



PRESS RELEASE

Nunavik's Olympic Torchbearers

Kuujuaq, Québec – November 9, 2009 – Three youth from Kuujuaq have been selected to carry the Olympic torch when it passes through the community on November 10, 2009, on its way to the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games. The selected torchbearers are:

Anthony Arreak
Lucassie Tukkiapik
Cindy Koneak

The Northern Village of Kuujuaq is organizing the local leg of the Olympic Torch Relay, with the support of the KRG, the Makivik Corporation, the Saputiit Youth Association, the Kativik School Board, the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services, as well as the Société Kuujuaq Inc. According to Kuujuaq mayor Larry Watt, "It is an honour for Kuujuaq to be represented by these young role models."

For her part KRG Chairperson Maggie Emudluk commented, "These individuals have demonstrated leadership in the community, especially among youth. The torch relay is an inspiring event and I am proud that Nunavik will be able to take part."

The 2010 Olympic Torch Relay will begin its 106-day Canadian journey on October 30, 2009, and will culminate on February 12, 2010, when the torch arrives in Vancouver for the opening ceremony of the Olympics. The torch relay route will be the longest domestic relay in Olympic history, stretching over 45,000 km across Canada. Over the course of the event, the Olympic Flame will be welcomed in over 1,000 communities, passing close to the homes of more than 90% of the entire population of the country.

Since the signing of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement in 1975, Kuujuaq has become the administrative centre of Nunavik. It has a population exceeding 2300. The Northern Village promotes Kuujuaq's general welfare and delivers essential public services.

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