



## PREMIER AKEEAGOK'S NEWSLETTER

### Nunavut celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



On April 1, 2024, Nunavut celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Twenty-five years ago, Canada created the third territory, Nunavut, carved out from the Northwest Territories. On March 4, Nunavut's Legislative Assembly raised a commemorative flag to celebrate 25 years as the new seat of government.

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Premier Akeeagok was honoured to welcome Governor General Mary Simon to Iqaluit on April 1 as part of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. In a private meeting, the Premier and Governor General discussed devolution and Arctic sovereignty, and security.

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Premier Akeeagok hosted the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations in Iqaluit on April 1. This included a community celebration at the Aqsarniit Hotel and Conference Centre with cultural showcases, entertainment, and country food. The celebrations culminated with fireworks over Frobisher Bay.

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### Nunavut Elders and Seniors Strategy tabled

On March 6, 2024, Premier Akeeagok tabled the *Nunavut Elders and Seniors Strategy* during the winter sitting of the Legislative Assembly. This document identifies 89 action items with the goal of serving Nunavut's Elders. The strategy is intended to help fulfill one of the cornerstones of the Katujjiluta mandate – aging with dignity. It was created through input of Elders from across the territory.

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## Premier Akeeagok chairs Northern Premiers Forum

In May, Premier Akeeagok chaired the Northern Premiers Forum, hosting Yukon Premier Ranj Pillai and Northwest Territories Premier R. J. Simpson in Mittimatalik (Pond Inlet). The Premiers discussed shared priorities and were welcomed by Pond Inlet with a community feast, tour, and opportunity to go out on the land.

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## Northern Premiers meet with federal ministers

In early May, Premiers P.J. Akeeagok, Ranj Pillai, and R.J. Simpson met in Iqaluit with Minister of National Defence Bill Blair, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mélanie Joly, Minister of Northern Affairs Dan Vandal, and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Northern Affairs and to the Minister of National Defence Yvonne Jones. Discussions were centred around housing and infrastructure needs in the north, and Arctic sovereignty and security.

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## Premier meets with Minister Anandasangaree

In early April, Premier Akeeagok met with federal Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations Gary Anandasangaree, stressing the importance in tackling Nunavut's housing crisis. They also discussed how reconciliation means investing in Nunavut's communities.

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## Premier speaks at CanArctic Industry Days

On April 18, 2024, Premier Akeeagok was invited to speak at the CanArctic Industry Days event in Iqaluit. This event was put on by the U.S. Commercial Service and the Baffin Regional Chamber of Commerce and featured a panel session on doing business in Nunavut.

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## 2024 Nunavut Mining Symposium

On April 23, 2024, the Premier was honoured to give the opening remarks and welcome the delegates at the Nunavut Mining Symposium. In its 26<sup>th</sup> year, the symposium is an important annual event which allows for discussions surrounding all aspects of Nunavut's growing mining sector. At the Gala event, the Premier was proud to see the GN's devolution team receive recognition for their work and contributions.

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## 2024-2025 Budget released

During the March sitting of the Legislature, the Government of Nunavut tabled its 2024-2025 Budget. Highlights of this year's budget include \$157 million for new community infrastructure, \$82.7 million to build new public and staff housing and support homeownership and repairs, and \$7.5 million towards safe and supportive housing.

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## Cabinet retreat in Rankin Inlet

From May 12 to 14, 2024, the Premier and ministers took part in a Cabinet retreat in Rankin Inlet. The three days of intensive meetings were an opportunity to discuss their ongoing work on fulfilling the Katujjiluta mandate, as well as coordinating their future engagements with the federal government. While in Rankin Inlet, they toured the new airport and long-term care facility and met with Kivalliq Inuit Association President, and Rankin Inlet's mayor and MLA.

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## Team Nunavut competes at the Arctic Winter Games

In March, Team Nunavut traveled to Mat-Su Valley, Alaska to compete in the 2024 Arctic Winter Games. The Premier and all of Nunavut watched proudly as our athletes competed in a variety of sports such as speed skating, hockey, volleyball, Arctic games, and many more. Congratulations to all athletes for their dedication and hard work.

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## Canadian Club of Ottawa Keynote

Premier Akeagok was honoured to give the keynote speech during the Canada Club of Ottawa's Northern Strength is Canada's Advantage event.

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## Premier Akeegok attends Prime Minister Mulroney's funeral

On March 23<sup>rd</sup>, Premier Akeegok attended the state funeral for late Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. Prime Minister Mulroney was instrumental in ensuring Nunavut found its place on the Canadian map.

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## Upcoming Events



**JULY 15 -  
JULY 17, 2024**

## 2024 Summer Meeting of Canada's Premiers Halifax, Nova Scotia

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Building *Nunavut* Together  
*Nunavut* liuqatigiilniq  
Bâtir le *Nunavut* ensemble

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