



## **CRUISE NORTH EXPEDITIONS ANNOUNCES ITS 2006 SUMMER SEASON OF AFFORDABLE CANADIAN ARCTIC EXPEDITION CRUISES**

### **Early Bird Special - Up to \$500 savings per couple for bookings made by February 15**

*To truly experience the Arctic is to understand the essential Inuit belief that everything in nature is infused with the spirit of life.*

Montreal, Quebec, January 12, 2006 – Inuit-owned Cruise North Expeditions, specializing exclusively in Canadian Arctic expeditions, is the first and only cruise line to make this remote, astonishingly beautiful part of the world accessible and affordable.

Building on the success of its inaugural summer season in 2005, Cruise North Expeditions has added capacity in the Arctic with a larger ship for 2006 and fine-tuned its three Arctic itineraries – “Arctic Explorer,” “Baffin Adventure” and “The High Arctic,” to optimize wildlife sightings and cultural exchanges.

Cruise North’s 122-passenger ship *Orlova* will ply the calm Arctic waters from June 26th through September 4<sup>th</sup>, when the temperatures are a delightfully cool 50 degrees. Firmly established as the industry price leader, the company is offering a series of nine expedition cruises priced from \$3,595 per person double occupancy, air, land and sea inclusive. Passengers who book by February 15, 2006 will receive further savings up to \$500 per couple.

The Cruise North package includes a short two-hour, 15 minute flight from Montreal to Kuujuaq on Cruise North’s sister company First Air, *Canada’s airline of the North* for more than 50 years. The ship is docked in Kuujuaq allowing for the Arctic experience to begin immediately without extra travel days at sea.

Each expedition offers exceptional opportunities for wildlife encounters, and while the polar bear population might be decreasing due to global warming, this undisputed monarch of the North is most certain to greet all Cruise North passengers, from a safe distance of course. (In the 2005 season, polar bears were sighted on every cruise, and muskox, whales, seals, caribou and whales made regular appearances too.) The Arctic is a birders’ paradise, and even those who are not bird enthusiasts will be impressed with the collective screech of a half-million penguin-like thick-billed murre.

Cruise North is wholly owned by the Inuit, the indigenous people of the Canadian Arctic formerly known as the Eskimo, and this makes all the difference in the authenticity and richness of the product.

“Passengers traveling with Cruise North will be welcomed as privileged visitors to our home,” says Adamie Alaku, the Inuk chairman of Cruise North Expeditions, “and come to understand our deep reverence for the natural world.”

Each Cruise North expedition features a first-rate Expedition team and lecture series with leading naturalists, historians, geologists and ornithologists. Itineraries include visits to ancient Inuit archaeological sites and explore traditional Inuit culture such as Drum dancing and throat singing.

“Cruise North Expeditions makes the Arctic affordable, accessible, and authentic,” says Dugald Wells, company President, “while also seeking to make a meaningful contribution to the Inuit by supporting their efforts to preserve their culture and traditions for future generations.”

For complete details and to make a reservation call your travel agent or Cruise North Expeditions at The Travel Network, a Virtuoso member agency in Toronto, Canada at 1-866-263-3220 or 416-789-3752 or visit <http://www.cruisenorthexpeditions.com>

*Note: Cruise North Expeditions is owned by the Makivik Corporation of Quebec, a highly successful investment corporation born of the first modern-day Aboriginal land claim settlement agreement in Canada (the JBNQA of 1975). Makivik also owns the well-respected First Air and Air Inuit.*

**Media Contacts:**

Dugald Wells  
Cruise North Expeditions  
1-866-263-3220 ext. 401  
[dugald@cruisenorthexpeditions.com](mailto:dugald@cruisenorthexpeditions.com)

Lisa Greenberg  
LBG Communications  
914-722-1390  
[lbgcom@aol.com](mailto:lbgcom@aol.com)