



## News Release

### Nunavut joins Vancouver 2010 Team as a contributing Territory

**Iqaluit, Nunavut (July 8, 2009)** – With only seven months to go until the Opening Ceremonies for the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games, Nunavut has joined in the excitement. The territory's unique culture will be showcased to a global audience during the games as part of a partnership agreement signed with the Olympic organizing committee while also contributing directly to the success of the Canadian Olympic Team.

The spirit of the Olympic and Paralympic Games was alive today as Premier Eva Aariak and Economic Development & Transportation Minister Peter Taptuna joined Taleeb Noormohamed, Director Corporate Strategy and Partner Relations for the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (VANOC), to announce that Nunavut has joined VANOC's Contributing Province/Territory Program (CPTP).

"I'm pleased that Nunavut will be a contributing partner at the 2010 Olympic Winter Games," said Premier Eva Aariak. "Our contribution will ensure we will be able to showcase our arts and culture during the Vancouver 2010 Cultural Olympiad. Nunavummiut will support the staging of the games and will be especially proud when the Olympic torch comes through our territory on November 5, 2009."

"We want to thank Nunavut for contributing to the success of our Canadian athletes and for showing a commitment to our project," said John Furlong, Chief Executive Officer VANOC. "The territory has a rich geography and unique traditions fostered in local arts and culture - we look forward to using this spectacular celebration to highlight Nunavut to the world."

Of the \$168 thousand dollar investment from Nunavut, \$84,000 will go toward the Own the Podium 2010 program, which supports Canadian athletes in their preparation for the games, and \$84,000 will be dedicated to ensuring the territory takes full advantage of a wide range of benefits associated with the VANOC partnership.

"We are proud that Nunavut will be a participant in the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games and its historic torch relay," added Minister Peter Taptuna. "The Olympic Torch will travel 6,630 kilometers by land and water in our territory, involve 90 torchbearers and visit three communities, including Iqaluit, Resolute and my hometown of Kugluktuk. The torch will also be in Canadian Forces Station Alert, the most northern permanent settlement in the world."

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