

(Nain, NL) August 7, 2006 – The Nunatsiavut Government is enhancing the Department of Health and Social Development’s ground transportation service for beneficiaries when they are in St. John’s.

Previously, beneficiaries were encountering some problems with check out times and meal vouchers, so the Nunatsiavut Government worked out an agreement with the St. John’s Native Friendship Centre to make beneficiaries’ trips to St. John’s more comfortable.

Minister of Education, Health, Social and Economic Development, Ben Ponniuk says “This way our beneficiaries don’t have to worry about check out times, or not having a place to wait on their trip home. When they are ready to leave St. John’s, all they have to do is call our ground transportation service to come and pick them up from their hotel. They will then be brought to the St. John’s Native Friendship Centre where they can have a meal, and relax in the comfortable surroundings until it is time to catch their flight. Our van will take them to the airport and drop them off.”

Nunatsiavut Government came into effect on December 1, 2005, assuming authority from the former Labrador Inuit Association. It represents approximately 5,300 Inuit and Kablunangajuit of Labrador, and is responsible for advancing the aboriginal, constitutional, democratic, social and human rights of Labrador Inuit. Contact: Karen Prentice, Director of Communications, Tel: 709-922-2942 or kprentice@nunatsiavut.com