



Vol. 1, No. 2, Fall 2010

# Tugâpvik NUNATSIAVUT

## Inside this Issue

Agreement provides continued funding for Inuit Pathways until 2015.....	2
Take Back the Night marches held in Nunatsiavut communities .....	2
New Deputy Minister of Finance, Human Resources and IT .....	3
Results of by-election for Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville.....	3
Environmental Protection Legislation asses first reading.....	3
Aboriginal Skills Training and Strategic Investment Fund (ASTSIF) update .....	3
New cultural centre proposed.....	3
Meeting held to discuss return of Zoar remains.....	4
Youth camp held at Iggiak .....	4
Pauktuutit launches prenatal DVD .....	5
Students enter into Bachelor of Social Work program .....	5
From the Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism.....	6
New Deputy Minister of Culture, Recreation & Tourism.....	6

## Historic meeting with provincial cabinet

Members of the Nunatsiavut Government’s Executive Council met with the provincial Cabinet in St. John’s on October 27. The historic meeting provided both governments with the opportunity to discuss a variety of issues of mutual concern, and set the stage for follow-up discussions on a variety of topics.

“We were extremely pleased to have had the opportunity to meet with our provincial counterparts,” says Nunatsiavut President Jim Lyall. “This was the first meeting between our two governments at this level, and I look forward to similar meetings in the future.”

Topics on the meeting’s agenda included

natural resources, the environment and climate change, education, health care, housing, and the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement.



## Nunatsiavut Government archaeology office update

The summer of 2010 turned out to be another exciting and interesting season for the Nunatsiavut Government’s archaeology office.

Fieldwork undertaken by the office was conducted in Saglek Bay, Hebron, Tikkoatokak Bay, Nain, Zoar, Hopedale and Kaipokok Bay. Several previously unknown areas were recorded and new information was acquired for numerous known archaeological sites. The visited sites range in age from less than 100 years old to more than 3,500 years old and they provide evidence for land use by different cultural groups including Maritime Archaic, Inuit, settler, Euro-American, and probably Dorset.

For much of July and August archaeologist Jamie Brake worked with Tyler Pamak, a research assistant from Nain, who helped with fieldwork, land use referrals, site record forms, as well as with research. Tyler gained valuable work experience and was a great addition to the team during his eight weeks on the job.

So far this year, 14 permits have been issued by the office for archaeological activities on Labrador Inuit Lands. Of those, seven were for assessments or for work done by the Nunatsiavut Government, four were for academic research projects, and three were issued to archaeologists onboard cruise ships for planned stops at archaeological sites.

---

# Agreement provides continued funding for Inuit Pathways until 2015

An agreement was reached with the Government of Canada in September that ensures continued funding for Inuit Pathways until the end of 2015.

“We are extremely pleased to have secured funding for another four-and-a-half years, says Education and Economic Development Minister Susan Nockasak. “We can now plan for longer-term training, with the end result being a more qualified skilled Inuit workforce.”

The funding is provided under Human Resources Skills Development Canada’s new Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ASETS). The strategy,

notes Minister Nochasak, will focus primarily on developing private and public-sector partnerships to ensure maximum opportunities for Labrador Inuit to gain meaningful employment.

This strategy will focus on demand driven skills development, in which there needs to be real evidence and a real commitment on employment possibilities before we put people into training,” she says. “We will be making special efforts to establish partnerships to ensure maximum benefits are gained from this strategy.”

## Take Back the Night marches held in Nunatsiavut communities

The Nunatsiavut Government Status of Women and Department of Health and Social Development held Take Back the Night marches in Nain, Hopedale, Postville, Makkovik and Rigolet in September.

Banners and posters were created, and refreshments and draws for t-shirts were available in every community. In Rigolet, a reading highlighted a victim’s perspective, followed by a march around town with participants chanting slogans while accompanied by the RCMP. In Makkovik, at the end of the march, a wish lantern was released, with participants making a silent wish for victims of violence.

In total 128 women and children took part in the marches in all of the communities.

Women’s taking to the streets at night to protest violence against women originated in Europe in the early 1970s. The first North American night march for women was held in New York in 1976. The slogan “Take Back the Night” was first introduced as a theme



for a protest march held in San Francisco in 1978. It was also in that year that Canadian women took to the streets and marched in Vancouver. In 1981, the

Canadian Association of Sexual Assault Centres declared that Take Back the Night marches would be held on the third Friday in September.

## **New Deputy Minister of Finance, Human Resources and IT**

The Department of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology has a new deputy minister.

Rexanne Crawford is originally from Happy Valley-Goose Bay. She has two degrees – a Bachelor of Science (Honours) degree from Mount Allison University and a Bachelor of Business Administration (Honours) from Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador, eventually obtaining her chartered accountant designation. She has spent the last nine years working with Deloitte in St. John's in the Assurance and Advisory division. During her tenure with Deloitte, she gained experience working with aboriginal groups, public sector clients and owner-managed companies.

Rexanne is married to Richard Crawford of Happy Valley-Goose Bay. The couple has two children - Kyle and Alexandra.

## ***Results of by-election for Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville***

Results of the November 16 by-election for Ordinary Member of the Nunatsiavut Assembly for Upper Lake Melville:

Claris Barron	68
Maurice Best	152
Janice Edmunds-Connors	176
Patricia Kemuksigak	266
Val Oliver	95
Ben Ponniuk	164

Ms. Kemuksigak will be sworn in during the next sitting of the Nunatsiavut Assembly, scheduled for early December.

## **Environmental Protection Legislation passes first reading**

The Nunatsiavut Government is one step closer to passing environmental protection legislation.

Bill 2010-07, to Provide Protection of the Environment in Labrador Inuit Lands and the Inuit Communities, and to Provide for the Environmental Assessment of Proposed Developments on Labrador Inuit Lands, passed first reading in the Nunatsiavut Assembly in October.

“With significant land-management decisions on the horizon, it is important that we develop a framework for

environmental protection and development,” said First Minister and Lands and Natural Resources Minister Darryl Shiwak. “If approved, this legislation will ensure Labrador Inuit play a key role in protecting our environment and our lands. It will deliver benefits, build capacity with our people and help sustain our culture and our knowledge. Most importantly, it will build a better future for Nunatsiavut and our people.”

Second reading of the Bill is scheduled to take place following an extensive public consultation process.

## **Aboriginal Skills Training and Strategic Investment Fund (ASTSIF) update**

The Nunatsiavut Department of Education and Economic Development continues to successfully implement the federally-funded Aboriginal Skills Training and Strategic Investment Fund.

Funding in the amount of \$579,798 was provided to the Nunatsiavut Government in September of last year under the two-year \$75 million. The program is set to expire at the end of March 2011. The objectives of this project are to provide unemployed or underemployed aboriginal clients with institutional training directly linked to the marine industry and as well provide on-the-job training with private sector employers. A project training coordinator was hired in December 2009, and up to September 2010 a total of 70 clients went through various types of

training. A total of 58, or 83 per cent, of the clients successfully completed their training.

The training consisted of two STCW (Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping) '95 courses in Stephenville, and cargo and seamanship, a Marine Emergency Duties (MED) A1 and a MBFA (Marine Basic First Aid) courses in Happy Valley-Goose Bay

As well, five Beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement participated in tourism-development training aboard the two vessels for a three-month period, visiting various locations in the North. Two of the participants were also selected to assist with a clean-up project in the Torngat Mountains National Park in September of this year through an initiative with Cruise North.

## **New cultural centre proposed**

For a number of years there has been talk about a new Torngâsok Cultural Centre for Nain. Since 2008, many federal and provincial agencies have helped move the process along. Cur-

rently, the building design (ulu and sod house attributes) has been selected and a location has been secured. The next step involves acquiring the necessary funds to build and operate the facility.

## Meeting held to discuss return of Zoar remains

The Torngâsok Cultural Centre met with the repatriation director of Chicago's Field Museum of Natural History, Helen Robbins, as well as three Nain Moravian Church representatives (David Harris, Sr., Julius Ikkusek and Julius Merkuratsuk), on September 16 to discuss plans for the repatriation of Inuit remains to Zoar.

The remains were removed from the abandoned Moravian church mission during the Rawson-MacMillan Sub-Arctic Expedition of 1927-1928. Field Museum anthropologist William Duncan Strong (1899-1962) was a member of that expedition. His job was to collect natural history specimens and archaeological material that could shed light on the antiquity of people in Labrador. While the museum was aware that it held these human remains, it had only a limited understanding of how the remains came into its collections. Recently, however, researchers working for Labrador and the museum completed an analysis of historical documents that reveal much more about the origin of these remains. According to these documents, including Duncan Strong's own journal, these remains were removed from marked Inuit graves despite opposition by residents of Nain and Hopedale; and Strong otherwise misled the community about his activities. Thereafter, he took the remains to the Field Museum where they have been ever since.

Discussions centered along who would accompany the remains from Chicago to Nain, when the trip would occur and how to properly transport the remains, etc. Following a visit to Zoar a site was chosen for reburial.

It is hoped the remains will be returned to Zoar in July 2011.

## Youth camp held at Iggiak

Twelve youth from Nain participated in a four-day camp in August, facilitated by the Nain Mental Health Office Team and the Regional FASD coordinator, along with elder Christine Baikie who offered knowledge and guidance as our elder. The purpose of the camp was to engage youth in cultural activities and recreation, combined with group sessions on a variety of topics.

Topics included team building, anger management, healthy relationships, self-esteem, effective communications, goal setting and career objectives. The sessions were activity-based and focused on getting the youth involved and having fun while addressing these important topics.

The youth played an active role in determining the rules, roles and responsibilities of participants and facilitators, as well as developing a

healthy meal plan. They were engaged in the cleaning, cooking and other duties of camp life.

One of the highlights of the camp involved cultural activities led mainly by Ado Barbour who brought the group out in boat to see the land and explore, and even have a try at seal hunting. Sports and outdoor activities also played a big part as youth enjoyed games, walking, swimming and campfires complete with storytelling.

OKalakatiget Society television production staff joined the camp and will be airing segments of the activities in upcoming programs.

Elsie Diamond, the addictions worker for the Nain Mental Health Team, said the camp was an idea brought about by the youth and, with the support of the community, the department was able to make it happen. She said she hopes to host a similar camp next summer.



# Pauktuutit launches prenatal DVD

A representative from Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada visited Happy Valley-Goose Bay on September 28 to launch a new DVD entitled, 'A Prenatal Resource for Inuit Women and their Families'. The DVD is accompanied by two handbooks; one for health-care providers and the other for Inuit women and their families. Public Health nurses and community health aides from Nunatsiavut attended the launch and workshop.

The resources were developed under the guidance of a project advisory committee, which included representatives from the four Inuit regions, Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Tunngasuvingat Inuit, Inuit Tuttarvingat and National Aboriginal Health Organization. The project was financially supported by the Aboriginal Health Transition Fund and First Nations and Inuit Health Branch, Health Canada.

This resource is a valuable tool for health-care providers as they work with Inuit women and their families during prenatal education. The DVD can be used in prenatal education sessions and can also be borrowed to bring home to share with partners and families. The DVD and guidebooks contain culturally relevant resources and shares traditional Inuit knowledge about pregnancy, birth and parenting. They contain information about preparing for pregnancy, being pregnant, fathering, preparing for birth, labour and delivery, the first month after birth and the first year with baby.

The health-care provider's guidebook provides direction

about how to use the resources and also lists other appropriate resources.



The DVD was filmed in each of the four Inuit regions, so women and their families will see people and places that they know and are familiar with.

These resources are among the first of their kind and will enable Inuit women and their families to access culturally-relevant information. Health Care providers who are new to Inuit communities can also use the Prenatal Resources Guide for Health Care Providers to learn about traditional Inuit knowledge as it relates to pregnancy and birth.

The resources have been sent to each community in Nunatsiavut.

## *Students enter into Bachelor of Social Work program*

A total of 19 Beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement were successful in being accepted into a new Bachelor of Social Work program offered in Happy Valley-Goose Bay.

A joint effort of the Nunatsiavut Government and Memorial University's School of Social Work, in cooperation with the Happy Valley-Goose Bay campus of the College of the North Atlantic, the four-year program will provide a generalist, undergraduate social work education that integrates Inuit content. It will also reflect Inuit culture and values, offer non-social work courses that provide maximum amount of Inuit content and prepare graduates to practice in both Inuit and non-Inuit settings. Memorial professors will travel to Happy Valley-Goose Bay in order to allow Inuit students to remain and study in Labrador. Various courses will also be delivered by

qualified professionals from the Happy Valley-Goose Bay area.

Once they complete the program, graduating students will return to and be employed in Labrador Inuit communities.

"We are extremely pleased to be part of this exciting initiative," says Nunatsiavut's Minister of Education and Economic Development, Susan Nochasak. "There is a huge demand for social workers in our communities, and it is our hope that this demand will be filled as a result of this program."

A special celebration was held at the Northern Cross Church on September 8 to mark the start of the program.

The initiative is being supported through the Nunatsiavut Government's Post Secondary Student Support Program.

---

# From the Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism

## Hebron Ambassador Program 2010

The Ambassador program was launched on July 22, 2010, operating for a six week period ending on September 3, 2010. The Ambassadors, Jenny and Joseph Merkuratsuk, of Nain, along with their two children, Semionie and Julius, successfully hosted six cruise ships, one helicopter, and over 280 visitors during the 2010 season. A season highlight included a visit from the Honorable Jim Prentice, Federal Minister of Environment, who noted the National Historic Site was 'incredible and moving'. Providing an authentic cultural experience, the Ambassador program received positive feedback from both Canadian and international visitors deeming the experience 'amazing', 'beautiful', 'majestic', and ultimately 'been awe-inspiring'. The program seeks continuation in the 2011 season.

## Industry Familiarization (FAM) Tours

Advancing our product development and promotion goals, the Division of Tourism hosted three familiarization (FAM) tours showcasing different Nunatsiavut attractions throughout the 2010 summer.

## Northern Ranger

The Division of Tourism conducted a review and development of community shore programming for cruise ship excursions in Nunatsiavut with support from the provincial cruise association, Cruise Newfoundland and Labrador, and the regional marketing organization, Destination Labrador. Traveling the north coast by Northern Ranger from October 4-7, the group completed a review of community port infrastructure. The goal of this product

development familiarization tour was to assist in quality product development that appeals to the cruise market. Cruise excursion itineraries will be developed, in consultation with the communities, to highlight unique community aspects to encourage overall cruise visitation to the region.

## Richard Wiese – Explorer Films

Utilizing our tourism partners, Destination Labrador, Parks Canada and LIDC, Richard Wiese, a world renowned adventure traveler and educational explorer, and a film crew documented the available tourism experiences of the Torngat Mountains National Park Base Camp from August 29 - September 4. As a result, a European television program and an American broadcast will showcase the natural and cultural products of northern Labrador.

## Karl Heinz-Raach – Raach Photos

Karl Heinz-Raach, a German photographer, traveled to Hebron from July 22-24 to document the cultural and natural appeal of the National Historic Site. Visiting the area by long-linger, Karl captured cultural and wildlife images to be published in an upcoming nature-based book. Appealing to a primarily German audience, Karl's images promote visitation and cultural awareness to a key Nunatsiavut market.

## Torngat Mountains National Park – Base Camp

The 2010 summer season marked a transfer of Base Camp operations from Parks Canada to an Inuit business, the Labrador Inuit Development Corporation (LIDC). Offering high end and standard accommodations, kangidluasuk (St. John's Harbour) hosted over two hundred visitors in the seven week period from July 24 - September

4, 2010. The inclusion of base camp experiences, cruise programming and the construction of the Arctic Research Infrastructure, a permanent research facility, marked a successful tourism season with the number of Base Camp visitor days exceeding three thousand.

## New Deputy Minister of Culture, Recreation & Tourism

Dave Lough joins the Nunatsiavut Government after working in Labrador and St. John's in senior positions with both the Federal and Provincial Governments and with the Province's Tourism Industry Association. Dave has completed post graduate work in Canadian Studies at Carleton and Adult Education at St. Francis Xavier Universities.



Dave first came to the Labrador Coast in the early days in the creation of the Labrador Inuit Association and recently has been involved in helping implement culture and tourism projects in Nunatsiavut. Dave has three adult sons who were all born in Labrador.

Dave looks forward to being back in a winter and outdoor culture and to being part of the Nunatsiavut team. Dave will begin his role as Deputy Minister on November 1, 2010, and can be reached at the NG office in Nain.