June 2024 Volume 9 Number 2

NGC News

Quarterly newsletter of the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies



Just weeks after being appointed as NGC's new President and CEO, Garry Best travelled to Nunatsiavut in mid-June, meeting with President Lampe, First Minister Williams, Ministers Barbour and Dicker, as well as AngajukKak Dicker, senior high school students, and community members. Best was accompanied by NGC COO Sarah Leo and Executive Assistant Janice White. It was an opportunity for people to meet the new President and for Best to discuss NGC's operations.

"I shared my vision as the newly appointed President and CEO and also got to hear from each of the elected representatives - their ideas, issues, and concerns," says Best. "We talked about the positive impact NGC is making across the region, including with job and scholarship opportunities, Nain quarry operations, updates on construction projects, and the activities of our various partnerships."

POSTVILLE VISIT TO BE RESCHEDULED

The trip to Nain followed what would have been a community visit to Postville. However, that event was postponed because of weather.

"I reached out to the leadership and committed to return to Postville at a mutually agreed time later this year," says Best.

Best is especially intent on meeting north coast Beneficiaries in their communities.

"It is deeply important to me and my team to connect, listen, and learn from community members throughout Nunatsiavut, and indeed all Beneficiaries," he says. "I look forward to meeting all of the AngajukKaks during my passage through Nunatsiavut on the *Kamutik W* in early July."

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NGC President Visits Nain cont'd...





Left, Garry Best discusses scholarship and career opportunities with high school students at Jens Haven Memorial School in Nain. Right, COO Sarah Leo joins Garry as they discuss NGC with Nain residents during a lunchtime open house in mid-June. (Photos: Janice White)

PREVIOUS CAREER EXPERIENCE AN ASSET

Best is an engineering graduate from Memorial University. That background, and his career path, including his previous role as Chair of the Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust, will be assets as he assumes his role with NGC.

"My previous careers in both the Canadian Forces and the federal public service provided me with many leadership and management opportunities," he says. "I learned the meaning and importance of service to Canadians, environmental stewardship, teamwork, trust,

respect, and achieving successful results."

OUTLINES PRIORITIES

Best has a list of priorities to guide NGC toward the successful results that he wants to achieve.

"We must further strengthen the organization, so that with the support of the Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust, we can effectively tackle both existing and future challenges, explore and successfully exploit new business opportunities, increase our outreach to Beneficiaries, and build on NGC's strong financial foundation."

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Base Camp to Open on July 24



Air Borealis and NGC Solutions Inc. will again jointly operate Torngat Mountains Base Camp in 2024. Guests will be arriving on July 24 and the season will continue until September 4.

"The focus this year will be on researchers from Canadian universities, the Nunatsiavut Government, and tourists," says Air Borealis VP and Executive-in-Charge Philip Earle.



It is an honour and privilege to have been asked to join the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies as President and CEO. This is a dream come true for any Nunatsiavut Beneficiary. I am passionate about making a very positive difference as I take on this important role.

My first several weeks on the job have been exhilarating, exhausting, and fun! I've met staff in their workplaces across the organization, including joining them for a day of First Aid training. I've talked with stakeholders and partners, attended a number of Board meetings locally and across the country, and visited and discussed our business with Nunatsiavut leaders and community members. I have represented NGC at gatherings in Ottawa, Montreal, and St John's. And after several decades of living and working away, I've been able to catch up with family and friends here at home in Labrador.

There are significant responsibilities associated with this position, but I am confident that with the support of the Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust and the dedicated team members across Team NGC, we will continue to create wealth in trust for Nunatsiavut Beneficiaries. We will accomplish this by owning and growing profitable and sustainable businesses and working with successful partners who share our core values and respect for our beautiful home.

I'm proud that all of NGC's businesses - wholly owned as well as our majority and minority partnership entities - are providing invaluable

Message from the President and CEO

services and community contributions which directly benefit the communities that we serve and the Region as a whole. We do this through the jobs that we create, our commitment to buy local where that is possible, and our investments to prepare NGC for future growth. NGC is in a strong cash position and the future has never been brighter.

My predecessor, Chris Webb, and the entire NGC leadership team have built a solid core of professionals, from seasoned managers to the newest hires, including many Beneficiaries. In my first few weeks in this position, I have found all of them an absolute joy to work with. I am continuously listening and learning. Leadership is demonstrated at all levels of our organization, and I have so much to learn from all of them.

NGC is proud of its many business partnerships. It is critically important to foster, maintain, and strengthen those partnerships, including with Torngait Services Inc., Air Borealis, Innu Development Limited Partnership, Pan Arctic Inuit Logistics, Integrated Nunatsiavut Logistics, and our Vale mining partners. Early engagement with our partners lays the foundation for trusting and respectful relationships. This helps grow our company and it offers opportunities to share both NGC's vision and the excellent work that we do here in Labrador. Networking and collaboration is especially key for me as I am still in the discovery phase of my new role.

Fundamentally, though, we are in business for Beneficiaries, and we must always keep them at the heart of what we do. That means providing employment and economic opportunities, and ensuring that our organization is Inuit led.

I will keep you up to date on our progress.

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Garry



NMI GM Gary Latimer Honoured for 10 Years of Service

Nunatsiavut Marine Inc. General Manager Gary Latimer was honoured on June 2 for 10 years of service. He was presented with his service award by NGC President and CEO Garry Best.

As well as overseeing the day-to-day operations of NMI, Latimer is also a member of NGC's leadership team and sits on the board of Integrated Nunatsiavut Logistics.

Gary is a graduate of the Canadian Coast Guard College in Sydney, Nova Scotia. Prior to joining NMI as Fleet Manager in 2014, Gary worked with Irving Shipbuilding and Marine Atlantic Inc.

NCI Begins Year 2 of Labrador West Crushing Project





NCI returned to Labrador City in late May to begin the second year of a project to crush stone for a client. More than 100,000 tons will be produced during the project. (NCI Photos)

TSI employees at Voisey's Bay again honoured their former colleague, Terry Elliott, with the annual Memorial Darts Tournament. Terry Elliott passed away in July 2012.



TSI employees gather for the opening ceremony.



(L-R) 2023 winners Brian Park and Anthony Shea, runner-up Wayne Keefe, organizer Barry Anderson, and runner-up Martin Nochasak.

Training Program is Major Success Story for TSI on Vale Project



Webb, Curtis Dicker, Devon Wolfrey, Jacob Edmunds, and Harvey Jacque. (TSI photos)

TSI's training program at the Vale site, now into its seventh year, continues to provide Beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement with valuable training opportunities, paving the way for many to progress in their career.

"The training program has been a major boost to Beneficiaries," says TSI General Manager Wyman Jacque. "We started the program when the underground expansion project got underway. We knew then that the mining operation would provide career opportunities. We were determined that Beneficiaries should get the chance to train for those future jobs. This is happening and everyone is proud of that. Vale has been a big supporter of this program."

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(L) Curtis Dicker, cube van baggage handler for underground support and (R) Devon Wolfrey on 966M loader. Training has allowed Beneficiaries to take advantage of new opportunities.

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TSI Training cont'd...

TSI TRAINING AT VALE SITE

(2018)

3466 TOTAL HOURS

1887 classroom hours 1579 equipment hours

2019

6669 TOTAL HOURS

4076 classroom hours 2593 equipment hours

2020

7512 TOTAL HOURS

4792 equipment hours 2720 classroom hours

2021

11,015 TOTAL HOURS

6122 equipment hours 4893 classroom hours

(2022)

9746 TOTAL HOURS

5027 equipment hours 4719 classroom hours

2023

8872 TOTAL HOURS

4835 equipment hours 4037 classroom hours



3746 TOTAL HOURS

2507 equipment hours 1239 classroom hours

*TO APRIL 2024



CLASSROOM AND HANDS-ON TRAINING

The training program provides a mix of classroom instruction and "seat time" on the various pieces of heavy equipment and trucks on the Vale site. Since 2018, and to the end of April this year, the program has provided 51,026 total hours of training, made up of 27,455 hours of equipment training and 23,571 hours of classroom training.

"The Impact Benefits Agreement with the Nunatsiavut Government specified that Inuit were to have employment and training opportunities," says Jacque. "The interest among Beneficiaries in accessing this training is to be commended, and so is the work of people like Barry Anderson, our Heavy Equipment and classroom trainer. This program is a huge success."





Top, Zack Obed; receiving his general site drivers' permit from NG trainer Barry Anderson. Bottom left, William Flowers with skid steer designation, and right, Robert (Bud) Mitchell with fuel truck, site-wide designation.



Jeremy Diamond wakes up each morning thinking about safety. Specifically, about keeping other people safe. As Safety Consultant to NGC and through his work with other companies, Diamond teaches employees to practice safety. Not just for once. But for every minute that they're on the job.

"There's a natural tendency for people to take things for granted," he says. "The idea that I will only do this thing once and nothing will happen to me. It's a fact that complacency is at the root of most incidents. By making safety an essential and everyday part of the workplace, you begin to develop a workplace safety culture. People get home safely at the end of the day."

Safety wasn't always top of mind for Diamond.

"I got into the workforce at a young age as a heavy equipment operator," he says. "I worked with some small contractors where there wasn't much of safety culture and you figured things out as you went. When I look back at some of the things I did, I think about how lucky I was to come out unharmed."

CAREER CHANGE TO SAFETY TRAINING

Diamond's career took a major change after he signed on as a volunteer with the local fire department in his hometown of Flower's Cove on the Northern Peninsula. He's now Fire Chief.

"As a firefighter, you see a lot of unpleasant things. Good safety practices could prevent many tragedies. I saw a lot that made me think that a career in safety training would be an asset in my role as a firefighter and in the workplace. I'm now a Workplace NL certified trainer and I teach legislated courses, mostly in Labrador."





Training is a combination of classroom sessions and hands-on activities such as learning the correct way to set up a safety harness.



SAFETY COURSES FOR NMI AND NCI

In the first week of May, Diamond was in Happy Valley-Goose Bay putting on courses in areas such as Powerline Safety, First Aid, Fall Protection, Occupational Health and Safety, and Counterbalance Forklift Training for returning NMI and NCI employees.

"It's important to do this type of training at the start of the season because people have been away from the daily demands of the job for a few months," he says. "Annual training is as important for returning employees as it is for new staff. Everyone can do with a refresher."

NGC'S COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

Diamond had worked previously as Safety Coordinator onsite with TSI at Voisey's Bay. "I knew Mike Evoy well (NGC HR Manager) and once I met him and Chris Webb, I got to know that safety is NGC's number one priority. When you get that message from the CEO and the HR Manager, you know you're in the right place."

Diamond says corporate buy-in is the key to entrenching a company-wide safety culture.

"When employees know that the company cares and is committed to safety, that makes a huge difference. It helps people understand that safety is something that their employer values. That promotes buy-in and engagement on the part of employees. And it makes for a safe workplace. That's something that everyone values."



Tips on Working Safely in Hot Weather

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The marine terminal at the Port of Goose Bay was a busy spot on Sunday afternoon, June 16. The *Kamutik W* had arrived in port from dry dock and by 6:30 PM, NMI shoreside crew had loaded the vessel and it was off to ports north. NMI Operations Manager Dwayne Canning snapped several photos as the crew got the freight and cargo onboard for the first trip of 2024.















Top, a refrigerated container containing perishable food is loaded. Groceries and wheeled vehicles comprised a significant part of the cargo loaded at Goose Bay. Bottom left, goods are containerized, making for efficient use of deck space and protection for cargo. Bottom right, NMI Operations Manager Dwayne Canning and Sherry Burdett, Customer Service/Admin. Manager.



An NCI tractor trailer leaves Quebec with a dump truck that the company will use at its operations in Hopedale this year. The truck is one of several capital purchases that NCI is making in 2024, as it renews its vehicle and heavy equipment fleet. (Nelson Brown photo)

Nunatsiavut Construction Inc. (NCI) took delivery of two trucks and a telehandler this spring, as preparations ramp up for the 2024 season. The telehandler is a shared purchase between NCI and Nunatsiavut Marine Inc. (NMI) and will be used to assist in marine operations and construction activities in Nain.

NCI will put the dump truck into service at Hopedale to transport material to its various projects. A tractor trailer will be used at NCI's operations in Nain.

The acquisitions are part of a capital investment program to expand the company's operations and to replace equipment that is past its lifecycle.

NCI's fleet of trucks and road tractors has also been instrumental in landing contracts such as one to transport a drill for work that is taking place in Sheshatshiu.



Left, an NCI tractor trailer ferries a drill rig from Labrador City to a project in Sheshatshiu. (Photo: Nelson Brown) Centre, a tractor trailer that will be utilized at the company's operations in Nain. Right, a telehandler jointly purchased by NCI and NMI, to be used in Nain. (Photos: Steve Saunders)



Since 2005, TSI has been site services provider for Vale at the company's nickel and cobalt mine at Voisey's Bay. TSI is responsible for facilities operation and maintenance, including operation of the port, solid waste and sewage management, and provision of transportation and airfield support.

At the end of May 2024, there were 279 TSI employees on site providing vital services to Vale as the company works toward completing the underground mine expansion project.







Left, crane operators, riggers, and truck drivers were involved in lifting a conveyor gallery for the Reid Brook conveyor system. Centre, a TSI crew assists in unloading equipment for the expansion project from an aircraft. Right, heavy equipment operators sort ore prior to the ore being sent to the crusher.

Air Borealis Prepares for Another Busy Outfitting and Mineral Exploration Season





Air Borealis Aircraft Maintenance Technicians prepare a Twin Otter for the upcoming outfitting and mineral exploration season, at Otter Creek. Right, Air Borealis attended the Newfoundland and Labrador Outfitters Outdoor Show at Gander in April. (Air Borealis photos)

Air Borealis Vice President and Executive-in-Charge Philip Earle anticipates an active season in the resurgent Labrador mineral exploration field and in the outfitting business.

"We know from the people who operate outfitting camps that they have a lot of returning guests this year," says Earle. "So, we expect to be doing a lot of flying between Goose Bay and the great fishing on Labrador rivers."

The province continues to see the impact of the national trend toward increased mineral exploration, and that is also the case in Labrador. Air Borealis logged considerable flying hours in support of exploration in 2023 and expects to do the same this year.

"There will be more activity in the area around Hopedale," says Earle. "And we expect to be part of that as it continues through the summer."



Air Borealis Hosts Nunatsiavut Grade 9 Students on Career Trip

Nunatsiavut Grade 9 students got a closeup look at the Twin Otter and heard about its flying capability and maintenance from two Beneficiaries who play key roles in the operation, during the annual career trip to employers and institutions in Upper Lake Melville in May. NGC also presented to the students.

Air Borealis First Officer (pilot) Mandy Smith and Aircraft Maintenance Technician Jamie Baikie talked with the students about the many career paths in aviation and how they could pursue those opportunities in Labrador.

The annual trip is sponsored by the Nunatsiavut Department of Education.

First Officer Mandy Smith (right) and AME Jamie Baikie showcase and explain the inner workings of a Twin Otter Aircraft to Nunatsiavut Grade 9 students. (Air Borealis photo)



NGC is committed to providing information to Beneficiary youth regarding our business lines and our group's many available career paths.

We've been part of several events so far this year where we networked and spread the word with potential future NGC employees.

On April 11, NGC attended a Career Fair through the Labrador North Chamber of Commerce, where we highlighted our companies. We chatted with students and members of the general public.

On April 16, NGC hosted a Lunch and Learn at the College of the North Atlantic for students graduating from the Carpentry and Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic Programs. We discussed future opportunities and talked over lunch about career possibilities within Nunatsiavut Construction and Nunatsiavut Marine.

Last year, Nunatsiavut Construction hired an Apprentice Mechanic straight out of one of these programs. Ryan Winacott has been working with our team since July 2023 and is a testament to the foundation that these programs provide. We hope to hire more Apprentice Tradespersons following the conclusion of this year's programs.

On June 5, members of the NGC team attended a Career Fair in Happy Valley-Goose Bay where

Nunatsiavut Grade 9 students learned about different career paths. The event was well attended and gave students the opportunity to do some networking, ask questions, and do some learning.



Janice White and Barbara Stickley at the NGC Booth during the Nunatsiavut Grade 9 Career Fair on June 5.

SUMMER STUDENT JOBS THIS YEAR

NGC will hire 6 summer students this year to assist with NCI operations on various site locations in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Hopedale, and Nain. NCI participates in the program each year. Summer placement provides youth a solid foundation in the construction industry and insight into what a career could look like.

To apply for these positions, email **careers@ngc-ng.ca**.





by Jeremy Diamond NGC Safety Consultant

With warmer weather arriving across Canada and in our province, we'll soon be in the thick of summer heat. That means employers and workers need to prepare to avoid heat-related illnesses in the workplace. While this is no surprise, it is worth mentioning that heat-related hazards can, and do, pop up much more unexpectedly than many of the predictable occupational hazards that are seen year-round.

Compared to other hazards in construction such as speeding drivers, heat is something that we tend to be less aware of as a risk.

Creating a plan to address heat can make a big difference when it comes to safety and there is a need for employers to step in and monitor conditions closely.

As we look at safety hazards related to temperature, heat-related illness is the biggest safety concern to workers who are exposed to high temperatures

Summer is a busy period in construction. The weather begins to taper out into warmer, drier days. As temperatures change quickly, it can be quite difficult for workers to acclimate. A cool start to the day can become a scorcher by noon. Heat stress is completely preventable. Awareness is the key to staying safe and keeping well.



We should always consider the hierarchy of controls when trying to protect workers from any type of hazard at the workplace (elimination/substitution, engineering, administration, awareness, and, as a last resort, PPE). Heat may not be as visible as things like trip and fall risks, or working at heights, but it can cause significant injury and should be monitored in every industry.

A crucial means of support involves workers looking out for one another. Employers have an important role in ensuring that workers take appropriate cooling breaks to allow their core body temperature to go back to normal range.

Proper nourishment and hydration are also crucial in regulating the core body temperature.

Being aware of the symptoms surrounding heat stress, including excess sweating, dizziness, fainting, and muscle cramps, can help prevent heat stroke. If heat stroke sets in, there may be continuous sweating, increased breathing rate, confusion, seizures, and even cardiac arrest.

As with any other hazard that is present at a worksite, be prepared and adjust for changes to the risk, which may occur throughout the day. The idea that temperature can, and likely will change, is important when staying on top of the risks surrounding it.

See graphic on next page...

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Tips for Working Safely During Summer Heat



Hard physical work should be undertaken during the coolest part of the day, before 11 am and after 3 pm.



Light, breathable summer clothing should not only be allowed on the worksite, but should be actively encouraged.



Wear a hat or other head covering when working in direct sunlight. A hat creates shade and reduces the direct exposure of your head to the sun.



Apply a high SPF sunscreen to exposed areas, including face, ears, and neck. Reapply at least every two hours.



All workers should be trained in first aid techniques, <u>including for</u> heat-related illness.



Take appropriate cooling breaks to allow your core body temperature to go back to normal range.



Stay hydrated! A rough guideline is one glass of water every 20 minutes.



If you're returning to work after time off, adjust your expectations. You may need time to get used to working in hot conditions.



Be heat smart. Pairing proper attire with hydration, rest breaks, and communication between employees and supervisors is the best way to ensure that your team stays not only productive but also safe and healthy.

Nuna siavut

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FIRST AID TRAINING

NMI, NCI, and NGC Staff
Take Part in Training
Session

NGC and its various companies spend significant resources to make their workplaces safe. But accidents and incidents can happen anytime or anywhere, and in those instances, seconds count. That's where First Aid Training matters. A quick and proper response can save a life or prevent further injury. In early May, trainer Lorna Acreman worked with NMI, NCI, and NGC staff to train people in Basic First Aid, covering topics such as CPR and the proper way to lift an injured person.







The First Aid training session was a combined classroom instruction and practical activity. Top right, Lorna Acreman leads discussion with NGC, NCI, and NMI staff. Bottom left, Acreman instructs proper chest compression technique. Bottom right, Acreman and Colin Riche of NMI demonstrate proper technique to lift Ryan Winacott of NCI. (Photos: Janice White)



NGC's business partners and Nunatsiavut Government officials gathered in Happy Valley-Goose Bay on May 21 to bid farewell to Chris Webb, NGC's former President and CEO. A separate farewell event took place with staff.

Saying farewell is appropriate in this instance, rather than goodbye. Chris has taken on the role of President of Nasittuq, a company that is majority owned by six northern economic development corporations, including NGC.

Nasittuq provides operations and maintenance services in support of continental defence and sovereignty at Canadian Forces Station Alert and to the North Warning System, a string of 47 radar stations across the north.

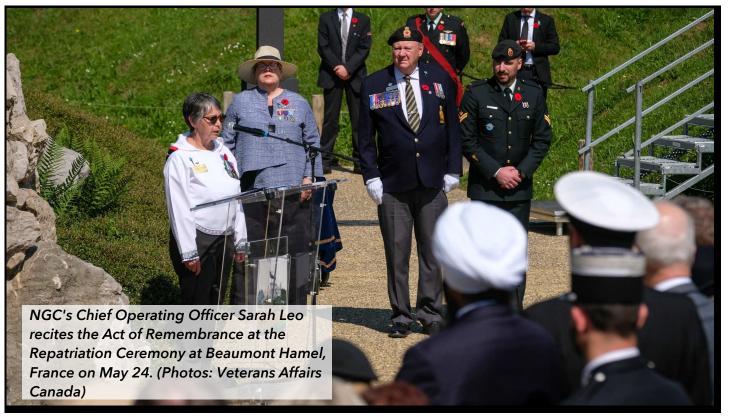


Hey Students!

Time is running out to apply for the 2024 NGC Scholarships. NGC awards four scholarships worth \$1250 each. One scholarship is awarded to a student enrolled in or accepted to each of the following areas - Marine, Business, and Construction Trades. A fourth scholarship is awarded to a female in either of the those fields. The deadline to apply for this year's awards is July 31, 2024 at 11:59 PM AST.

Details and application forms are available online at ngc-ng.ca. Click on the "In Our Community" button and choose "Scholarship Application."

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NGC's Sarah Leo Represents Canada's Inuit at Repatriation Ceremony in France

In a moving ceremony at the Beaumont Hamel World War One battlefield in France, Sarah Leo represented Canada's Inuit in a repatriation ceremony for the Unknown Soldier who will be interred at Newfoundland and Labrador's National War Memorial in St. John's on July 1.

Leo was invited by Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami to take part in the ceremony. She recited the Act of Remembrance in Inuttitut.

Approximately 12,000 Newfoundlanders and 60 Labradorians served in the conflict, with nearly 1300 fatalities. 820 of those who died have no known graves.

The Unknown Soldier represents Newfoundlanders and Labradorians who fought and died in all branches of the military and support services and who have no known grave.





Top, French soldiers during the official transfer of the remains of the Unknown Soldier from France to Canada. Below, Canadian soldiers march in procession in the repatriation ceremony.



Nunatsiavut participants in the Arctic Inspiration Prize (AIP) awards show in Whitehorse celebrate winning \$1.398 million in prize money to support projects in Nunatsiavut. The group was joined by Nunatsiavut President Johannes Lampe, who presented the \$1 million prize, and Sarah Leo, NGC's Chief Operating Officer. NGC is a sponsor of AIP.

"The best way ahead is to work together," said Nicholas Flowers, co-lead of the \$1 million winning project at this year's Arctic Inspiration Prize awards evening in Whitehorse, Yukon. "As Nunatsiavimmiut, we know the importance of revitalizing Inuttitut language and culture."

The \$1 million prize will help establish Inotsiavik Centre in Hopedale, a program to increase Inuit cultural skills and the Inuttitut language.

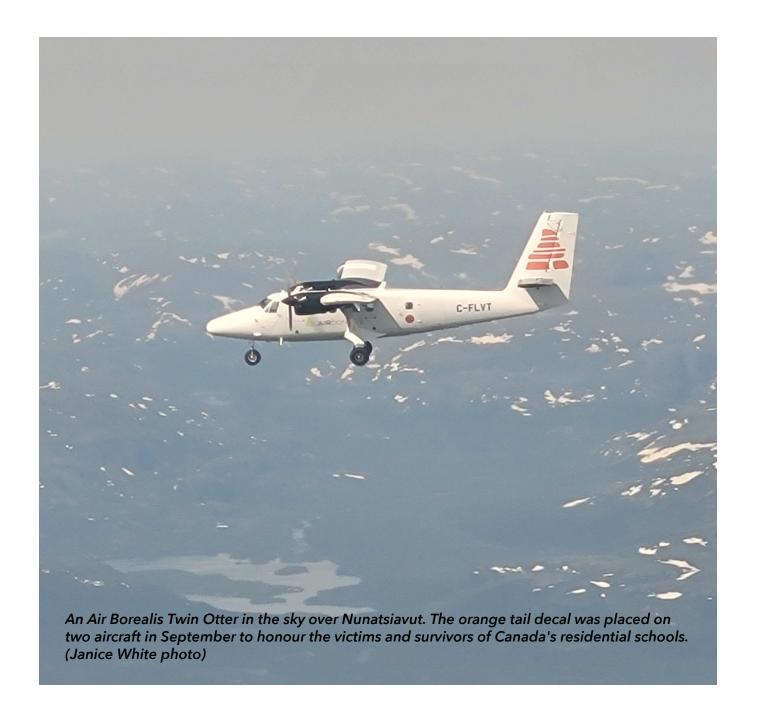
"Our future plans are to open up a place of wellbeing for learning Inuttitut and a place where all Inuit can come together, all across Nunatsiavut, to work together and come together in a safe space." The \$298,000 AIP was awarded to the Hebron and Nutak Reunions, which will take place in July of this year. The award will assist evictees from the communities to take part in the reunion. A group with Nunatsiavut participation, *L.O.V.E. Inuktut* was awarded \$100,000 to create an app that will contain immersion-style videos to help protect the 11 Inuit dialects spoken across the North.

"I was particularly proud to see such inspirational projects being recognized," said NGC COO Sarah Leo. "I am impressed with the commitment of the respective groups, from the creation of their ideas, all the way to the work required for the AIP submission and the execution of the projects."



"By celebrating and providing seed-funding to Northern teams with innovative project ideas, the AIP supports Northerners in bringing initiatives to life that bring about the changes they want to see in their communities."

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This newsletter is a publication of the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies.



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