

**I would now like to highlight some key areas that we are working on
Mr. Speaker, in tourism:**

- The Division of Tourism is continuing to work on many projects within our tourism strategy including updating the Visitor’s Guide, Community Maps and Community Guidebooks.
- Staff travelled to Gwaii Haanas along with community tourism partners, Parks Canada and the Co-Management Board for the Mealy Mountains National Park Reserve. Community tourism partners completed two online courses before travelling, the goal of the Best Practice Mission was to learn about tourism opportunities and how to create packages. Staff will continue to work with participants to develop tourism experiences.
- The Torngat Mountains Base Camp and Research Station will be open July 24- September 4th, 2024. We are working with the Operator (Air Borealis and the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies), Parks Canada and other departments within the Nunatsiavut Government to plan the 2024 season. The Youth Leadership Program will run from July 27-August 3.
- We are in the process of hiring for our four Hebron positions and finalizing dates for the Hebron Ambassador season. We would like to send our

condolences to Gus Semigak's family. Gus worked in Hebron for many years and was a wealth of knowledge.

- There are cruise stops scheduled for Nain and Rigolet this year. We are working with Transport Canada and will be meeting with the Inuit Community Governments and community tourism partners to assist with each port becoming certified to accept cruise ships.
- We are organizing the National Indigenous People's Day auction again this year and will update the Assembly on how it goes.
- We are supporting one artist, April Allen, to attend the Labrador Expo happening in Goose Bay the end of June.
- There are many upcoming artist events that we will be participating in and will be releasing Expressions of Interest in the near future.

I will now highlight some key areas that we are working on Mr. Speaker, in Language & Culture:

- The Language and Culture Division is proud to announce that we have signed a Contribution Agreement for the Indigenous Language Component with Heritage Canada for \$7.6 million dollars to use for Language Programing Initiatives until 2028.
- The Language & Culture recognition awards have been provided to this year's recipients. The successful individual for the Language recognition award was given to Nicholas Flowers of Hopedale, and the Cultural recognition award was given to Maria Merkuratsuk of Nain. We congratulate these two very deserving individuals for practicing and preserving Inuit language and culture within their communities.
- Director of Culture, Brenda Jararuse, recently traveled to Iqaluit for meetings to explore Inuttitut program partnerships with Pirurvik and the Nunavut Arctic College. Discussions were had about developing partnerships with Pirurvik on the creation of an online Inuttitut Program for

Nunatsiavut beneficiaries to become fluent in Inuttitut, as well as an Inuttitut Teacher Training Program. Discussions with the Nunavut Arctic College were about introductions and exploring the creation of a fast tracked Interpreter Translator Program and development of Inuttitut Dictionaries. Staff are very excited about these future projects.

- Language staff attended the Stabilizing Indigenous Languages Symposium in Victoria, BC from June 5-7. This event brings together language scholars, activists, educators, and community members to explore innovative strategies and promising practices for language revitalization.
- Our department has successfully completed the first year of the Inuagualuit Language Nest program since taking it over from DHSD. Staff met in Nain earlier this month to discuss program expansions, revisions and goals. We are planning on traveling to visit other Language Nests or Inuttitut childcare centres in the future.
- Director of Culture, Brenda Jararuse, and Deputy Minister, Jenna Gilbride is meeting with Commissioner of Indigenous Languages - Inuktut Director, Robert Watt of the Office of the Commissioner of Indigenous Languages the week of June 17th. This meeting will be to discuss Inuttitut priorities and initiatives.

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- The Department of Language, Culture and Tourism is accepting applications from Beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement within Nunatsiavut and Upper Lake Melville to attend the Inuit Connection Program at the Torngat Mountains Base Camp and Research Station for the 2024 Season. This is a partnership project between the Nunatsiavut Government, Parks Canada and Makivvik Corporation. The goal is to enable Labrador and Nunavik Inuit an opportunity to reconnect with their homeland and provide opportunities to understand how to make the park a living, vibrant Inuit place that is meaningful in the present and the future.
 - Staff are continuing to take lead from the Language Strategy. Year three activities are now occurring, these include the Master Apprentice Program, IlinniaKatigennik, Tupik program, Elders socials, Language resources, sewing programs, etc. The next Language summit will be in 2025.

**Lastly Mr. Speaker, I will highlight some key areas that we are working on in
Archaeology:**

- On May 7th, the committee for the Hebron and Nutâk Reunions attended the Arctic Inspiration Prize Awards Ceremony in Whitehorse, YK where they accepted the prize amount of \$298,000 to go towards the overall cost of the Hebron and Nutâk Reunions which will be taking place in July 2024.
- Lena Onalik, as the representative for the Nunatsiavut Government is currently in Grand Falls meeting with the Provincial Repatriation committee for the Beothuk Remains of Demasduit and Nonasabasut.
- Axiel EMu museum collections management software has been installed on our new server. The next steps are initial staff training on the software and software customization to suit the unique needs of Nunatsiavut collections. Collections management software will enable us to effectively manage the NG's collections of Archaeological, Cultural, and Archival Materials, and preserve and promote them for generations to come. Thank you to all involved, and special thanks to the IT division for making it happen.
- NG Archaeology has secured Capital Project Advisory services from the Canadian Conservation Institute. This service has assigned two experts in

repositories and museums to assist with and provide advice on the design and potential construction of our own Nunatsiavut Repository for Archaeological, Cultural, and Archival Materials.

- The Provincial Archaeology Office Annual Review came out in April, including an entry from our office on our archaeology activities of 2023. The PAO Review includes research notes from archaeologists all over the province, and is available online for anyone to download and read.
- Repatriation requests are increasing, highlighting a potential need for dedicated staff for this important part of Inuit heritage management.
- Thank you, Mr. Speaker.