imagine that people relocated over 40 years ago might have good reason to give up hoping. Now they have reason to believe that justice is possible, even after a long time.

We are also moving forward with direct compensation to all Labrador Inuit on the 2004 ratification voters list. Payments will be made in three stages over three years. There has been some controversy about this issue but we are determined to live up to the commitment and spirit of LILCA. It was always our intention to provide some immediate benefit from the agreement. Labrador Inuit made this agreement happen through the hard work of many, the faith they placed in LIA's leaders and their patience in waiting for decades to see some tangible results. Many other benefits will still be a long time coming, as we work to develop infrastructure and improve services in our communities. This will remain our strongest focus — long-term investment and responsible management of our assets and our resources.

I have mentioned controversy. There has, indeed, been much public debate about what we should do now that LILCA is in effect. This is a healthy sign. It shows that Labrador Inuit are truly ready to take on self-government and self-determination and to have a say in their future. It is especially heartening to hear our young people raise their voices articulately and with passion. This is what democracy is about — a pluralistic society that encourages and welcomes debate. The Nunatsiavut Government would like to encourage this kind of involvement in all decision-making. We need many voices, many views.

This is the last newsletter of the Labrador Inuit Association. From this point on we will communicate as Nunatsiavut Government. This opens up new possibilities for how we share information and ideas, and we welcome your suggestions. One thing is certain: we will continue to be dedicated to openness and dialogue.

And finally, there are so many people to thank. I want to thank everyone who was in Nain on December 1 to make it a truly unforgettable occasion. I want to thank Premier Williams, Senator Rompkey, Ministers and Party leaders for striving to get there and for joining us by videoconference when our Labrador weather intervened. We value the productive partnerships we have formed with our federal and provincial counterparts and we look forward to renewing and strengthening them in the future. And finally, I want to thank everyone who worked so hard to bring us to where we are today. Some day soon I hope the future leaders of Nunatsiavut will sit in their classrooms and be inspired as they learn about LIA's leaders and tireless volunteers and the story of how they shaped a vision, turned it into action and made a different future possible for us all.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'William Andersen III'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light-colored background.

William Andersen III
President, Transitional Nunatsiavut Assembly

...Continued from page 1, **...It's Official!**
Nunatsiavut Government Signals a New Era

The events in Nain were webcast so that people in the Labrador Inuit communities of Hopedale, Postville, Rigolet, Makkovik, as well as Inuit in North West River, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, St. John's and Ottawa, could watch while they took part in their own celebrations. Many people watched on computers in their homes and offices.



Photo: Premier Danny Williams and Senator William Rompkey address the gathering in Nain via teleconference from the Labrador Health Centre.

Premier Danny Williams; Deputy Premier and Minister Responsible for Aboriginal Affairs Tom Rideout; Senator William Rompkey; Environment and Conservation Minister Tom Osborne; and Labrador Affairs Minister Paul Shelley watched the webcast from the Royal Canadian Legion in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. The provincial and federal officials had been on their way to Nain but weather held them up in Goose Bay. Also watching the webcast from the Legion were Opposition leaders Gerry Reid and Jack Harris, along with Labrador MHAs John Hickey, Randy Collins and Wally Andersen, an Inuk whose district includes the land claims area. Special guests in Nain included past presidents and vice presidents of LIA, representatives of Indian and Northern Affairs

Canada, Parks Canada, the RCMP, and Aboriginal leaders.

LIA's final meeting was opened with prayers from Simone Kohlmeister, a youth from Nain, and Boas Jararuse, an Elder and past Vice President. Boas is also a relocatee from Hebron now living in Makkovik. After LIA's meeting adjourned, the Nunatsiavut Drum Dancers and Throat Singers performed. Choirs from Nain and Hopedale sang the Canadian and Nunatsiavut anthems. While Inuit government officials, youth and elders watched from the gallery, RCMP officer Troy Lightfoot laid the Canadian flag, Past LIA Board Member and elder from Happy Valley-Goose Bay Ronald Lyall laid the provincial flag and the Rising Youth Council member Debbie Angnatok laid the Nunatsiavut flag.



Photo: Toby Andersen, Deputy Minister Nunatsiavut Affairs, prepares Bills for Introduction in the first Nunatsiavut Assembly.

The historic First Session of the Transitional Nunatsiavut Assembly then opened with President William Andersen III declaring the Assembly in session. Nunatsiavut Government business began in earnest with the introduction of bills for the Assembly, Nunatsiavut Lands, the Nunatsiavut Constitution, and the

Nunatsiavut Civil Service. The Assembly elected Ruth Flowers as its first speaker. Ruth is from Hopedale, the community which will serve as centre of Nunatsiavut Government once an Assembly building is constructed.



Photo: Natan Obed makes the very first address to the Nunatsiavut Assembly on behalf of ITK (Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami).

There was break in the legislative process as the Assembly unanimously agreed with President Andersen's proposal to invite ITK representative Natan Obed to speak. Premier Williams and Senator Rompkey were invited to make their addresses by videoconference. Although it is rare for heads of other governments to be invited to address legislative assemblies, the Nunatsiavut Government wanted to acknowledge continuing partnerships. "We're a brand new government," President Andersen said, "and we'll rely on advice from the provincial government."

Premier Williams congratulated the Labrador Inuit. "It's a day of tremendous excitement," he said. "This is the beginning of a new era for Labrador Inuit in the region and the province as a whole." The Premier went on to say he was proud of the productive working relationship he enjoyed with the Labrador Inuit. After Premier Williams' address, Senator Rompkey addressed the Assembly on behalf of Canada.

President Andersen said that, although December 1 was a landmark achievement making Labrador Inuit self-government a constitutional and legal reality, it is in many ways part of an ongoing process. "There's a lot of work ahead of us," he said. Moving from a transitional government to a fully elected Assembly will be one of the

most important tasks facing the Nunatsiavut Government. "As a transitional government, we have to ensure we plan correctly for the election," President Andersen added.

In co-operation with the provincial and federal governments, Nunatsiavut Government, which now represents 5,300 Labrador Inuit and

Kablunāngajuit, will begin to take greater control of policy areas such as health, justice, education and the environment. President Andersen acknowledged that this is a great responsibility. "Now we can start controlling our own lives," he said. "It's the start of a government, not a political organization. We will begin implementing what we need."

Meet Our Members – Ruth Flowers, Speaker of the Nunatsiavut Government



Among the many changes that came with the establishment of the Nunatsiavut Govern-

ment are new roles and positions for many prominent Labrador Inuit. Hopedale's Ruth Flowers has found herself in one of the more visible roles. On December 1, she was elected Speaker of the Transitional Nunatsiavut Government.

Ruth's involvement as a volunteer with community organizations like the Torngat Regional Housing Association and women's groups has provided her with solid grounding in debate and reaching consensus. Her personal approach is a good match with the role of Speaker. Experience, Ruth says, has taught her "to be patient and impartial, to listen to debates and make [her] best judgement."

As one of three Hopedale representatives serving on the LIA Board over the past year, Ruth also has a good understanding of Labrador Inuit political issues and the movement towards self-government. She is excited that Hopedale will be the site of the Nunatsiavut Assembly. "I am very proud that it's going to be here," she says, "and I'm proud we are going to be among the first Members too. It is really an honour."

To help prepare for her role, Ruth traveled to St. John's in November to observe Harvey Hodder, the Speaker of the Newfoundland and Labrador House of Assembly. She had previously observed the proceedings of the House of Assembly in December 2004 when she watched the passing of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement. This time around, however, her eyes were firmly on Mr. Hodder. "He was very knowledgeable about what he was doing," she comments. During her visit, she also consulted him about the job. "He also gave me good advice pertaining to the Speaker's role," she adds.

To help prepare further, Ruth may attend a Speakers' conference in Nunavut in January. While there are similarities between the provincial Speaker's role and her role in the Nunatsiavut Assembly, there are differences too. Nunatsiavut Government, for example, will not be run on the adversarial political party system. Even so, Ruth is not sure what to expect and doesn't want to make predictions. "There is no way anyone can tell what it will be like," she says. "It's all new for all of us, a whole new ball game, so to speak."

Ruth is looking forward to the coming year with both excitement and a sense of responsibility. As the Transitional Nunatsiavut Assembly sits, one of the first tasks will be to prepare for an election. If this occurs in 2006 as planned, two huge landmarks will have been achieved by Labrador Inuit within the space of a year. "It's going to be really interesting and a big thing," Ruth says, "preparing for an elected government. I'm really looking forward to it."

Tackling Dental and Mental Health Issues

In November 2005 the Labrador Inuit Association made a sustained effort to cut through red tape in order to make vital health services available to Labrador Inuit communities. On November 3, President William Andersen met with Health and Community Services Minister John Ottenheimer to discuss the lack of dental health services on the north coast.

At the time, 36 people in Inuit communities required emergency dental care. The dental board, however, had refused to provide a provisional license to a qualified and available Inuit dental therapist in Nain. "To be blocked by a regulatory board, and to have our members wait for transportation for excessive amounts of time, away from school and work, is not the kind of service other Canadians have to tolerate," President Andersen said. The

provincial government has since arranged for emergency services to fly the backlog of dental patients to Happy Valley-Goose Bay.

On November 21, LIA briefed Premier Danny Williams, Minister Tom Rideout (Aboriginal Affairs) and Minister Ottenheimer on the refusal of the Newfoundland Board of Examiners in Psychology to grant provincial registration to LIHC mental health therapist Trudy Burge, based in Nain.

The Board stated that Ms Burge's masters degree from a US university affiliated with Concordia University



College of Alberta is not equivalent to a masters degree in psychology in Newfoundland and Labrador. The Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador ruled in Ms Burge's favour in April 2005, stating the Board had not given adequate explanation to deny equivalency. The Board, however, continues to postpone its review of the matter.

Hebron Relocates Receive Long-awaited Compensation

For 168 Hebron relocatees, a long-awaited promise was fulfilled just before Christmas. By December 20, compensation cheques had been delivered to relocatees distributed through Labrador and beyond. Their dispersal from their homes began over 40 years ago, when government resettlement closed northern communities. In January 2005, the provincial government

formally apologized for the relocation and the difficulties it caused. The financial compensation is another step in the healing process.

President William Andersen said that the Nunatsiavut Government will continue plans for a monument in Hebron, and for a marker to be presented to the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

bearing Relocation Committee member Andrea Webb's words of acceptance of Premier Danny Williams' apology.

While payment of compensation releases the Nunatsiavut Government from further

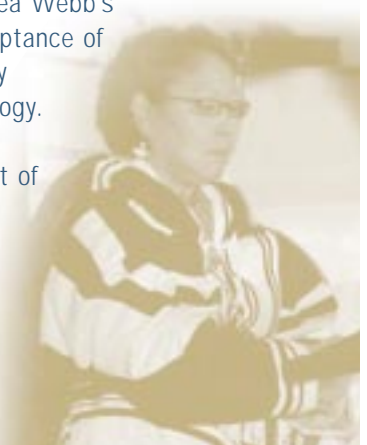


Photo: Andrea Webb accepting Premier Danny Williams' apology to Hebron relocatees at Land Claims Signing Ceremony January 23, 2005.

obligation, it is liaising with the provincial government on behalf of relocatees to try to ensure that the payment does not have

negative impacts on income support, housing subsidies or other benefits. "This compensation is about lessening harm and hurt,"

Andersen said "I'm hoping the government agrees that there should be no more harm or hurt for these people."

Please Note

The Hebron Relocation Committee made every effort to find relocatees and assess their cases for compensation. Nunatsiavut Government believes that everyone has been found and compensated. However, if there is anyone out there who may have been missed in spite of efforts to be thorough, they should contact Rita Andersen or John Jararuse at the Nunatsiavut Government Nain office: (709) 922-2941.

First Ministers Meeting

It was a very productive meeting when First Ministers met with aboriginal leaders from across Canada in Kelowna, BC on November 24 and 25. The meeting produced a strong commitment to close the socio-economic gap between Inuit and other Canadians. There was also a general acknowledgment that Inuit issues demand Inuit-specific solutions, particularly in areas like housing, education and health. The federal government committed \$5.1 billion for Aboriginal people. Of this, \$1.8 billion will be for education; \$1.315 billion for health care; \$1.6 billion for housing and infrastructure; \$200 million for economic opportunities; and \$170 million for relationships and accountability.

The Inuit delegation was led by Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK) President Jose Kusugak. "Overall," President Kusugak commented, "I am pleased with the outcome of the First Ministers meeting." Noting the progress made in education, health, and housing, he added, "all governments in Canada are beginning

to recognize that Inuit are not First Nations and all Aboriginal people are not one people, any more than all Europeans are one people."

President William Andersen III had special praise for Newfoundland and Labrador Premier Danny

Williams for being both vocal and comprehensive when addressing the issues facing Aboriginal people in Newfoundland and Labrador. He said that Premier Williams met with Newfoundland and Labrador delegates "caucus-style" to discuss matters that affected them. President Andersen also noted that the Premier had come well prepared, having attended special meetings with Aboriginal leaders



Photo: During the First Ministers' meeting, LIA President William Andersen and Pita Atami, President of Makivik Corporation, took time out to sign the agreement relating to the Nunavik Inuit and Nunatsiavut Inuit overlap area. Photo courtesy of Bob Mesher of Makivik Corporation.

and Aboriginal women's groups from the province a few weeks before.

During the First Ministers meeting, Premier Williams requested federal assistance to establish in Labrador a centre of research into the root causes and best approaches for dealing with social challenges such as addictions, fetal alcohol syndrome, and suicide. He also asked for help in setting up a long-term therapeutic foster home in Labrador.

Inuit Domestic Harvest Level (IDHL) Program Seeks Input

While the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement (LILCA) was coming into being, the staff of the new Department of Lands and Resources were busy preparing a communications strategy that will be vital to the Nunatsiavut Government.

Under the LILCA, the Nunatsiavut Government will recommend to the federal Minister Inuit Domestic Harvest Levels (IDHLs) which will accurately reflect the harvesting needs of LILCA beneficiaries within the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area. Under the land claims agreement, Labrador Inuit have the right to harvest up to their full level of need for food, social and ceremonial purposes, but limits may be imposed if a species is considered over-harvested. The IDHLs will be based on traditional knowledge, historical data and ongoing data collection organized

by the
Nunatsiavut
Government.

Renewable Resources Director Stan Oliver sees the data collection as very important and is working on a "four-phase communications strategy" to ensure its success. The first of these phases uses a poster prepared during December 2005. The poster is designed to inform LILCA beneficiaries of their rights but also to alert them of the Nunatsiavut Government's need to collect data from all Inuit hunters, gatherers and fishers. The data collection will help establish realistic IDHLs. The second phase will feature a brochure with more detail about specific species and rights and responsibilities under LILCA. The third phase will be the development of a calendar in which harvesters can record the number of each species taken each month. The calendar pages can then be removed and sent to guardians who will process the data. This will help decide the recommended IDHL. A final phase will be a detailed hunting, fishing and gathering guide.

Although some experts in data collection and analysis may be hired from outside, Labrador Inuit will do as much of the work as possible. As well as collecting data, officials from the Nunatsiavut Department of



Cover of IDHL brochure.

Lands and Resources will visit Inuit communities and gather accurate details of traditional hunting practices and levels.

Power Inequity and the Lower Churchill Issue

One theme dominated a Happy Valley--Goose Bay town hall meeting on November 14 on the proposed Lower Churchill hydroelectric development: history must not repeat itself, especially where Labrador is concerned. President William Andersen praised Premier Danny Williams for his strong stance on the Lower Churchill, while making it clear that the hardships suffered by Labrador Inuit over fuel and power can no longer be tolerated, especially when the source of that power is Labrador.

Commenting that the electricity rates in Nain are the highest in Canada, President Andersen said that two

weeks before the meeting, 14 homes in Nain had seen their power cut off. He went on to describe the "snowball effect" of the power and fuel situation, where a case of ski-doo oil that costs \$95.00 in Goose Bay sells for \$276.00 in Nain.

President Andersen said he believed there should be research into the feasibility of a number of smaller hydro projects or wind-generated power plants. He noted, however, that one recent proposal to put a windmill farm in Nain would not have improved electricity rates there once the power was sold to Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro. The idea of "bringing



Photo: William Andersen speaks during the proposed Lower Churchill hydro development's first public consultation in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. Photo courtesy of Amy Jo Patey of The Labradorian.

hydroelectricity to the north coast ...would be of great benefit," he concluded, but strongly cautioned that the present lack of equality must first be addressed.

Rigolet Gas Crisis: Finding a Solution

It took creative teamwork led by Vice President Tony Andersen, provincial government officials and the Town of Rigolet to find a temporary solution to Rigolet's fuel problems. Following discussions in November, The Labrador Inuit Development Corporation (LIDC) is taking over operations of the service until another operator can be found.

Residents who were preparing for a winter with no fuel breathed a sigh of relief when the LIDC purchased the land to install a tank farm for fuel and gas

storage. Arrangements were made to have heating oil and other fuels delivered before the winter set in.

Andersen was pleased with the help the provincial government gave. "Aboriginal Affairs Minister Tom Rideout and his officials were exceptionally cooperative," he said, noting that the provincial government provided the loan guarantee to make the solution possible.

Rigolet's gas problems date back to December 2000 when a gas

spill led to the closure of a privately operated station. Since then, the Town Council of Rigolet managed the gas and fuel supply operation. This fall, it felt it could not carry on doing so, and the community was working diligently to find another operation and location. The current solution is not a permanent one. "The long term goal," said LIDC Managing Director Fred Hall, "is to turn the operation into a viable business and then hand it over to a private entrepreneur."

Language and Culture



Photo: Nunatsiavut Cultural Centre meeting participants. Front row: Edna Hall of Canadian Heritage, President William Andersen and Brent Meade of Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation. Back row: Tony Andersen, Catharyn Andersen, Marilyn Butland, Ches Andersen, Karen Skinner of ACOA, Wyman Jacque, Judy Rowell of Parks Canada, John Kennedy of ACOA, Martha Drake of Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation, Jeff Anderson of Parks Canada, and Ann Anderson of Canadian Heritage.

Nunatsiavut Government's first "intergovernmental meeting" at the Canadian Heritage offices in St. John's on December 9 saw the formation of a working committee to advise on a new Nunatsiavut Cultural Centre in Nain. Working committee members are from the Nunatsiavut Government, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Canadian Heritage, Parks Canada and ACOA.

The committee will establish goals and processes for creating a Cultural Centre which will bring together all aspects of Inuit culture, including art, history, archeology, and language training programs.

Reclaiming and promoting the Inuttit language is of particular importance to the Nunatsiavut Government. To meet this end, the Torngâsok Cultural Centre has been

working since August 2004 on a comprehensive language tool called the Rosetta Stone project. This work is being carried out under the direction of Catharyn Andersen, Director of Torngâsok with the new Nunatsiavut Secretariat.

The Rosetta Stone language system, purchased by LIA from Fairfield Language Technologies in Virginia, is an electronic template on CD Rom for language immersion. Structured in two levels — basic and advanced — the Rosetta Stone can be used as a learning tool for any language, once it is properly programmed and adapted.

The idea is total immersion; the learner uses no English at all in the process. At the basic level, the learner sees a picture and hears in Inuttit the word for the image. Gradually, a basic vocabulary is built.

Interpreter Rita Andersen is currently adapting the program so that it fits with Inuit culture. This means replacing words and images on the original program with ones that have meaning in Inuit culture. A picture of a giraffe, for instance, might be replaced with the image of a polar bear. "It is very important that people here can connect to the material in the system," Catharyn says. "It must be the world we know."

As the work progresses, two Inuit speakers from each gender will be needed to provide voices for the program. The basic level could be ready for use as early as summer 2006, and Catharyn feels that it will be an important contribution to language revitalization. "Although we need to preserve the language in a variety of different forums, this will be an important tool to help adults pass Inuttit to their children."

LILCA Beneficiaries to Receive Compensation Packages

Each of the over 4,200 people on the ratification voters list for the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement will receive a beneficiary payment of \$5,000 over the next three years. The payments will be made according to the following schedule:

- Voters list members who were 50 years or over on May 26, 2004 will receive their payments in January 2006.
- Voters list members aged 25-50 will receive their payments in 2006.
- Voters list members aged 16-25 will receive their payments in 2007.

The compensation offer has been controversial since it was first proposed in 2004. Some considered it a bribe to get members out to vote. Others felt that there should be no individual compensation. Many other

residents of Nunatsiavut support the payment plan. LIA's Board considered all views carefully and decided at its October 2005 meeting in Nain to proceed with the payout.

President William Andersen says he believes the payment has the potential to do much good by giving Nunatsiavut residents an immediate opportunity to make improvements and add comfort to their lives while they wait for the longer-term improvements Nunatsiavut Government is working toward at the community and regional levels. In an interview with *The Independent*, he said he was insulted by suggestions that people would spend the money unwisely. He said that Inuit are like people anywhere in the world — people choose how to spend their money,

wisely or unwisely. "We're paying this money to adults," he said. He says that in communities where many people live far below the Canadian standard of living, and where everything from food to fuel costs more than average, \$5,000 can really help with home improvements, travel costs, education and other needs.

The compensation package also reflects a long-term understanding that developed over 30 years of land claims negotiations. "The Inuit elders understood that along with land claims comes small packages as a benefit to them," he told *The Independent*. "Now we couldn't just give it to the elders so we decided that the best way to deal with it was (also to give it to) those who were eligible voters on May 26, 2004."

Youth Propose Alternatives to Compensation

Sending a healthy signal that democracy is alive and well in Nunatsiavut, a number of Labrador Inuit youth have raised their voices in protest against the compensation package. In November, Nain high school students Danielle Baikie and Vanessa Webb wrote to LIA's Board to ask them to reconsider individual compensation and redirect the money to a number of areas where improvements are needed. The letter has been referred to the Transitional Nunatsiavut Assembly for consideration. While their views won't change the decision to go

ahead with the package, First Minister Tony Andersen says that the new government welcomes their input and intends to meet with them. Finance Minister Gary Baikie agrees it's important to hear their views.

Among the students' suggestions for alternative uses for the money are improvements to Jens Haven Memorial School in Nain; additional funding for post-secondary education; a senior citizens' home in the region; more recreational facilities for youth; and a program to educate youth about their history

and the roles of LIA and the Nunatsiavut Government.

"Often what looks like criticism is really valuable input," Andersen says. "All their suggestions are excellent. They point out really important community needs and the fact that youth care about their communities and want to improve them. These are Nunatsiavut Government priorities too. We need to keep youth engaged in this kind of dialogue. They are the community builders we need in the long run."

Sivullipâk Ullunga Nunatsiavut kavamangata

The First Day of Nunatsiavut Government



Photos Above, top-bottom: Tony Andersen is sworn in as Transitional First Minister; Ben Ponniuk is sworn in as Minister of Health, Education, Social and Economic Development; Zippie Nochasak is sworn in as Minister of Environment, Land and Resources; Nunatsiavut Government members, including Linda Palliser, Mina Campbell-Hibbs, Zippie Nochasak, Ruth Flowers, Ben Ponniuk and Tony Andersen, approve Nunatsiavut Government's first Acts; Nunatsiavut Government members Isabella Pain and Gus Dicker; Past LIA President Fran Williams swears in William Andersen III as President of Nunatsiavut Government; Gary Baikie is sworn in as Minister of Finance and Human Resources, and as Treasurer.

Adjinguat Kulâni, Kanganit-atânut: Tony Andersen saimmatitauvuk Mânnaujumi First Ministerriugiamut; Ben Ponniuk saimmatitauvuk Ministerriugiamut Kanuittaliittitaugutinni, Ilinniataugutinni, InoKatigegusinni amma kenaujaliugutet Pivalliatitaugutiningni; Zippie Nochasak Saimmatitauvuk Ministerriugiamut Avatiliginimmut, Nunalignimmut Pivianattutanginnulu; Nunatsiavut kavamanganut ilaujut, ilautillugit Linda Palliser, Mina Campbell-Hibbs, Zippie Nochasak, Ruth Flowers, Ben Ponniuk amma Tony Andersen, angitiKavut Nunatsiavut kavamangata sivullipautillugit Maligatsasualiusimajanginnik; Nunatsiavut kavamanganut ilauKataujok Isabella Pain amma Gus Dicker; Siagu LIA-mi AngajukKangusimajuk Fran Williams Saimmatitsivuk William Andersen III-mik AngajukKangulitillugu Nunatsiavut kavamangani; Gary Baikie saimmatitauvuk Ministerriullitillugu kenaujaliugutinni ammalu Inulimât Ikajuttaugutinginnut ammalu kenaujajigjiudluni.

Photos Above, top-bottom: Grade 7-8-9 class from Rigolet singing Labradorimut (L-R) Roxi Wolfrey, Anita Rich, Emily Ann Wolfrey, Melanie Dicker and Chelsea Groves-Shiwak; Youth choirs from Nain and Hopedale mark the initiation of Nunatsiavut; May Okkuatsiak, Courtney Flowers and Phyllis Obed help celebrate with fellow Nunatsiavut Drumdancers; Elders at celebrations in Happy Valley-Goose Bay; Nain elders attending the first Nunatsiavut Assembly; Nain youth taking in all the ceremony and celebrations; In Ottawa, Nunatsiavutmiut watch the webcast ceremonies and celebrate with cake, singing and a group photo to commemorate the occasion.

Adjinguat Kulâni, Kanganit-atânut: Ilinniavimmi Puttunilet 7-8-9 Rigolettimi tutsiajut tutsiagusimmik Labradorimut (S-T) Roxi Wolfrey, Anita Rich, Emily Ann Wolfrey, Melanie Dicker amma Chelsea Groves-Shiwak; Inosuttut koret Nainimit, Hopedalimillu nalunaittautitsivut Nunatsiavut pigiasittitaugutininganik; May Okkuatsiak, Courtney Flowers amma Phyllis Obed ikajuvut ullusiuKataujunik Nunatsiavut Niutattinginnik; InutuKait ullusiuKataujut Happy Valley-Goose Bay-mi; Nainiup inutuKangit ilaujut sivullipâmut Nunatsiavut katimanninganut; Nainimiut inosuttuit takunnâtaujut ullusiuugutinnik; Ottawa-mi, Nunatsiavummiut takunnavut Kangattatitaumajukkut ullusiuunik cake-tomadlutillu ullusiuugutininik, tutsiagaladlutik ammalu katingatillugit atjiilttaudlutik nalunaigutimut ullusiuinimmut.