



## **Makivik Corporation celebrates with the Nuvummi Landholding Corporation of Ivujivik**

**July 20, 2015-Ivujivik, Québec-** It's a historic day for the community of Ivujivik and the people of Nunavik: 40 years after the signing of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA), Inuit of Ivujivik are now the owners of Category I lands that will be regulated by Inuit own Nuvummi Landholding Corporation. In addition to Category I lands, Ivujivimmiut have also selected Category II lands where Inuit have, among other things, exclusive hunting and fishing rights.

To mark the occasion, Makivik President Jobie Tukkiapik and members of its executive are in Ivujivik taking part in a special ceremony. They are accompanied by Quebec's Aboriginal Affairs Minister Geoffrey Kelley and Jean Boucher MNA for the riding.

Up until recently the people of Ivujivik were not subject to controlling lands like other communities in Nunavik. That's because in 1975 the communities of Ivujivik and Puvirnituuq decided not to join the JBNQA because, among other things, they did not agree with the extinguishment clause found in the agreement.

However in 2006 a referendum in Ivujivik changed all that where the Inuit voted overwhelmingly for change and a land selection committee with the participation of regional Inuit organizations and the Quebec Government began the work of making the land selections into reality.

Letter patents to transfer the selected Category I lands under the ownership of Nuvummi Landholding Corporation were signed last June 10. In addition, work towards the transfer of the land leases held by Quebec's Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources is on going.

Adamie Kalingo, the President of Nuvummi Landholding Corporation says it's an exciting change for his community and there's a lot of work ahead.

“It’s a new era and circumstances changed and evolved and so has the community and my people as we take this new day with a lot of hope for our community,” says Mr Kalingo.

The President of Makivik Corporation, Jobie Tukkiapik is just as enthusiastic. “As we celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the James Bay and Northern Quebec agreement, the community of Ivujivik’s decision to work with our agreement couldn’t have come at a better time. Makivik has worked closely with the Inuit of Ivujivik for many years and the recognition of their land title is a testimony of that”

George Peters, the President of the Nunavik Landholding Corporations Association, mentioned: “Today is welcomed news and I look forward to working with Nuvummi to further our work on Nunavik Inuit owned lands. Their contribution to our regional association will be greatly appreciated.”

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