FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Cape Farewell Youth Expedition Photography Exhibition at Nunavut Legislative Building

Iqaluit (June 5, 2009) – The Legislative Building of Nunavut is hosting an exhibition of photographs taken during the British Council-organized Cape Farewell Youth Expedition 2008. Last fall Nunavut high school student Devin Aviugana joined an international group of students who journeyed to the Arctic on a youth expedition that raised awareness of climate change in Canada and abroad.

The Cape Farewell Youth Expedition was an inspirational international project that brought together top scientists, artists, educators and high school students from around the world and from each Canadian province and territory on an Arctic voyage of discovery.

The voyagers sailed from Reykjavik, Iceland, skirted the southern tip of Greenland and ended in Iqaluit on Baffin Island. Students studied climatology, oceanography, geomorphology and biogeography. Their art projects included film, photography, fine arts, performing arts and writing. Throughout the voyage, Canadian photographer Robert vanWaarden documented the voyage and produced a collection of breathtaking images.

A selection of his photographs will be on display in the Foyer at the Legislative Building of Nunavut from June 8 through to August 28, and will be available for public viewing weekdays from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
Margret Brady Nankivell
Climate Change Communications Officer
British Council (Ottawa)
mobile +1.613.301.5922
office +1.613.364.6237
Margret.Brady@britishcouncil.org.

The British Council is the United Kingdom's international organisation for educational opportunities and cultural relations.

BACKGROUNDER:
Devin Aviugana is a grade 12 student attending Tusarvik School in Repulse Bay, Nunavut, Canada. He is an athletic person who likes to play all kinds of sports. He is currently on the Naujat volleyball and badminton team and he also helps both the ladies volleyball team and the junior boys' soccer team. On Sundays, he works at the Sunday play program for preschool children where he enjoys working with kids. He also enjoys spending time with his friends and family. He is worried about the arctic environment in which he lives because if climate change continues, there may soon be no animals to hunt for food and to use for traditional Inuit clothing such as parkas, boots, and mitts. The weather in the north for him is changing – the ice is melting faster and the days are getting warmer. Devin wants to try to keep climate change from happening so there can still be Inuit tradition in the North.

Robert vanWaarden is a photographer based in Canada and the Netherlands where he turns his lens on the problem of climate change. He has spent the last two years focusing on the social movements enacting change and the geographical affects of a changing climate. His work has appeared in major national and international magazines and he counts several international corporations amongst his clients. His images have appeared in Canadian Geographic, Epoca Magazine, UP! Magazine, COWI, UPEI, McGill Law Journal, and The AGE. They have also been used by CNN, CBC, Radio Canada, the Quebec government and various international non-profit organizations.