News Release

For Immediate Release

GN announces creation of Climate Change Secretariat

IQALUIT, Nunavut (November 4, 2016) – Minister of Environment Joe Savikataaq is pleased to announce the creation of the Climate Change Secretariat, which will be responsible for managing climate change adaptation and mitigation programs and policies for the Government of Nunavut (GN).

“Nunavummiut have an important voice and a crucial role to play in national and international discussions on climate change,” said Environment Minister Joe Savikataaq. “The Arctic is experiencing the most rapid and severe effects of climate change, and this new secretariat will work to ensure that Nunavut is prepared.”

As of November 30, 2016, the Energy Secretariat under the Department of Economic Development and Transportation, and the Department of Environment’s Climate Change Section will merge into the new Climate Change Secretariat under the Department of Environment. This will allow the secretariat to work more effectively on a wide range of climate change issues, with improved coordination across all GN departments.

“The creation of this secretariat is an important step to address the unique challenges we face in Nunavut with respect to climate change. I look forward to working with our federal counterparts to ensure that Nunavut’s knowledge and approaches are reflected in our country’s broader climate change policy,” said Minister Savikataaq.

This new secretariat demonstrates the GN’s commitment to addressing the impacts of climate change in the territory. It will serve communities across Nunavut by providing resources and programs that respond to local needs, build local capacity and increase local resilience to the effects of climate change.

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