

**(Nain, NL) July 7, 2006** - Canada's newest National Park Reserve, The Torngat Mountains, welcomed its first cruise ship on Canada Day, July 1st, 2006. The ship was called the Lyubov Orlova and was operated by Cruise North. Visitors were astonished by the sheer beauty of the mountains and said they could not get enough of the breathtaking view.

Gary Baikie is the Visitor Experience Coordinator for Parks Canada. He says "Visitors described the trip as a pleasurable, awe inspiring experience. Their favorite part was the stop in Nain and of course the Torngat Mountains. Many even expressed interest in returning for a second trip."

The ship started in St. John's and from there visited L'anse aux Meadows and Battle Harbour.

Nain was the next stop and the community was ready to welcome the visitors. Guests bought soap stone carvings from local carvers, took in a performance by the drum dancers and enjoyed a delicious meal of smoked char and caribou soup at the Atsanik Lodge.

The ship then stopped in Hebron where former resident John Jararuse showed the visitors where he used to live and told stories about his memories of growing up in Hebron, before the relocation.

After visiting Hebron, the ship continued on to the Button Islands, then Killinik. The cruise finished up in Kuujuaq.

Talks are ongoing with Cruise North, owned by Makivik Corporation of Nunavik, Northern Quebec about the possibility of future visits to Nunatsiavut and the Torngat Mountains National Park Reserve.

Nunatsiavut Government came into effect on December 1, 2005, assuming authority from the former Labrador Inuit Association. It represents approximately 5,300 Inuit and Kablunângajuit of Labrador, and is responsible for advancing the aboriginal, constitutional, democratic, social and human rights of Labrador Inuit. For more information on Nunatsiavut Government, visit [www.nunatsiavut.com](http://www.nunatsiavut.com). **Contact:** Karen Prentice, Director of Communications, Nunatsiavut Government, Tel: 709-922-2942 or 709-922-1393, email [kprentice@nunatsiavut.com](mailto:kprentice@nunatsiavut.com)