



Tunngavik News

The newsletter for Beneficiaries of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement

SUMMER 2003

High potential for gold and diamonds

Biggest exploration agreement to date signed for Inuit Owned Lands

NTI has signed an Exploration Agreement with Strongbow Resources Inc. that will allow the Vancouver-based company to explore more than 5,500 square kilometers in the Kitikmeot region of Nunavut.

"This is the largest single mineral exploration agreement NTI has negotiated to date," NTI 1st Vice President James Eetoolook said at the March signing event.

"NTI worked hard with both Strongbow and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association to ensure that this Exploration Agreement meets the present and future needs of Inuit, as well as serving as a model for future agreements to support exploration on other Inuit Owned Lands in Nunavut."

Strongbow Resources is already active in northern Canada. They believe the Inuit Owned Lands they can now explore have high potential for gold, diamonds and base metals, as well as showings of nickel with platinum group metals (PGM).

The three-year-long agreement will not only pay NTI

\$455,000 in the first year alone, but will also see Strongbow spending a significant amount – about \$1.3 million – in exploration work this calendar year.

As well, Strongbow must compile the geoscience data collected on all the properties explored under this agreement, for future use by NTI.

"NTI and Strongbow have also agreed to consider entering into Joint Ventures in the future, depending on the exploration results, or to simply have NTI draw a royalty based on net profits," Eetoolook said. "Our interest is in promoting a sustainable industry that respects our environment and values."

NTI currently has 62 Exploration Agreements in place with various companies. Inuit own subsurface rights to 38,000 km² of the 356,000 km² of Inuit Owned Lands that form part of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. The Strongbow Agreement covers 36 distinct parcels of land and is consistent with the Memorandum of Understanding signed last August with NTI.



Photo by Carson Gillis

EXPLORATION AGREEMENT SIGNED - Charlie Evalik, President of the KIA and Bill Wolfe, President of Strongbow Resources join NTI 1st Vice President James Eetoolook to sign the NTI/Strongbow Exploration Agreement and make the first year fee payment of \$455,000 to NTI. The final exploration agreement was over 280 pages long.

NTI Departments

BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

NTI organizes Sivummut II

NTI is a key player in the *Sivummut Economic Development Strategy* process. The department organized the conference held in late March that brought together all the major players in Nunavut's economy to develop options for sustainable economic growth. NTI continues to lobby for economic development funding for the territory through an EDA (Economic Development Agreement), both directly with the federal government as well as in co-ordination with the GN.

FINANCE

Lobbying for bigger tax deduction

NTI is lobbying the federal government to increase the Northern Resident Deduction to \$30 a day, double the current level. Currently, the deduction is the same anywhere in the north even though Nunavut is the only jurisdiction with no roads connecting communities to the Outside. A number of key federal officials have been briefed and NTI is hopeful that the matter will be taken up by the federal Finance Committee.

LEGAL

New legislation coming

NTI is working with federal and territorial government officials, along with staff from the Nunavut Impact Review Board and the Nunavut Planning Commission to develop the legislation needed to govern the operations of the NIRB and NPC. Substantive discussions are now underway.

President's Message

Our 10th Anniversary



In the course of producing this issue of the *Tunngavik News* a number of very important anniversaries have been observed. This year marks the tenth anniversary of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, which in turn called for the creation of Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. and the coming into force of the NLCA Act.

On Nunavut Day this year, I hope everyone reflects on what has been and what is to come as a result of our land claim agreement.

We should always remember the four key goals of the NLCA:

- To encourage self-reliance and social well being of Inuit
- To provide Inuit with financial compensation and the means to participate in economic opportunities
- To set out Inuit wildlife harvesting rights and our right to participate in decisions concerning wildlife, and
- To clarify and give certainty to our rights of ownership and use of lands and resources, and to Inuit participation in decision-making around lands, waters and resources, including the offshore.

On behalf of NTI, I want to acknowledge the efforts and many sacrifices made by the people who negotiated the

Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. We owe them all a great deal.

So many people gave *so much* to this process. They spent a great deal of time away from their families, their communities, and their *own* livelihoods, in order to stay involved at all levels in their commitment to see these Negotiations through. We thank them for their perseverance, their strong belief in justice and their vision that led to the successful completion of the land claim.

NTI is very aware of the obligations we have to Inuit who have exchanged their aboriginal title for the rights and benefits set out in the land claims agreement. The NLCA has made it possible for Inuit to control our destiny, and we must ensure that we use this power wisely at all times.

I am sure there are a million stories and examples of both shining and challenging moments

that you can all recall as you think back on these years.

We have not always captured our own history in this regard and I am becoming increasingly aware of the need to do so and the value of ensuring it becomes known more widely by our young people and our population as a whole.

Although NTI is now ten years old, I also want to recognize that we have inherited a rich history from the Tunngavik Federation of Nunavut whose Board and Staff and Executive brought us all the way, up to 1993. And of course, prior to that, we had Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, now the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami.

NTI's mission is to secure Inuit economic, social and cultural well-being through the implementation of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. I believe the NLCA, when it's fully implemented, will deliver on that promise.

Board of Directors

NTI launches new cultural program

Beneficiaries of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* can now access a new program to help them connect with their traditional roots and long lost relatives.

At its February meeting in Cape Dorset, the Board of Directors approved the new *Nunatuqaminut (Traditional Lands) Travel Program*. The \$100,000 program came into effect on April 1st.

"The new program will allow beneficiaries who now live outside of Nunavut to visit their former homes, or for those who live in Nunavut to visit long lost family members in communities other than their own," said Paul Kaludjuk, Vice President of Finance. "We feel this program will enhance the ties between beneficiaries of the NLCA, no matter where they live."

The Nunatuqaminut program will provide eligible beneficiaries of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* with up to \$500 per individual or \$5,000 per group. Application forms are available from Community Liaison Officers or by contacting the Rankin Office of NTI.

The Board of Directors presented the following awards at the community feast held in conjunction with their board meeting:

Recognition Award (Community): Nuna Parr, of Cape Dorset, was presented with a plaque by NTI in recognition of his contributions to his community. Mr. Parr is known as an

artist and a hunter who always shares his meat after a successful hunt. He also hosts a community feast using his own funds.

Recognition Award (Nunavut): David Joanase of Cape Dorset was recognized by NTI for his contributions to Nunavut through sports. Mr. Joanase's plaque was accepted

on his behalf by his parents, as he was away in New Brunswick at the Canada Winter Games as a member of the Badminton team. His achievements include participating in the Arctic Winter Games in Nuuk as well as Nunavut Youth Abroad, which allowed him to travel to Africa in summer 2002.

Appointments made at February Board Meeting

NTI Board of Directors: Malachi Arreak (Qikiqtani Inuit Association) and Percy Kabloona (Kivalliq Inuit Association) were formally appointed to the NTI Board of Directors, replacing George Eckalook and Jack Angoo respectively. Thomasie Aliktuktuk (QIA) was re-appointed.

Nunavut Water Board: NTI formally supported the Qikiqtani Inuit Association's nomination of Lottie Thomasie to the NWB for a term of three years, in accordance with Article 13 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. This is a re-appointment for Mr. Thomasie.

Nunavut Impact Review Board: NTI formally supported the Kitikmeot Inuit Association's nomination of Peter Akkikungnaq to the NIRB for a term of three years, in accordance with NIRB policies. This is a re-appointment for Mr. Akkikungnaq.

Nunavut Implementation Training Commission: NTI appointed Anna Qaunaq to the NITC for a term of three years, or until such time reappointments are made. This appointment was made following a public call for nominations which attracted 33 applications/nominations.

Nunavut Wildlife Management Board: NTI formally supported QIA's nomination of Joannie Ikkidluak to the NWMB. Mr. Ikkidluak would replace Moses Koonoo, who resigned in December 2002.

NTI Human Resources: It was reported that as of January, 75 per cent of NTI's employees were Inuit, significantly higher than the Government of Nunavut (41 per cent) and the federal government in Nunavut (33 per cent).

CLO News

Community Liaison Officers provide a direct link between communities and NTI and the Regional Inuit Associations. Contact your CLO for information about NTI and RIA programs and services.

CLYDE RIVER

Our community did not have the normal snow build up this winter so it might be pretty well nice and dry by the time the QIA Board of Directors meet here in June. (Some winters the snow banks are as high as the houses!)

We have had the usual visits from nearby communities for hockey tournaments (by snowmobile and air). The Nunavut Quest racers made it back to Clyde River safely. A Hercules airplane has been here a couple of times to deliver the new fire truck and water truck, to replace those lost in last winter's fire.

– Lizzie Palituk, CLO

RESOLUTE BAY

Our community would like to thank the NTI Executive Members for holding a public meeting here. We appreciate you giving your time to hear community concerns on your way to Grise Fiord. Resolute Bay is always grateful to receive visitors from the organizations that represent them and this was no exception.

– Susan Salluviniq, CLO

CHESTERFIELD INLET

Joanna Samok and Mary Kadjuk won the regional science fair held here in April. They'll be moving on to the national science fair in Calgary, Alberta. The Victor Sammurtok School held a community feast in their honour on May 6 for their hard work. Congrats to them both!

– Julia Putulik, CLO

Enrolment Appeals Committee

NTI re-starts appeals process for beneficiaries

The first Enrolment Appeals Committee hearing in many years was held in Rankin Inlet on March 13, following a one-day-long workshop on March 12.

The Appeals Committee reviews applications to appeal decisions made by Community Enrolment Committees to either accept or deny an individual's beneficiary status. The last hearing was in 1996.

A total of five appeals involving seven individuals were heard, with decisions provided by the end of the day. A different three member Appeal Panel was appointed to hear each appeal. As a result of the hearings, three individuals were added to the Enrolment List, three were removed, and one appeal was denied.

"The variety of Appeal applications proved to be a good experience for all those involved," said Enrolment Manager Juanita Taylor. "We expect the Appeals Committee will meet twice a year from now on to review applications."

"It's important for Inuit to review the Enrolment List published yearly by NTI," she added. "People are encouraged to scrutinize the list to help us ensure that it accurately reflects who is – and isn't – a Beneficiary of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*."

Careful notes were taken during the process to help ensure that the next hearing goes smoothly. For example, it was found that applicants should

be encouraged to represent themselves rather than have someone speak for them whenever possible.

The process for holding the March 13 hearing began last year, when NTI asked the Regional Inuit Associations to select a member from each of their communities to be part of the "Standing List of Appeals Committee Members" from which each three-person panel is drawn.

NTI at the same time revised and approved the Enrolment Manual, to ensure the Appeals Committee had the best tools available. Shortly before the Appeal Hearings, public notices were published in the newspapers and distributed to communities through the Community Liaison Officers.



Photo by Juanita Taylor

GIVING EVIDENCE – Levinia Brown holds up an old family picture, pointing out who is who. She is joined at the table by Joan Brown and Joan's brother Ron Brown. This evidence, along with other information presented, resulted in Joan being recognized as a Beneficiary by the Enrolment Appeals Committee.

Enrolment Criteria

To be enrolled under the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* (NLCA), a person must meet the following requirements:

- Be alive;
- Be a Canadian citizen;
- Be found to be an Inuk as determined in accordance with Inuit customs and usages;
- Identify himself or herself as an Inuk;
- Be associated with a community in Nunavut;
- Be associated with Nunavut.

No person is permitted to be enrolled under the NLCA who is also enrolled under another land claims agreement in Canada. However, if such a person gives up the ability to benefit from or participate in the other land claims agreement, that person can be enrolled under the NLCA.

The *NTI Enrolment Manual* sets out additional guidelines to help Community Enrolment Committees and the Enrolment Appeals Committee determine if an individual meets the criteria set out above (and as set out in Article 5 of the NLCA).

The last step was a one-day-long workshop immediately before the hearings to orient the Appeals Committee members. Patrick Tagoona of Kiggavik Services facilitated the workshop as well as provided logistical support.

Due to bad weather and other commitments, only 15 out of the 26 Appeals Committee members could attend the workshop and hearings. CEC Chairpersons were also invited to participate, and five attended.

The workshop reviewed the revised Enrolment Manual as well as the structure and duties of the Appeals Committee. The following Regional Co-Chairs were elected: Caroline Meeko (Qikiqtaaluk), Steven Kopak (Kivalliq) and Mariam Aglukkaq (Kitikmeot). They then selected the panel for each appeal.

A round table discussion brought forward a lot of interest and deliberation around the criteria used to determine who can or cannot be a beneficiary under the NLCA.

"Every order and decision made by the Appeals Committee is final and binding," said Taylor. "However, one may have that decision reviewed by the courts if one believes the principles of natural justice were not upheld or if the appeal panel was acting beyond or refusing to exercise its jurisdiction."

For more information about how to file an appeal, contact your CLO or the Enrolment Office directly at 1-888-236-5400.

Congratulations

Nunavut Sivuniksavut Grads 2003



Photo submitted

Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated congratulates the young men and women who have successfully completed the one-year-long Nunavut Sivuniksavut program in Ottawa. The May 8th graduation ceremony was attended by almost 140 people, including families, friends and Inuit leaders. This grand evening marked the 18th year of operations for the program.

Front Row (left to right): Miali-Elise Coley (Iqaluit), Karen Panigoniak (Arviat), Jenny Soucie (Iqaliut), Julie Emikotailak (Sanikiluaq), Rachel Siusangnark (Repulse Bay), Elizabeth Avingag (Igloolik).

Middle Row: Abbygail Noah (Baker Lake), Bernice Niakrok (Arviat), Leslie Rose Harvey (Kugluktuk), Krista Ilgok (Kugluktuk), Lynn Tologanak (Cambridge Bay), Inuujaq Leslie Dean (Rankin Inlet), Stacey MacDonald (Kugluktuk), Teresa Nowdluk (Iqaluit).

Back Row: David Joanasie (Cape Dorset), Noah Nashaooraitook (Taloyoak), Tommy Akulukjuk (Pangnirtung), Derek Williams (Rankin Inlet), Pauloosie Akeagok (Grise Fiord).

NTI Departments

LANDS & RESOURCES

NTI & RIAs work together

NTI staff had a busy March thanks to a number of back to back meetings. First there was a Lands Management meeting, then a Lands Policy Advisory Committee (LPAC) meeting, and then the convention of the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada. Director Carson Gillis explains what happened:

"To put things in a nut-shell ... Land Management meetings are used for the Land Manage staff of both the RIAs and NTI to discuss and collaborate on various issues. We work together when developing policies and procedures for managing lands and resources.

"LPAC meetings include the Vice Presidents of all the RIAs and the 1st Vice President of NTI, James Eetoolook, who serves as the chairman. RIA and NTI staff can attend, but can't vote. LPAC is used as a sounding board for staff on important issues. LPAC reviews policies and procedures and, if they approve of them, recommend them for approval to the NTI Board. LPAC also approves the guidelines for implementing rules and procedures.

"The Land Management/LPAC process works to ensure that the regions act consistently. There is always one executive member from each RIA and NTI who has a good understanding of land and resource issues and the management regimes we follow."

At the convention that followed the meetings, NTI "went all-out" with a double booth, internet connection and 42-inch plasma screen. "We were able to promote our data holdings and easily show the exploration opportunities available on Inuit Owned Lands," said Gillis.



Photo by Brian Sigurdson

CLARC TRAINING

A workshop was successfully completed in Rankin Inlet in April for members of Community Lands and Resources Committees from the Kivalliq Region. Highlights included a presentation from the federal government agencies on their roles and responsibilities under the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, as well as a session on mining from Nunavut Arctic College. CLARCs review requests for accessing Inuit Owned Lands. Pictured are (BACK ROW) Spencer Davar,

Gladys Jondrey, Pauline Kadjuk, Denise Autut, Sharon Qijuk, Silu Connelly, Helena Malliki, Catherine Connelly, Mary Makpah, James Tagalik, Jack Angoo, Phillip Putumiraqtuq,

Norman Attungala, Eric Ukpaticu, David Aksawnee, Aberham Tagonak, Richard Angotialuk, Jerome Tattuinee, Louie Bruce, Robert Esser, Erksuktok Eetuk (MIDDLE ROW) Peter Autut, Harold Etegoiyuk, Donat Milortok, Joe Issaluk, Celestino Makpah, Louis Autut, Tony Otuk, Tongola Sandy, Armand Angootealuk (FRONT ROW) Lillian Mannik, David Ningeongan, Percy Kabloona, Beronica Tattuinee, Luis Manzo, Stanley Adjuk, Bernie Matoo.

NTI Departments

IMPLEMENTATION

Contract under negotiation

This year will see the second of the five-year implementation reviews required under Article 37 of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. NTI is taking stock of progress to date on claim implementation and pushing hard to get unfulfilled obligations finally met.

The major files being dealt with by the Implementation Department are: **Implementation Contract Negotiations** – The current contract expires in July. It is important to ensure that government provides enough funds for the next 10-year period to support the activities of the Institutions of Public Government (IPGs, such as the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board) and the Government of Nunavut.

DIO Process – NTI is working with the RIAs to complete the second round of Designated Inuit Organization selection.

Inuit Water Rights (Article 20) – The NLCA gives a DIO the right to use and manage waters on, in or flowing through Inuit Owned Lands. The process for ensuring that it is the Regional Inuit Associations that have this authority requires a policy, a framework agreement and lastly formal recognition as a DIO. It is expected this process will be ready for review and final approval by the 2003 NTI AGM.

IIBA Negotiations – Negotiations for an Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement to cover conservation areas, including Iqaliquuuq, have come to a halt. A technical working group of GN, NTI and RIA staff has been formed to deal with the Territorial Parks IIBA. NTI has formally asked the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board to approve the draft Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary Management Plan, the last step in concluding and implementing the IIBA for the sanctuary.

WILDLIFE

Wildlife Act the top priority

The top priority for the department has been the territory's proposed *Wildlife Act*. NTI, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and GN staff worked closely together in developing early drafts of the Act. NTI's goal is to ensure that the new Act adequately addresses Inuit rights, as set out in the NLCA. Wildlife staff are working closely with RIAs and HTAs to ensure that Inuit concerns and interests are reflected in the final version of the legislation.

The department is also working actively on a number of other files, including community-based management for narwhal and beluga, fisheries, polar bear MOUs, and various Canada/Greenland issues.

Nunavut Trade Show actively supported by NTI

NTI was an active and constructive participant at the Nunavut Trade Show held at the beginning of May in Iqaluit.

The NTI booth was a popular site, thanks to the friendly staff at the booth as well as our branded pens, bags and pins.

The Business and Economic Development Department prepared a special CD-ROM for businesses that contained helpful information about the department's services as well as the economic development strategy process now underway.

NTI Vice President of Finance Paul Kaludjak, together with Sustainable Development Minister Olayuk Akesuk, provided the keynote speeches at the special dinner Friday night. NTI's presentation was called "Toward an Economic Development Strategy for Nunavut."

NTI purchased four craft items and donated them to the Trade Show for use in the fund-raising auction in support of Inuit youth programs.



Photo by Nancy Campbell

GRIN AND BEAR IT - Malaya Mikijuk shows off the new polar bear rug on display in the President's office in Iqaluit. The rug was bought at the Nunavut Trade Show charity auction. Malaya is the Governance Co-ordinator Trainee for NTI and is learning how to work with all sorts of characters!

NLCA Insurance Program: Success marks first year of unique service

Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. is pleased to announce that the Beneficiaries Benefits Accidental Death and Dismemberment Program – the first benefits program in the world to provide coverage to an entire population – has now been in place for just over one year.

Since the program first came into effect on April 1, 2002, there have been more than 15 claims. Four additional claims are still pending.

Everyone enrolled as a Beneficiary under the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* is automatically covered by this unique program, regardless of where they live.

Expanded Coverage

In order to better meet the needs of families and individuals, NTI has expanded the insurance program's coverage to include Inuit up to 79 years of age. If a beneficiary in the 65-79 years old age group dies accidentally, the insurance program would pay \$10,000 to the individual's estate or named recipient. This expanded coverage applies to anyone who has accidentally died or lost a limb since April 1, 2002.

Naming a Recipient

It is important that members of the insurance program – that is,

each Beneficiary under the NLCA – formally names the person or persons who would receive the claim money. If you don't do this, you will have no say over who the money will go to in the event of your accidental death.

In the communities, simply contact your Community Liaison Officer (CLO) for assistance. They have a supply of the forms on hand – in English, Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun – and it only takes a few minutes to complete. Beneficiaries who live in the three regional centres or outside of Nunavut should contact the Nunavut Benefits Corporation toll free at 1-866-233-4815.

To learn more about the Beneficiaries Benefits Accidental Death and Dismemberment Program, visit www.beneficiariesbenefits.ca, or contact your Community Liaison Officer.

Atuqtuarvik Corporation

\$35 million invested in Nunavut

Inuit businesses come in all shapes and sizes. Atuqtuarvik Corporation helps medium to large size businesses through loans and equity approvals, so as to help improve the quality of life for Nunavut Inuit.

"Atuqtuarvik helps eligible Inuit businesses access various sources of commercial finance," says Chairperson John Hickes. "We consider loan requests of \$100,000 and up, with the understanding that the businesses have to maximize the funding they can obtain from commercial sources as well.

As of March, 2003, Atuqtuarvik had just over \$35 million in loan and equity approvals on its books:

- \$15 million to Nunavut businesses
- \$4.5 million to Regional Development Corporations, and
- \$15.5 million to health facilities

"Atuqtuarvik helps get the ball rolling when it comes to securing financing," says Hickes. "We accept a higher level of risk in providing loans as an interim step in achieving viability. As an Inuit lending corporation, we think we should be doing all we can to support Inuit enterprises capable of repaying their loans and equity financing."

At NTI's last Annual General Meeting, it was agreed to have an independent consultant review the mandate of the corporation and what it has achieved to date. The results of this review are expected later this summer.

"We welcome the review as it will help clarify Atuqtuarvik's role as a lending agency," says President and Chief Executive Officer Ken Toner. "We focus on projects that are commercially viable, Nunavut

based, and create some benefits for Inuit such as jobs, training or improvements to social situations."

Since it began operating in June 2000, Atuqtuarvik's investments in Inuit-owned business have:

- Levered an additional \$75.7 million in loans and/or equity funding,
- Created and/or maintained 80 person years of employment, and
- Generated \$5 million in annual income for Inuit-owned businesses.

"We are here to develop self-reliant, viable Inuit-owned business," Toner says. "If someone comes to us with a proposal that requires less than \$100,000, we'll still work with them to find the best source of funding and other resources."

Atuqtuarvik Corporation's seven-member board of directors meets quarterly to evaluate projects. The board is appointed by Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. Application forms are available from the corporation's office in Rankin Inlet (867-645-2784), or can be downloaded from their website at www.atuqtuarvik.com.

(Editor's Note: Every issue Tunngavik News looks at an important Inuit corporation and how it serves beneficiaries of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement)



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P.O. Box 638, Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0
(867) 975-4900 • (888) 646-0006
Web site: www.tunngavik.com
E-mail: jkanayuk@tunngavik.com

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NUNAVUT TUNNGAVIK INC. INCORPORATED APRIL 3, 1993

Cathy Towtowngie President

James Eetoolook 1st Vice President

Raymond Ningeocheak 2nd Vice President

Paul Kaludjuk Vice President of Finance

John Lamb CEO

REGIONAL OFFICES

CAMBRIDGE BAY	983-2517
Fax	983-2723
Toll free	1-888-388-8028
IGLOOLIK	934-8065
Fax	934-8073
IQALUIT	975-4900
Fax	975-4949
Toll free	1-888-646-0006
OTTAWA	238-1096
Fax	238-4131
RANKIN INLET	645-5400
Fax	645-3451
Toll free	1-888-236-5400

REMINDER

Ensure your contact information is up to date.

If you have moved since you were enrolled as a Beneficiary under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, please make sure your address is up to date on the Enrolment Registry. NTI needs your current address in order to let you know about benefits and services you may be entitled to.

Updating your information is easy:

- 1) Contact your Community Enrolment Secretary, or
- 2) Contact your Community Liaison Officer, or
- 3) Contact the NTI Enrolment Department at 1-888-236-5400, or
- 4) Download a *Change and Correction Form* from the NTI website, fill it in and mail it as directed (www.tunngavik.com)