



March 8, 2022  
For Immediate Release

## **Budget 2022-23 focused on continued progress**

In handing down his last budget as Treasurer of the Fourth Nunatsiavut Assembly today in Hopedale, Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology Minister Tony Andersen reflected on the past, while focusing on the future.

“Since 1990, it has been an honour and a privilege to have represented Labrador Inuit on the Labrador Inuit Association Board, and at the Nunatsiavut Assembly as Ordinary Member, and as AngajukKâk of Nain,” Minister Andersen noted. “I have seen firsthand the great strides made in improving our communities, in protecting and promoting the resources of Nunatsiavut, and improving the mental and physical well-being of Labrador Inuit. While we have made considerable progress over the years, there is still much more to do.”

Of the \$264 million budgeted for the fiscal year, which begins April 1, a total of \$242 million is received under the Fiscal Financing Agreement (FFA), which is negotiated between the Nunatsiavut Government and the governments of Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador. This year’s FFA contribution is approximately \$96 million, with just over \$146 million being carried over from previous years. The FFA ensures funding is provided to the Nunatsiavut Government for the provision of programs and services to Inuit and other persons living in Inuit communities, at levels reasonably comparable to those generally prevailing in communities of similar size and circumstances in Labrador.

Other sources of revenue include projected personal income tax of \$8.725 million, and Goods and Services Tax (GST) of just over \$1.3 million – both of which are received through agreements with the Government of Canada. The budget includes interest and investment revenue of \$1,757,000, as well as \$3,274,500 from the Fisheries and Environment Fund, \$3,274,500 from the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust Fund, and \$606,000 from other sources.

### **Infrastructure**

There are many pressing infrastructure needs within each of the Inuit communities, from transportation to broadband to land development and waste and water systems, etc. Of the \$242 million under the FFA, \$29 million is allocated in the budget to address these infrastructure needs.

The Nunatsiavut Government has seen significant growth over the years, providing a whole range of programs and services to Labrador Inuit and Labrador Inuit communities. Budget 2022-23 has set aside funds to continue with plans to expand infrastructure, including designing and constructing a multi-purpose building in Nain, increasing office space in Makkovik, Postville, Rigolet and Nain, and expanding the number of Nunatsiavut Government staff housing units.

**Housing**

Housing continues to be a priority area for the Nunatsiavut Government. The Government of Canada has committed an additional \$7.5 million under the FFA for the 2022-2023 fiscal year, bringing the total amount for housing to \$41 million. There are commitments of over \$15 million to the home and emergency repair programs, design and construction of seniors units and quadplexes in Nain and Hopedale and a duplex in Makkovik, and for land development in Nunatsiavut.

**Language**

Revitalization of Inuktitut is of utmost importance. The approval of the Nunatsiavut Language Strategy *Inuttitut UKâlalluta, ilinniatitsiluta, InosiKalluta*, and the associated funding allocated under Budget 2022-23, will build on the progress to date of Labrador Inuit speaking Inuktitut and using Inuktitut as their first language.

**Other Highlights**

Increased funds have been committed for self-government. These funds are meant to cover the administration activities of operating a government – legal, finance, human resources, information technology, and elections, etc. This has allowed the Nunatsiavut Government to increase the funding for operations of the Inuit Community Governments.

Nunatsiavut Government civil servants will receive a two per cent wage increase effectively April 1, 2022.

“I am proud of the work we have accomplished over the years,” says Minister Andersen. “I see the progress we have made in improving the lives of Labrador Inuit. I see the growth in the programs and services provided, in the numbers of Labrador Inuit finding employment with us, in progress being made within the Inuit communities. This year’s budget will allow us to continue on with the progress we have made.”

**Media Contact:**

Bert Pomeroy  
Director of Communications  
(709) 896-8582