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NEWS: Nunavut February 14, 2012 - 3:18 pm

Ottawa dollars add pep to Nunavut school Internet links

Money from 2008 fund continues to flow

NUNATSIAQ NEWS

Nunavut students who use the Internet to learn are now getting better connections, thanks to \$2.1 million in federal government spending announced Feb. 14.

The money comes from a \$21.6 million federal fund first announced in 2008.

"The Government of Canada has consistently supported improved broadband service in communities all across Canada and nowhere is connectivity more important than across the North," Nunavut MP Leona Aglukkaq, minister of the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency, said Feb. 14 through a videoconference link with Iqaluit.



Premier Eva Aariak announced that broadband access for students across Nunavut has been increased thanks to money from the federal and territorial governments, at an event held Feb. 15 at the Frobisher Inn, while Leona Aglukkaq looked on via a videoconferencing link. (PHOTO BY DEAN MORRISON)

Aglukkaq spoke from Ottawa to an audience of government officials and Nunavut Broadband Corp. staff at the Frobisher Inn in Iqaluit.

The added bandwidth is meant to make technologies like teleconferencing and data transfers quicker for all Nunavut communities.

Since 2003, the Government of Nunavut has committed to spend \$1.8 million on the NBDC's core operations and will allocate 12.5 megabits per second of satellite bandwidth to classrooms across Nunavut.

"The Government of Nunavut is committed to improving tools that support the education of our youth," said Premier Eva Aariak, who also serves as education minister.

The GN's Department of Economic Development and Transportation has committed to spend \$375,000 over three years on for management of the project.

For Inuksuk High School student Tina Qaurinr, the announcement is a welcome relief, enabling her to make more effective use of her allotted school Internet access time.

"I use the Internet at least five hours a week," Qaurinr said. "Faster access has made using the Internet much more enjoyable."

Communities outside of Iqaluit are given access to the Internet through the NBDC's Qiniq network, which has about 5,000 customers across Nunavut.

NBDC is a federally registered not-for-profit corporation created to provide affordable broadband service to all Nunavut communities.

The NBDC-funded internet provider, Qiniq, is the only Internet provider that is currently available in every Nunavut community outside Iqaluit.

"Teachers can now use the Internet to embellish their classroom methods, and students can reach out beyond books and videos to the rest of the world," said Darrell Ohokannoak, president of the NBDC.

The announcement is part of a \$21.6 million commitment made by the Government of Canada in 2008.

The federal funding for this project comes from the National Satellite Initiative under the Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund.

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2012 NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE THAT the following are the areas in respect of which prospecting permits have been issued in Nunavut pursuant to subsection 26(10) of the *Northern Territories and Northern Mining Regulations* effective February 1, 2012. A prospecting permit gives the permit holder exclusive rights to prospect and stake claims for minerals within a permitted area, which is 1/4 of a 100,000 acre mapsheet. The permit holder has exclusive rights for three years for areas below the 68 degree parallel and for five years for areas above the 68 degree parallel. Prospecting permits have been issued to cover the following trap areas:

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Nominations for Board Appointments

The Government of Nunavut is inviting nominations from interested individuals to serve on its representative seat on the following boards:

- Eeyou Marine Region WBSB Board (4 year term)
- Eeyou Marine Region Planning Commission (3 year term)
- Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board (Initial term is 4 years, then 3 years thereafter)

**The deadline for nominations is
March 16, 2012, 5:00 p.m.**