

Our most precious resource

The Chinese are telling us that we close to the ice sheet have a deposit of iron, which is estimated to be worth billions of dollars. They also tell us that we have the equivalent value in rare earths elements in South Greenland.

The Australians tell us that our uranium deposits in the mountain Kvanefjeldet is one of the largest in the world. Other Australians have estimated that there is a huge potential for a zinc mine way up north in Peary Land.

The scientists tell us that several oil reservoirs under the sea off our coasts are some of the world's largest oil potentials.

A Canadian company will extract rubies just south of our capital. The value of the red stone is extremely high, and the company tells us that the deposit will give both us and the Canadian company much wealth.

Our own company Royal Greenland and the privately owned fishing group Polar Seafood have for decades taken great values of fish and prawns up in our waters.

It provides an export value of over two billion kroner a year.

The huge hydropower potentials from the melting of the ice sheet give us great potential to attract energy intensive industries.

Each year new reports on the future of riches are published: Gold, diamonds, copper, nickel. We have it all. Even the stocks of cod are increasing in the Greenlandic waters.

But we may not be aware of what our real wealth is: Born each year approximately 1,000 young Inuits. One day, these children will run the country and the enormous wealth. These children are our real wealth. New generations will truly make a difference if we are able to help them to a good childhood, which will create self-esteem, a healthy lifestyle and a solid future education.

Maybe we should concentrate more on this human wealth instead of blindly believe that our natural resources will bring the future we all dream of?



Friends, The old harbour , Nuuk, August 2008