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RELEASE

Nominations Open for the Order of Nunavut

IQALUIT, Nunavut (January 11, 2011) - Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and Chairperson of the Order of Nunavut Advisory Council Paul Okalik today announced that nominations have opened for the Order of Nunavut.

On January 1, 2010, *The Order of Nunavut Act* came into force. The objective of the Order is to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the cultural, social or economic well-being of Nunavut. The Order is the highest honour of Nunavut and takes precedence over all other orders, decorations or medals conferred by the Government of Nunavut.

The Order of Nunavut Advisory Council considers nominations to the Order and makes recommendations to the Commissioner of Nunavut, who serves as the Chancellor of the Order. The members of the Advisory Council are the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, the Senior Judge of the Nunavut Court of Justice and the President of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated.

Nomination forms are available from the offices of Members of the Legislative Assembly and can be downloaded from the Legislative Assembly's website at <u>www.assembly.nu.ca</u>. Nominations must be received by April 29, 2011. The first investiture ceremony will take place in 2011 on a date to be announced.

The winning design for the medal that will be presented to members of the Order was unveiled by Justice Robert Kilpatrick at the 2010 Nunavut Day celebrations. The medal design was created by Iqaluit artist Claude Roussel.

"The Council looks forward to considering nominations of distinguished Nunavummiut," said Speaker Okalik.

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For more information: John Quirke, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and Secretary to the Order of Nunavut Advisory Council Tel: (867) 975-5000