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NUNAVUT  
KAVAMAT

GOVERNMENT OF  
NUNAVUT

GOUVERNEMENT DU  
NUNAVUT

**Thank you for considering employment with the Government Of Nunavut!**

We understand that you have an important decision to make – a decision that will be made more effectively with clear, complete information.

This newsletter provides sample insights into living and working in Nunavut (“our land” in Inuktitut).

All the best in your decision, and if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at 1-867-645-3072.

*The Kivalliq Regional Human Resources Office.*

## Nunavut – A New Government, A New Vision

On April 1, 1999, Canada’s geographical and political map changed and a new jurisdiction, Nunavut, was created. Nunavut (NU) was formed from the eastern part of the Northwest Territories and was officially named Canada’s third territory.

Nunavut is the realization of more than 20 years of negotiations and planning by the Inuit of the Eastern and Central Arctic. Under the 1993 Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, Inuit received from the Federal Government a settlement of \$1.1 billion to be paid in annual installments until 2007. Inuit also gained control of about 356,000 square kilometers of land (about 18% of Canada) of which nearly 38,000 square kilometers include title to subsurface (mineral) rights.



The Agreement also gave Inuit the right to self-government and self-determination. While Inuit comprise 85% of the population in Nunavut, they have chosen to pursue their aspirations of self-determination through a public government structure rather than through Inuit-specific self-government arrangements. Nunavut is governed through a public government framework that represents all residents, Inuit and non-Inuit alike.

The Nunavut public government system includes an elected Legislative Assembly, consisting of a Speaker, Premier, a seven-member Cabinet and 10 regular Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLA). The system also includes the Nunavut Public Service (which you are joining), and the single-level trial court.

While Nunavut has the same status and powers as the Northwest Territories and Yukon Territory, it also operates in a way unique from any other jurisdiction in Canada. For example, Nunavut incorporates Inuit values and beliefs into a contemporary system of government. Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtun, English and French are currently used within the Government. The goal is to have Inuktitut as the working language of the Government of Nunavut by 2020.

The Government of Nunavut (GN) is based on a decentralized model that would see its departments located in 10 communities outside the capital of Iqaluit. While all departments will be headquartered in Iqaluit, there are regional offices in various communities in each of Nunavut’s three regions: Qikiqtaaluk (Baffin), Kivalliq (Keewatin), and Kitikmeot. Staffing functions are divided between all regions.



## FAQ

**What is a typical day in the Government?**

Hours of Work – 8:30 to 5 pm  
Many take lunch from 12 to 1 pm

**What are the pay periods?**

Employees are paid on a bi-weekly basis. There is a hold back on the first two weeks.

**What is a Priority Hiring Policy?**

The Government of Nunavut wants to create a representative workforce so it can better understand and serve the needs of Nunavummiut. Priority will be given to Nunavut Land Claims Beneficiaries.

## ON THE MOVE?

The Government offers relocation assistance to employees and their dependents on initial hire. Once your start date is confirmed, our Removal Coordinator will contact you to arrange and handle the move. This means we hire a mover to pack your personal belongings and ship them to your new place of employment. We also make and pay your travel arrangements to get you here, such as your flight and hotel. You will be responsible to pay for the insurance on your effects. As your personal belongings will be flown, you are allocated a weight limit. This is based on your number of dependents and your accommodation status.



If your position is eligible for staff housing you will receive a housing application with your letter of offer and furnished housing may be provided to you as part of your employment. Units vary greatly in size and quality. Rents vary too, and are currently calculated on a square footage basis. If you decide to live in GN subsidized housing, your rent will be deducted directly from your pay cheque.

You would be required to sign a standard lease with a rental agent. You would also arrange for the payment of electricity with Nunavut Power Corporation. Electrical voltage is the same as in Southern Canada. Currently, fuel costs for heating are included in the rent. Apartments are equipped with refrigerators and stoves. Laundry facilities will be available, either in the unit or in the building.

## Price of Life in the North

The average cost of living in the North is 60% higher than in Southern Canada.

*Here are some average prices you would pay:*

<b>Return Flight to Winnipeg</b>	\$1400
<b>4L Milk</b>	\$15
<b>Bread</b>	\$3.99
<b>Basic Cable</b>	\$65
<b>Basic Phone</b>	\$30
plus hook-up fees	



The colours, blue and gold, symbolize the riches of the land, sea and sky. Red is the reference to Canada.

The *inuksuk* symbolizes the stone monuments, which guide the people on the land and mark sacred places.

The star is the *Nikittuittuq*, the North Star, and the traditional guide for navigation and more broadly, forever remains unchanged as the leadership of the elders in the community.

## Things to Do

- Activities vary in each community. Outdoor activities are very common, such as snowmobiling, ice fishing and angling. Otherwise, here are some other things available to do...
- ✓ Clubs
- Membership to Clubs - the Royal Canadian Legion
- ✓ Community Events
- Pakallak Tyme Festival celebrates Hamlet Days. Other celebrations are held for Nunavut Day (July 9), Canada Day, and Arctic Winter Games. Summer Day Camps are available for school age children. Craft Sales are held throughout the year in some communities.
- ✓ Daycare
- There are various daycare facilities in each of our 7 communities.
- ✓ Library
- Some of our communities have local libraries.
- ✓ Places of Worship
- The Anglican, Roman Catholic, and Pentecostal churches all have places of worship in Rankin Inlet.
- ✓ Recreation
- The Municipality provides activities such as curling, hockey, swimming, volleyball, badminton, and skating.

## FAQ



### Is there internet access?

There is access to the internet at home in most communities.

### How does Nunavut Health Care work?

After 3 months, you can complete an application for your health card. Application forms are available at the hospital and your local GN Human Resources office

### How much does a cab cost?

Average is \$5.00 per person, but all communities vary in their fees. Don't be surprised to share the ride with others.

### How often do planes fly to Rankin Inlet?

Three times a week to/from Ottawa (through Iqaluit) and everyday to/from Winnipeg.