



Fall 2022

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Former Nain boarding school demolished



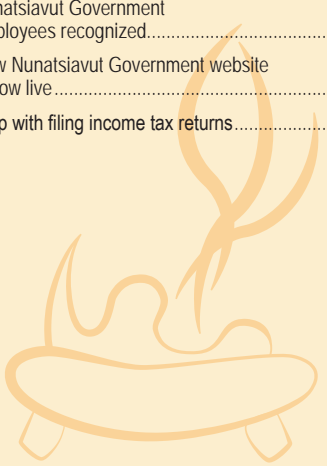
A dark chapter in the history of Labrador Inuit closed on Monday, November 14, with the demolition of the former boarding school in Nain.

Built by the Hudson’s Bay Company, the building was used as a cottage hospital before being turned over to the Moravian Church in 1936 and converted to a boarding school, which operated until 1973. The building was also used by OKalaKatiget Society and later for storage. It has been abandoned for more than 30 years.

The Residential School Survivor Committee in Nain submitted a request to the community’s church group to have the building demolished as part of reconciliation between the Moravian Church and Labrador Inuit. The church group, which had been discussing what to do with the building for years, approached the Nain Inuit Community Government to have the building torn down.



The Nunatsiavut Government, through the Department of Language, Culture and Tourism and the Department of Health and Social Development, hosted an event for community members while the building was being demolished. A heated tent was set up in the parking lot of the nearby Illusuak Cultural Centre for those wanting to see the building come down. Staff from the Nunatsiavut Department of Health and Social Development was available to provide support during the event.



Update on Nain airport feasibility studies

The Nunatsiavut Government is planning to build a new certified airport for the community of Nain to replace the existing infrastructure that is currently under stress from the impacts of climate change. Studies have determined that the existing runway is unsafe and cannot be expanded or upgraded.

If feasible, the proposed new site will have a gravel airstrip measuring 5,000 feet long and 100 feet wide, exclusive of the manoeuvring areas, with a surface area of approximately 14,000 square feet set aside for future development. Once all feasibility studies are completed, a final decision will be made on the location of the new airport to ensure that it is sustainable and optimal. Further community consultations and land-use mapping will be conducted during the environmental and impacts assessment stage of the project.

The Nunatsiavut Government hosted an information session on the project October



4, at the Nain Nunatsiavut Government Administration building. The session provided a brief presentation of past, current and future studies completed around the project and allowed the public to ask questions pertaining to the new proposed airstrip.

The Nunatsiavut Drumdancers performed for Royalty

The Nunatsiavut Drumdancers performed for Prince Charles and Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall, (now King and Queen Consort), at the Heart Garden ceremony at Government House in St. John's for the Royal couple's visit to Newfoundland and Labrador this past summer. The ceremony was a tribute to survivors of residential schools and the injustices faced by the Indigenous Peoples of Newfoundland and Labrador. Nunatsiavut Drumdancers (left to right): Nicole Dicker, Matthew Okkuatsiak, Joan-Audrey Chaeleandley Obed.



Imappivut Nunatsiavut Marine Plan feasibility study and community information sessions update

A feasibility study is ongoing for the Imappivut (Our Oceans): A Nunatsiavut Marine Plan Initiative. This plan will recognize, protect and manage Labrador Inuit interests in the coastal and marine areas of northern Labrador. The Torngat Area of Interest (T-AOI) is part of this plan and the focus is the marine area adjacent to Torngat Mountains National Park, called the Torngat Area of Interest (TAOI). In 2017, a statement of intent was signed between the Government of Canada and the Nunatsiavut Government to support the work of Imappivut. The launch of the feasibility assessment to consider the establishment of an Indigenous Protected Area took place in 2019.

On February 23, Nunatsiavut President Johannes Lampe and the Steven Guilbeault, federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change and Minister responsible for Parks Canada, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to support the continued commitment to complete a feasibility assessment.

The Nunatsiavut Government, in partnership with Parks Canada, is undertaking a feasibility assessment to consider the establishment of an Inuit Protected Area under the Canada National Marine Conservation Areas Act.

The Inuit Protected Area would represent the Labrador Shelf Marine Region, which includes a transition between Arctic and Atlantic habitats and communities ranging from

highly-scenic fjords to long beaches and mudflats. The area encompasses a variety of marine species and important concentrations of breeding and migrating seabirds and waterfowl and is the homeland of Labrador Inuit.

The Nunatsiavut Government held community engagement sessions from September 22 - 29, 2022 in each of the Labrador Inuit communities as well as North West River, to provide information on the Feasibility Assessment process. The sessions also served as an opportunity for communities to provide opinions about past, current, and future use of the Torngat-AOI study area and express suggestions, ideas, or concerns about the Torngat-AOI study area and its protection.



Steven Guilbeault, federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change and Minister Responsible for Parks Canada, and Nunatsiavut President Johannes Lampe signing the Memorandum of Understanding.

Funding provided for high-speed internet

Over \$22 million in funding to bring high-speed Internet to the north coast of Labrador was announced on March 24. The federal Department of Innovation, Science, and Economic Development is funding the project through the Universal Broadband Fund. The funding is allocated to the Nunatsiavut Government for the initiative, which will benefit more than 1,000 households in Rigolet, Postville, Makkovik, Nain, Hopedale and Natuashish.

The Universal Broadband Fund is a \$2.75 billion initiative aimed at providing high-speed internet to rural areas across Canada. Secure internet connection will ensure that Labrador Inuit have adequate access to opportunities for employment, health care and online learning.

Labrador MP Yvonne Jones announced the funding at an event in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. Gerald Asivak, Minister of Health and Social Development for the Nunatsiavut Government, hosted the event, and Anthony Andersen, the previous Minister of Finance, Human Resources, and Information Technology for the Nunatsiavut Government gave an address.



Right- Anthony Andersen, the former Nunatsiavut Minister of Finance, Human Resources, and Information Technology gave an address at the media event.

Left - Nunatsiavut Minister of Health and Social Development, Gerald Asivak, hosted the event in Happy Valley-Goose Bay.

ITK Board, AGM delegates meet in Kuujjuaq

Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami's Board of Directors met in Kuujjuaq on Sept. 27. That meeting was followed by ITK's Annual General Meeting Sept. 28 and 29.

The ITK Board approved the Implementation Plan for the Inuit Nunangat Food Security Strategy released in July 2021. The implementation plan identifies deliverables to address the actions outlined in the Strategy which aims to improve food security and establish a sustainable food system across Inuit Nunangat.

The Board discussed the cost and options for the design and delivery of an Inuit Nunangat-wide school food program, a priority of the Inuit Nunangat Food Security Strategy. Funding for both the implementation plan and an Inuit Nunangat school food program are included in ITK's 2023 federal government pre-budget submission.

The Board also discussed options for the development of an Inuit equivalent to Jordan's Principle in collaboration with Indigenous Services Canada.

The Board approved a plan to allocate \$23 million in Indigenous languages component Inuit-specific funding using ITK's regional general funding formula for 2023-24. The Inuit-specific component had previously been administered by Heritage Canada.

The Board discussed ways to advance Inuit K-12 education priorities, and passed a resolution to seek meaningful partnership and Inuit-specific funding to address the 10 areas of core investment detailed in the 2011 National Strategy on Inuit Education.

The Board considered ways to create better and more Inuit-specific provisions under the Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) program to address concerns raised by Inuit within and outside Inuit Nunangat in accessing the program. Leaders proposed an Inuit-led process with the federal government and four Inuit regions to secure a formal legislative commitment to improve NIHB's mandate and delivery for Inuit, as part of the current development of distinctions-based Indigenous health legislation.

At ITK's Annual General Meeting, delegates voted in support of new research that calculates the relative length of the Inuit Nunangat coastline and landmass. The work puts the size of the Inuit Nunangat coastline and landmass at more than 72 per cent and 40 per cent respectively of Canada's total, considerably higher than previously published statistics of 50 per cent for coastline and 35 per cent for landmass.

Delegates heard updates on:

- Plans towards an Inuit Nunangat university, including the critical first steps required to achieve the mission of developing an institution in Inuit Nunangat driven by Inuit language, culture and values;
- Delivery of the Qaniuppitaa? National Inuit Health Survey; and



ITK held its Annual General Meeting in Kuujjuaq September 28-29. Nunatsiavut President Johannes Lampe, along with Health and Social Development Minister Gerald Asivak and Language, Culture and Tourism Minister Roxanne Barbour, took part in the AGM.

- ITK's Inuit Youth Leadership Program, which hired six Inuit youth participants to complete a four-month placement at ITK over the summer of 2022.

During the AGM, ITK demonstrated its new Inuktitut Qaliujaaqpait converter tool, which converts Inuktitut text in any writing system into Inuktitut Qaliujaaqpait, the unified Inuktitut orthography endorsed by the ITK Board in 2019, and from Inuktitut Qaliujaaqpait into any Inuktitut writing system. Finally, ITK released its annual report, which contains audited financial statements and an overview of the organization's work and progress being made through the Inuit Crown Partnership Committee.

ITK's 2023 AGM will be held in Nunatsiavut.

Nunatsiavut Language Strategy now available

The 2021-2026 Nunatsiavut Language Strategy, Inuttituk UKálalluta, ilinniatitsiluta, InosiKalluta!, is now available to Labrador Inuit. The strategy outlines initiatives aimed at preserving Labrador Inuktitut. The projects and investments identified in the strategy have been informed by input from the Nunatsiavut Government and Beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement.

The strategy is a collaborative effort with Labrador Inuit communities, other Nunatsiavut Government departments, and other Inuit regions to preserve, promote and protect the language.

When the strategy is fully implemented in 2026, the Nunatsiavut Government will analyze the outcomes and work with Labrador Inuit to determine the next steps.

The strategy can be found on the Nunatsiavut Government website.

Gros Morne moose harvest

The Nunatsiavut Government harvested 30 moose in Gros Morne National Park during the week of October 24. It's the tenth year for the non-profit harvest, approved by Parks Canada.

The harvest is an ongoing initiative of the Nunatsiavut Government to provide an alternate source of country food for Labrador Inuit communities, initiated following the provincial ban on harvesting George River caribou enacted in 2013.

Four Nunatsiavut Government employees travelled to Rocky Harbour, on the Northern Peninsula, and partnered with four local hunters to harvest the animals. Logistical details for the hunt are arranged in co-operation with Parks Canada staff in Rocky Harbour.

Newfoundland Helicopters was chartered to fly the hunters into remote areas of the park, where access for local residents is more difficult. This ensures that the Nunatsiavut Government harvest has a minimal impact on local hunters.

The meat from the hunt is professionally butchered and vacuum-sealed before transport to Happy Valley-Goose Bay, where it is held in cold storage for shipment to the Inuit communities. Distribution is decided by population and is provided to Inuit residing in Nain, Hopedale, Postville, Makkovik, and Rigolet, as well as to the Inuit Community Corporations in Happy Valley-Goose Bay/Mud Lake and North West River.

The Nunatsiavut Government appreciates those who supported this project again this year.



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

September 30, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, serves to recognize and honour residential schools survivors and to raise awareness of the tragic legacy of residential schools.

Beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement were encouraged to wear orange in observance of the national holiday, also known as Orange Shirt Day, inspired by the story of First Nations author Phillis Webstad, who had her clothes, including her new orange shirt, stripped from her on her first day attending residential school when she was six-years old.

The Nunatsiavut Government held National Day for Truth and Reconciliation events in each Labrador Inuit community, as well as in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. Nunatsiavut Government buildings within the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area were also lit up with orange lights to commemorate the day.



Qanuippitaa? National Inuit Health Survey

The Nunatsiavut branch of the Qanuippitaa? National Inuit Health Survey (QNIHS) officially launched at the Illusuak Cultural Center in Nain on June 23. Data collection officially began on October 6 in Hopedale. The kick-off of the survey was celebrated with a community feast and meet and greet. The survey will be conducted in each Labrador Inuit Community throughout the month of October. The Qanuippitaa? National Inuit Health Survey is the first survey of its kind to be completely owned, led, and determined by Inuit.

The Qanuippitaa? National Inuit Health survey is a permanent health research program, which will gather data in the areas of health, wellness, and health services for Inuit. Inuit ownership of the data collected ensures that it will be used to inform decision-making at the national, regional, and community levels.

The survey will include Inuit of all ages, from every community in Inuit Nunangat. The questions asked in the survey will be informed by Inuit knowledge, values, and worldview. This groundbreaking approach to Inuit health research will create an indispensable evidence base that accurately reflects the unique needs of all Inuit.

Data will be gathered every five years, allowing the

Nunatsiavut Government to monitor important health and wellness indicators for Nunatsiavut communities. This permanent survey will foster meaningful and ongoing opportunities for the involvement of Inuit in health research initiatives and enhance Nunatsiavut's regional research capacity.

Participation is voluntary - participants are selected randomly based on the survey's demographic requirements. Participation is an excellent opportunity for Inuit to have their voices heard on what matters to them in the areas of health, wellness, and health services.

The launch for the QNIHS in Nain was an informative event that celebrated this innovation in Inuit health research. Nunatsiavut President Johannes Lampe and Minister of Health and Social Development, Gerald Asivak, both spoke about the impact this survey will have for the health and wellness of Inuit in Nunatsiavut. The QNIHS promotional videos also debuted - they are now available to view on the Nunatsiavut Government's YouTube channel, Instagram and Facebook pages, and the QNIHS page on the Nunatsiavut Government website.

To learn more about the Qanuippitaa? National Inuit Health Survey, visit: www.nunatsiavut.com/qnihs



A promotional image for the Qanuippitaa? National Inuit Health Survey featuring Nain AngajukKâk, Joe Dicker.



Janine Lightfoot (Inuit Health Survey Manager), Gerald Asivak (Minister for Health and Social Development) and Nunatsiavut President Lampe at the QNIHS launch event at the Illusuak Cultural Centre in Nain.

Introduction to Tourism in Nunatsiavut online course launched

The Nunatsiavut Government's Tourism Division has launched an online Introduction to Tourism in Nunatsiavut course. The 45-minute course was created to help community members gain a better understanding of tourism development within Nunatsiavut.

The course was developed using a blended format of self-pace, coaching and support to the Division of Tourism team to build their skills and confidence with the content

knowledge, and ultimately provide support to industry colleagues and partners.

The course is designed to help all community partners, such as Inuit community government staff, hotel staff, museum committee members, experience providers, and others interested in being involved in tourism. It is also hoped that community partners and members can gain a better understanding of tourism development in Nunatsiavut.

RCN Affiliation Ceremony

The Nunatsiavut Government and Royal Canadian Navy Forge Ties Through Affiliation Ceremony

A Northern Affiliation Ceremony was held between the Nunatsiavut Government and HMCS Margaret Brooke on September 21 in Hopedale, NL. This event marked the second Northern Affiliation between an Arctic and Offshore Patrol Ship and the Inuit-Nunangat regions.

The event included a Kullik lighting ceremony, a cultural performance, and remarks by key representatives of the Nunatsiavut Government and members of the Royal Canadian Navy serving in HMCS Margaret Brooke.

The affiliation between the Nunatsiavut Government and the HMCS Margaret Brooke fosters connections and relationships between the community and the associated ship, its crew and Command Teams. Throughout the next several years, the RCN and the Nunatsiavut Government will collaborate during routine operations.



The HMCS Margaret Brooke

Nunatsiavut Government employees recognized

The Nunatsiavut Government is extending congratulations to two employees who have been recognized for their contributions to the mining and energy sectors.

Jamie Hewlett, Regional Energy Coordinator, is the recipient of a 2022 Luminary Award (Partnership Award) presented by Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro and Newfoundland Power. As a key ally in Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro's work with Labrador Inuit communities, Jamie helps deliver projects and programs that not only save energy, but also suit the needs of the communities where they operate. The Partnership Award recognizes the outstanding delivery of energy efficiency solutions, services or education by an organization, individual or not-for-profit.

Claude Sheppard, Director of Non-Renewable Resources, is the recipient of the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM) Newfoundland and Labrador - 2022 Geoscientist of the Year Award. Winners are determined by the Awards Committee and are announced as part of the Mineral Resources Review conference, which took place in St. John's in early November.

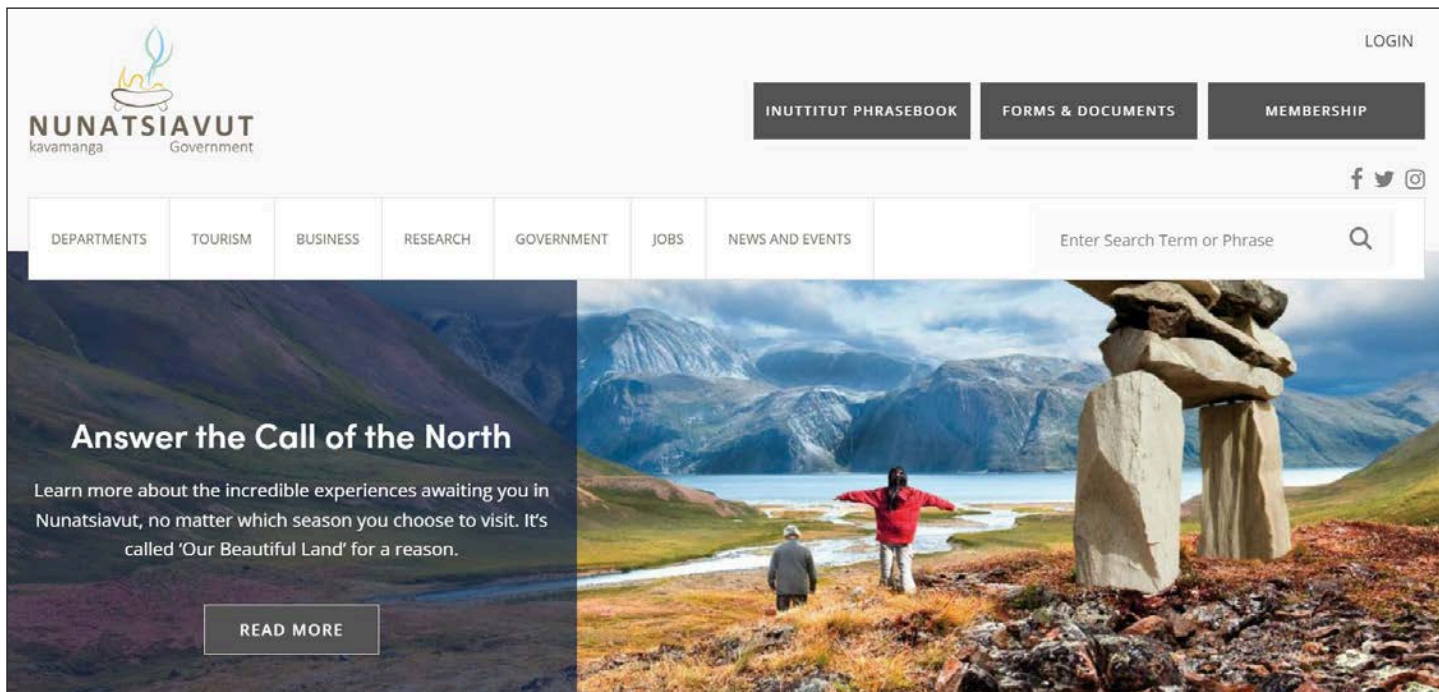
Announcement on pre-feasibility study for road link to northern Labrador welcomed news

First Minister Melva Williams says she welcomes this week's joint provincial/federal announcement to conduct a pre-feasibility study into a road connecting Labrador Inuit communities and the Innu community of Natuashish to the rest of Labrador.

"The Nunatsiavut Government has been lobbying for well over a decade to have this study completed, with the goal of determining potential environmental, cultural, economic and social impacts and benefits on and to our communities," notes Minister Williams. "We would expect a comprehensive consultation process to take place with the Nunatsiavut Government, as well as at the community level, before any firm decisions are made to move forward with connecting our region by road to the rest of Labrador."

The \$400,000 study is being cost-shared on a 50-50 basis between the federal and provincial governments under the National Trade Corridors Fund, which provides funding for projects, such as research, in the Arctic and the North to support northern transportation infrastructure like ports, airports, all-season roads, and bridges.

New Nunatsiavut Government website is now live



The home page of the new Nunatsiavut Government Website – www.nunatsiavut.com

The Nunatsiavut Government has released its new and improved website. This website is an amalgamation of all of the previous websites for Nunatsiavut departments and initiatives. This site also has brand new information and resources for Nunatsiavut Beneficiaries, residents, and all of those looking to learn more about the region and self-government.

All necessary resources for Beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement are available on the new Nunatsiavut Government website. The required forms and documents are provided on their respective departments' pages. Contact info for Nunatsiavut Government Departments is available as well.

The News and Events section of the Nunatsiavut Government website is a hub for updates on important information related to the Nunatsiavut Government. The web page is organized in to three sections for easy navigation; Media Releases and Public Notices, Requests for Proposals, and 'Tugapvik Nunatsiavut'.

The Elected Officials and Nunatsiavut Assembly pages are the places to go for information on the elected officials in Nunatsiavut. These pages also provide resources for

Legislation in Nunatsiavut and an audio feed to listen to Nunatsiavut Assembly sittings live as they take place.

The Tourism section of the new website is an updated version of the previous Nunatsiavut Tourism website. It has all of the necessary information to plan and execute your visit to Nunatsiavut. The site provides info on logistics, accommodations and frequently asked questions related to travel to Nunatsiavut. It also highlights the tourist attractions, destinations, and cultural experiences that are essential for your visit.

There are many language and cultural resources to avail of on the Language, Culture, and Tourism page on the new website. Check out the Introduction to Inuktitut Lessons video series and the Nunatsiavut Stories section to avail of invaluable cultural resources and knowledge that have never been more accessible.

The new Nunatsiavut website also features pages for Business, Research, Jobs, and much more. Take a look at www.nunatsiavut.com to learn more about our new and improved web platform.

Help with filing income tax returns

The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) wants to help make it easier for individuals to file a tax return. There are Individual Tax Filing Assistance agents available to help eligible individuals do their taxes over the phone.

Individual Tax Filing Assistance agents can be reached by calling 1-833-995-2341, Monday-Friday, 8:00-4:00 local time. This service will be available until December 23, 2022.

The CRA agents will only ask for the information they need to do an individual's taxes. They will not ask for a credit card number, health information, money or payments.

If individuals would prefer to do their taxes on their own, they can visit the CRA website for options: canada.ca/ways-to-do-taxes.