News Release

For Immediate Release

New Funding for Film, Television and Digital Media in Inuktut

IQALUIT, Nunavut (December 19, 2013) – The Government of Nunavut (GN) is proud to announce $200,000 in additional funding to support the use of the Inuit language (Inuktut) in films, television and digital media.

The $200,000 comes from the GN's Department of Culture and Heritage. This support realizes the Government of Nunavut's commitment under *Uqausivut Plan,* the government's roadmap to implement the *Official Languages Act* and *Inuit Language Protection Act.*

"Nunavut films and television play an important role in protecting and promoting our Inuit culture, identity and language, even more so now with the advent of pop culture," said Paul Okalik, Minister of Languages. "The Government of Nunavut is pleased to collaborate with the Nunavut Film Development Corporation in supporting the film industry and producing more television programming in Inuktut for our homes."

The funding can be accessed by film, television and digital media producers through the Nunavut Film Development Corporation's *Nunavut Spend Incentive Program, The Short Film Fund,* and the new *Inuktut Versioning Fund for Existing Programming.*

"There is no doubt that this support from the Government of Nunavut will significantly increase the amount of high quality film, television and digital media that will be available in Inuktut through television, the consumer market, educational institutions and the internet, " said Derek Mazur, Nunavut Film's Chief Executive Officer. "This program is important both culturally and economically to Nunavut."

The GN's Department of Economic Development & Transportation is working with the Nunavut Film Development Corporation on this initiative.

Communications

“The film industry spends about $13 million per year in Nunavut,” said Economic Development & Transportation Minister George Kuksuk. “We want this industry to reflect the language of the majority of the people in Nunavut. Our new government is committed to expanding and strengthening Inuktut.”

More information about accessing the Inuktut film funding is available at www.nunavutfilm.ca.

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Backgrounder

Film, television and digital media producers/filmmakers can apply for funding for Inuktut Language support under various programs.

Program	Inuktut Funding Support
Nunavut Spend Incentive Program	Up to a maximum of $40,000
Short Film Fund	Up to a maximum of $5,000
Inuktut Versioning Fund for Existing Programming	Up to a maximum of $10,000

Film, television and digital media producers can contact the Nunavut Film Development Corporation for full details, guidelines and applications at (867) 979-3012 or through its website www.nunavutfilm.ca.