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95-01

Commission of Inquiry to Deal with Complaint

YELLOWKNIFE (February 8, 1995) The Chief Conflict of Interest Commissioner, Mr. Joel W. Fournier, has designated a Commission of Inquiry to deal with matters raised in a complaint by a Member of the Legislative Assembly.

A conflict of interest complaint was initiated by Jeannie Marie-Jewell, (MLA Thebacha) against the Honourable Don Morin (MLA Tu Nedhe), Minister of Public Works and Services and the Minister responsible for the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation.

Mr. Fournier has advised the Office of the Speaker that he has dismissed the allegations contained in the complaint against Mr. Morin that pertain to the contract awarded to the Deninu K'ue Development Corporation by the NWT Housing Corporation and to the housing allowance received by Mr. Morin as a consequence of living in Yellowknife to carry out his duties as a Minister of the government.

Pursuant to Section 81 of Part III of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, Mr. Fournier has designated a Commission of Inquiry to deal with the remaining matters set out in the complaint.

"The appointment of the Commission should not be taken as an indication that there has been a breach of the Act as to the remaining issues alleged in the complaint," said Mr. Fournier. "It simply means that I am of the opinion that a further review of those allegations is required."

Members of the Commission are the Honourable E.N. (Ted) Hughes, the Honourable James Bourque and Ms. Anne Crawford. Commissioner Hughes will assume the chair.

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95-02

New Speaker Elected

YELLOWKNIFE (February 15, 1995) - Sam Gargan, (MLA Deh Cho), has been elected Speaker of the 12th Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

The Hon. Sam Gargan replaces Jeannie Marie-Jewell, (MLA Thebacha), who resigned as Speaker on December 15, 1994.

Mr. Gargan was born near Redknife River, N.W.T. in 1948. He was first elected to the Legislative Assembly in 1983. He was re-elected in 1987 and acclaimed in the 1991 election.

Mr. Gargan served as Deputy Speaker of the 11th Legislative Assembly.

During the 12th Assembly, Mr. Gargan chaired the Standing Committee on Legislation and was Deputy Chair of the Special Committee on Housing. He has been a member of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts and an alternate member of the Standing Committee on Finance and the Special Joint Committee on Division.

As Speaker, Mr. Gargan will chair the Management and Services Board which administers the Assembly support services and advises the Legislature.

Prior to his election to the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Gargan worked as a labourer, firefighter, surveyor, counsellor, teacher's assistant, hunter and trapper. He was a member of the settlement and band councils in Fort Providence and was the Director of Programs for the Dene Nation for four years.

Mr. Gargan and his wife, Alphonsine have three sons, Manuel Jerome, Soloman Lee and Sammy Baptiste, and two daughters, Patricia Ann and Olga Dawn.

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95-03

Speaker Receives Resignation from James Arvaluk

YELLOWKNIFE (February 20, 1995) - The Hon. Sam Gargan, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories, has been advised of the resignation of James Arvaluk (MLA, Aivillik).

Mr. Arvaluk's resignation is effective immediately.

Under Section 8(1) of *The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*, a Member may resign by openly declaring his or her decision to resign during a Session of the Assembly. A Member may also resign by submitting, to the Speaker, a written statement declaring the decision to resign and an affidavit from a witness attesting that the statement was sworn before a Commissioner of Oaths.

In accordance with Section 8(2) of *The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*, the Speaker informed Commissioner Helen Maksagak of the vacancy and transmitted Mr. Arvaluk's letter of resignation and affidavit of execution.

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attachment



95-05

Speaker Receives Report from Commission of Inquiry

YELLOWKNIFE (March 22, 1995) The Hon. Sam Gargan, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories, has received the final report of the Commission of Inquiry into conflict of interest allegations.

The inquiry was established to investigate a complaint of Jeannie Marie-Jewell (MLA, Thebacha) against the Honourable Don Morin (MLA, Tu Nedhe).

A Commission of Inquiry, chaired by the Honourable E.N. (Ted) Hughes, Q.C., met in public session March 13 - 15, 1995 in Yellowknife. After hearing relevant witnesses and submissions by counsel, the Commission deliberated and decided that the complaint against the Hon. Mr. Morin be dismissed.

In accordance with Section 83(3) of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*, the Speaker will table the Commission's decision when the 7th Session of the 12th Legislative Assembly reconvenes on Monday, March 27, 1995.

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95-05

Five Candidates Seek Aivilik Seat

YELLOWKNIFE (April 10, 1995) Five candidates have filed nomination papers for the May 8 by-election to elect a Member of the Legislative Assembly for the electoral district of Aivilik.

The by-election was made necessary because of the resignation of James Arvaluk, who was elected as the Aivilik MLA in the 1991 N.W.T. general election.

Nominations closed at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, April 10. Nominations were filed in Repulse Bay, Chesterfield Inlet and Coral Harbour.

The candidates in alphabetical order of surnames, their home communities and occupations are:

Peter Katorkra, Repulse Bay, (carver);
Joani Kringayark, Repulse Bay, (contractor);
Steve Mapsalak, Repulse Bay, (finance officer);
Simionie Sammurtok, Chesterfield Inlet, (labourer);
Manitok Bruce Thompson, Rankin Inlet, (Inuktitut language consultant).

Advance polls will be held in Coral Harbour and Repulse Bay on Thursday, April 27 and Tuesday, May 2 between 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. (Central Daylight Savings Time).

The polls will be open on voting day, Monday, May 8 between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Brochures on the Aivilik by-election, produced in Inuktitut and English have been distributed to all postal boxes in Coral Harbour, Repulse Bay and Chesterfield Inlet and through the office of the Returning Officer in Repulse Bay.

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95-07

Conflict Allegations Dismissed

YELLOWKNIFE (April 12, 1995) The Chief Conflict of Interest Commissioner, Mr. Joel W. Fournier, has dismissed a complaint involving Premier Nellie Cournoyea.

A conflict of interest complaint was initiated by Karl Mueller of Enterprise with respect to alleged contraventions of provisions of Part III of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act by the Premier.

Mr. Fournier has advised the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon. Sam Gargan, that he has dismissed allegations contained in the complaint against Premier Cournoyea.

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95-08

Northern Presentation on Gun Control Legislation

YELLOWKNIFE (April 12, 1995) The views of northern residents on proposed gun control legislation will be presented to a federal committee.

The Legislative Assembly Caucus Sub-committee on Bill C-68 has been selected to appear before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs. The N.W.T.'s one-hour presentation is scheduled for Monday, April 24 in Ottawa.

The Caucus Sub-committee was the only organization from the Northwest Territories chosen to appear before the federal Standing Committee.

The Chairman of the Caucus Sub-committee, Justice Minister Stephen Kakfwi, and several other Members of the Legislative Assembly will present a brief on behalf of all N.W.T. residents. "Our presentation will make sure that Members of Parliament realize that the proposed gun control legislation will have an enormous and alarming impact on the lives and lifestyles of many northern residents, including aboriginal harvesters and outfitters," Mr. Kakfwi said.

Pamphlets describing the impact of Bill C-68 have been mailed to every household in Territories.

Mr. Kakfwi urged the public to immediately contact Members of the Sub-Committee with their concerns, so they can be incorporated into the N.W.T. submission.

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Sub-committee Members

Hon. Stephen Kakfwi, Minister of Justice (Chairman)

Jim Antoine, MLA Nahendeh

Hon. Silas Arngna'naaq, MLA Kivallivik

Jeannie Marie-Jewell, MLA Thebacha

Fred Koe, MLA Inuvik

Dennis Patterson, MLA Iqaluit

John Ningark, MLA Natilikmiot

The Minister said that such a massive intrusion into the lives of people who are not criminals and for whom firearms are a part of a way of life simply can't be justified. This is true for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Northerners.

In its submission to the Committee, the Territories note that over half of the 60,000 residents in the NWT are Aboriginal people. Most of them use firearms and some will inevitably challenge the legislation as an "excessive intrusion" by the government into the exercise of their Aboriginal right to hunt.

That interference spills over into the area of sports hunting, particularly in relation to the increasing number of Americans who are paying a great deal of money for the privilege of hunting in the Northwest Territories, the submission states. It adds that the confusion about the nature and scope of various restrictions is already having a negative impact on outfitting operations in the Territories.

American sports hunting organizations have recently served notice they are not prepared to live with the impact of the new legislation and hunters have been advised not to take their trade to Canada.

"If this happens, the outfitting and guiding industry in the NWT, which provides income for many Aboriginal residents, will be severely damaged."

Meanwhile, the submission states the Territories is not convinced the new legislation will reduce crime rates in the 60 small northern communities spread across a geographical area that makes up one-third of Canada's land mass. It expresses confidence that it is possible to find a way for its application to have some flexibility, to respect regional and cultural differences.

"We support large urban centres in their bid for control over the illegal use of firearms, but we don't see why we should have to accept legislation that does not work for us, anymore than we would expect people living in Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver to accept legislation designed for the Northwest Territories."

Federal legislation that does not adequately take provincial and territorial interests into account is contrary to the standards of fairness and respect for diversity to which all Canadians attach the highest of value, the submission concludes.

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MOTION

AN ACT RESPECTING FIREARMS
AND OTHER WEAPONS

That Bill C-68 be amended by deleting clause 186 and by substituting the following:

Coming into
force

186. This Act or any of its provisions or any provisions of any other Act enacted or amended by this Act, other than Section 130, 131 and 167, shall come into force in the Northwest Territories and, after section 3 of the *Nunavut Act* comes into force, Nunavut, on a day or days to be fixed by order of the Governor in Council on the advice of the Commissioner of that territory.

MOTION

LOI CONCERNANT LES ARMES
À FEU ET CERTAINES
AUTRES ARMES

Il est proposé que le projet de loi C-58 soit modifié par suppression de l'article 186 et par substitution de ce qui suit:

Entrée en
vigueur

186. La présente loi ou telle de ses dispositions, ou toute disposition édictée ou modifiée par la présente loi, à l'exception des articles 130, 131 et 167, entre en vigueur dans le cas des Territoires du Nord-Ouest et, après l'entrée en vigueur de l'article 3 de la *Loi sur le Nunavut*, du Nunavut, à la date ou aux dates fixées par décret du gouverneur en conseil sur l'avis du commissaire du territoire.

Commentary:

The purpose of this amendment is to allow for a delay in the coming into force of all or part of Bill C-68. This will provide an opportunity to establish in advance how the Bill will be implemented in the Northwest Territories.

The Bill recognizes in s. 110(t) that its provisions may be modified by regulations "respecting the manner in which [it] applies to any of the aboriginal peoples of Canada." In our view, the Bill should not come into force in the Northwest Territories until these modifications have been worked out between the federal government and the Government of the Northwest Territories. Only then will the full impact of this legislation in the North be known.

This delay will help ensure that aboriginal hunting and fishing rights protected by section 35 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and recognized in jurisprudence of the Supreme Court of Canada (R. v. Sparrow) are not unduly infringed by the Bill. If we do not delay the coming into force of the Bill for this purpose, the inevitable result will be that these questions will arise and be determined through litigation in the criminal courts.

Obviously, it is desirable to have these complex legal issues determined through consultation in advance of the coming into force of the Bill. Otherwise, individuals will have to raise these issues on their own in defending themselves against what may be unwarranted criminal charges and, further, will be put through enormous trauma and expense in the process.

There is a precedent for the approach that the Northwest Territories is proposing here. The coming into force of previous amendments to the Criminal Code in the area of firearms (some elements of the Bill C-17) were delayed in the Northwest Territories in order to provide an opportunity for the details of their implementation to be worked out. We believe that the same approach must be taken here, especially since the requirements of this Bill are far more onerous than those enacted under the previous legislation.

95-09

**Standing Committee on Legislation To Conduct
Public Review on New Education Act**

YELLOWKNIFE (April 25, 1995) A comprehensive, public review of Bill 25, a proposed new Education Act, is being undertaken by the Legislative Assembly's Standing Committee on Legislation.

Members of the Standing Committee have scheduled public hearings in seven communities in both the eastern and western Northwest Territories.

"Education is an issue that is extremely important to all northerners," said Committee Chairman Tony Whitford (MLA, Yellowknife South). "These public hearings will provide an excellent opportunity to receive input from individuals and organizations concerned with the delivery of education programs."

The *Education Act* which now governs the system was approved in 1977. It has been amended several times since then. The new Act received Second Reading by the Legislative Assembly on March 10, 1995. The Committee then distributed the bill to an extensive list of stakeholders. Members of the Legislative Assembly were provided with copies of the bill to take to their constituencies.

Five Members of the Standing Committee on Legislation will conduct public hearings in three western communities from May 8 to May 17. Five other Members will hold similar hearings in three Nunavut communities during the same period. The Committee will conclude the round of hearings in Yellowknife and Dettah on May 18, 19. The Committee anticipates hearing from representatives of Divisional Boards of Education, Community Education Councils, students, teachers and any citizens concerned about education.

Following the public hearings, the Committee will prepare its report for the Assembly. The report will be presented to the Legislative Assembly when the Seventh Session resumes on June 5th. The remainder of the Seventh Session will be dedicated to consideration of the Education Act.

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(attachment)

**TENTATIVE PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE
FOR REVIEW OF BILL 25, EDUCATION ACT**

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
INUUVIK (Small Family Hall)	May 8	7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
	May 9	9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
		1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
FORT SMITH (McDougal Centre)	May 11	1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
		7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
	May 12	9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
FORT SIMPSON (Deh Cho Hall and Cultural Centre)	May 15	7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
	May 16	9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
		1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
IQALUIT (Cadet Hall)	May 8	7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
	May 9	9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
		1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
RANKIN INLET (Adult Learning Centre)	May 11	9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
		1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
		7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
CAMBRIDGE BAY (Luke Novoligak Community Hall)	May 15	7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
	May 16	9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
		1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
DETTAH (location to be confirmed)	May 18	2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
YELLOWKNIFE (Northern United Place)	May 18	7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
	May 19	9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
		1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

95-10

Standing Committee on Finance Urges Deficit Elimination

YELLOWKNIFE (April 26, 1995) The Legislative Assembly's Standing Committee on Finance has made major strides in its effort to ensure there is no accumulated debt when the Northwest Territories divides.

In its October, 1994 report *Investing in Our Future* the Committee advocated legislation to ensure there be no accumulated deficit on March 31, 1998. That concern was repeated in the Committee's *Report on the Review of the 1995-96 Main Estimates*.

The Government responded to the Committee's recommendations by introducing Bill 30, the *Deficit Elimination Act* on March 29, 1995. However, the Committee was not satisfied with the bill as introduced which could have left the Northwest Territories with an accumulated debt of up to \$100 million by April 1, 1999.

The intent of the Standing Committee's recommendations is to ensure there is no debt to divide between the two new territories in 1999.

"The process of division is difficult enough without complicating it further by leaving a debt to be argued over by the two new territories," said Committee Chairman, Jim Antoine (MLA, Nahendeh).

The Committee has proposed amendments which ensure that the debt is not added to by the budgets of 1996-97 and following fiscal years. As well, the amendments allow Cabinets which contravene the provisions of the bill to be penalized. Violation of provisions of the bill will result in an automatic debate on whether the appointments of the members of the Executive Council should be revoked.

"This is a definite ground-breaking approach to fiscal management by government," stated Mr. Antoine "Members of the Committee feel that this measure will provide the right balance between prompting the Government to be fiscally prudent, yet allow for unforeseen circumstances beyond the Government's control."

He noted he was pleased with the cooperation received by the Minister of Finance, the Hon. John Pollard, who has concurred with the amendments proposed by the Standing Committee.

Bill 30: *Deficit Elimination Act* will appear on the Order Paper for consideration by Committee of the Whole on Thursday, April 27.

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95-11

Manitok Bruce Thompson Elected Aivilik MLA

YELLOWKNIFE (May 8, 1995) Manitok Bruce Thompson has been elected as the new Member of the Legislative Assembly for the electoral district of Aivilik.

Ms. Thompson won today's by-election with a total of 146 votes or 37.7 per cent of the valid votes. Ms. Thompson, an Inuktitut language consultant, will represent the communities of Coral Harbour, Repulse Bay and Chesterfield Inlet in the Legislative Assembly. Along with the other 23 Members, she will hold office until October 16th, 1995 when a general election for the Northwest Territories will be held.

Of the 726 electors on the list, 387 people or 53.3 per cent of electors voted in today's by-election. These results are unofficial until Returning Officer, Steven Kopak, has completed the official addition of the results, which is scheduled for Friday, May 12.

Five candidates sought the vacant Aivilik seat. The remaining four candidates, in order of votes received are:

Simionie Sammurtok, Chesterfield Inlet, labourer; 131 votes or 33.8 per cent of valid votes;

Steve Mapsalak, Repulse Bay, finance officer; 46 votes or 11.9 per cent;

Peter Katorkra, Repulse Bay, carver; 40 votes or 10.3 per cent;

Joani Kringayark, Repulse Bay, contractor; 22 votes or 5.7 per cent.

The seat became vacant because of the February 20, 1995 resignation of James Arvaluk. He was elected as the Aivilik Member of the Legislative Assembly in the October, 1991 general election. In that election, five candidates sought the seat. Ballots were cast by 85.69 per cent of 629 eligible voters on the voters list.

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95-12

New Enumeration Process for the N.W.T.

YELLOWKNIFE (May 15, 1995) A new enumeration system should ensure that more voters' names are collected for the October 16th general election in the Northwest Territories.

In the past, the process of collecting voters' names was done during the 45 days leading up to the day of the election. However, this is usually a very hectic time for Returning Officers. In addition, bad weather has often hampered attempts to prepare voters lists.

Earlier this year, the Legislative Assembly passed amendments to the Elections Act which allow the Chief Electoral Officer to designate a period outside the election campaign for enumeration. This year's enumeration process will occur May 24 - 30. This is a time when the weather is generally favourable and people are more likely to be found at home.

"We're confident that this new process will result in the most extensive and accurate voters' list there has ever been for an election in the Northwest Territories," said David Hamilton, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Those whose names aren't collected after two visits to a household will be asked to fill in a postage-paid card and return it to Elections N.W.T.

Returning Officers will send the names of eligible voters to Elections N.W.T. in Yellowknife where they will be entered into a data base using a voter registration program developed by Elections Canada and adapted for use by the Northwest Territories.

When the writ for the general election is issued on September 1st, Returning Officers and candidates will receive a printed voters' list with voters' street and mailing addresses on it. People who were missed during the May enumeration period, and who did not send in a card, can still apply to the Returning Officer before September 27 to have their names added to the voters list. This will allow them to vote by proxy.

Anyone who misses the September 27 deadline can still register to vote on Polling Day or at Advance Polls on October 5th. However, they will not be able to vote by proxy.

Elections N.W.T. has undertaken a major public information campaign to make voters aware of the new procedures. Brochures in English, Inuktitut and French have been distributed to every household. Radio advertisements in all Dene languages will be used and posters have been distributed to each community.

To be eligible to vote in this year's N.W.T. election, a person must be 18 years of age as of or on October 16, 1995; be a Canadian citizen; and must have lived in the Northwest Territories since October 16, 1994.

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95-13

Manitok Thompson Sworn in as Aivilik MLA

YELLOWKNIFE (May 24, 1995) Manitok Thompson was sworn in today as the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Aivilik.

Commissioner Helen Maksagak administered the Oath of Office and Oath of Allegiance in a ceremony that took place in the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly in Yellowknife.

Mrs. Thompson's husband, Tom, and her two sons, Trevor, 12 and Randy, 7, were present for the ceremony. Also in attendance were the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon. Sam Gargan, Premier Nellie Cournoyea and several MLAs.

Manitok Thompson was elected as the Member of the Legislative Assembly for the electoral district of Aivilik on May 8, 1995. The by-election was made necessary because of the resignation of James Arvaluk, who was elected as the Aivilik MLA in the 1991 N.W.T. general election.

Mrs. Thompson was born in Coral Harbour, N.W.T. in 1955. She worked as a classroom assistant in that community from 1973-1975. After graduating from the Teacher Education Program in 1977, Mrs. Thompson worked as a teacher in Coral Harbour and Repulse Bay until 1981.

In 1983, she moved to Yellowknife to become an adult educator. Mrs. Thompson was also the coordinator of interpreter services at Stanton Yellowknife Hospital from 1984 to 1986. Since 1988, Mrs. Thompson has lived in Rankin Inlet where she has been a language consultant, high school teacher and a business owner.

She was appointed to the Nunavut Social Development Committee in 1994 and served as a councillor on the Rankin Inlet Hamlet Council prior to her election as a Member of the Legislative Assembly.

Mrs. Thompson has worked as an organizer for the Keewatin Arts and Crafts Festival, local music festivals, Rankin Inlet's Hamlet Days and as a member of a community committee against drug and alcohol abuse.

She will take her seat in the Legislative Assembly when the Seventh Session resumes June 5th.

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95-14

Art Display Premiers

YELLOWKNIFE (June 12, 1995) A major display by new northern artists opened at the Legislative Assembly today.

The display showcases the efforts of six people from Fort Simpson who were enrolled in Aurora College's Fine Arts program.

This is the first public showing for students, John Sabourin, Floyd Grosstette, Jerome Thomas, Randy Sibbeston, Danny Allaire and Sandy Whitteker.

"The Fine Arts Program is in keeping with the long tradition of efforts made by the people of the Deh Cho to preserve and encourage traditional arts and crafts," said Jim Antoine (MLA, Nahendeh) a primary supporter of the display.

The Fine Arts Program was instructed by well-know northern artist, Bill Nasogaluak. "His continued enthusiasm and expertise has encouraged these people to grow and mature into committed artists," Antoine said

The display features more than thirty acrylic paintings and graphite-on-paper drawings and several Brazilian soapstone and antler carvings.

The showing, in the Great Hall of the Legislative Assembly, will run until the end of the week.

Some of the paintings will be displayed next month in Yellowknife's Festival of the Midnight Sun and the Great Northern Arts Festival in Inuvik.

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95-15

Deputy Clerk Appointed

YELLOWKNIFE (August 22, 1995) The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, the Hon. Sam Gargan, has announced the appointment of Douglas Schauerte as Deputy Clerk.

"Mr. Schauerte's knowledge of the Northwest Territories and his familiarity with the procedures of the House and its Committees will be a great asset to the Legislative Assembly," Mr. Gargan said.

Mr. Schauerte began his career at the Legislative Assembly in 1985 as a Committees Researcher. From 1987 to 1991 he was the Committees Assistant before becoming Clerk of the Committees and then, in 1994, Acting Clerk Assistant.

Born in Saskatchewan, Schauerte went to high school in Yellowknife and attended the University of Alberta.

The Deputy Clerk, who reports to the Clerk, provides administrative support and procedural advice to Members of the Legislative Assembly including preparing reports, agendas and minutes of meetings and supervising the public information, language and members' services sections of the Assembly office.

Contact:

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95-16

Writs of Election Issued

YELLOWKNIFE (August 24, 1995) The N.W.T.'s Chief Electoral Officer and the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories today signed Writs of Election officially ordering elections for 24 Members of the Legislative Assembly.

The Writ of Election, dated September 1, 1995 gives the Returning Officer in each constituency the direction to hold an election on Monday, October 16 to choose a Member to sit in the Legislative Assembly.

The Writs were signed today by Jean-Pierre Kingsley, who is also the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada and Commissioner Helen Maksagak.

Nomination papers must be filed with the Returning Officer or a designate in a community in the constituency in which the candidate is seeking election. The nomination period begins September 1. The deadline for nominations is Monday, September 18 at 2:00 p.m. local time in each constituency .

Enumeration for the territorial election was conducted in May. For the first time, preliminary voters' lists have been prepared from a computerized data base using the ECAPLE (Elections Canada Automated Production of Lists of Electors) software adapted for Elections N.W.T.'s use by Elections Canada.

Preliminary voters' lists will be on public display in each constituency. Eligible voters whose names do not appear on the voters' list can apply to the Returning Officer before September 27 to have their names added. A voter's name must be on the list by September 27 in order for that voter to be able to vote by proxy on October 16. Anyone who misses the September 27 deadline can still register to vote on Polling Day (October 16) or at Advance Polls (October 5). However, they will not be able to vote by proxy.

To be eligible to vote in the territorial election, a person must be 18 years of age or older as of October 16, 1995; be a Canadian citizen and have lived in the Northwest Territories since October 16, 1994.

A brochure providing general information about the election and giving the names and office telephone numbers of the 24 Returning Officers will be distributed across the Northwest Territories during the first week of September.

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95-17

Candidates Nominated for Territorial Election

YELLOWKNIFE (September 18, 1995) A record 93 residents of the Northwest Territories have declared their candidacy in the October 16 election of Members of the Legislative Assembly.

Nominations closed at 2:00 p.m. local time today. One candidate is unopposed and was elected by acclamation.

In the 1991 general election, 84 candidates were nominated. Six were elected by acclamation.

The following, listed alphabetically by electoral district, are the candidates for the Monday, October 16 election:

Aivilik: Marion T. Love, Donat Milortok, Manitok Thompson.

Amittuq: Titus Allooloo, Mark Evaloarjuk, Paul Haulli, Caleb Sangoya.

Baffin Central: Jaypeetee Akpalialuk, Tommy Enuaraz, Charlie Kalluk, Jaypeetee Karpik, Rebecca Mike, Pauloosie Paniloo, Sakiasie Sowdloopik, Lottie Toomasie.

Baffin South: Goo Arlooktoo, Walter Audla, Matthew Saveakjuk Jaw, Peter Kattuk, Kenoayoak Pudlat, Akalayok Qavavau.

Deh Cho: Joachim Bonnetrouge, Samuel Gargan, Richard C. Lafferty.

Hay River: Ron Courtoreille, Mansell C. Grey, Jane Groenewegen, George B. Morin.

High Arctic: Elizabeth Allakariallak-Roberts, Larry Audlaluk, Levi Barnabas, Aziz Kheraj.

Inuvik: Fred E. Koe, Floyd K. Roland.

Iqaluit: Gordon McIntosh, Edward Picco, Mery Ekho-Wilman.

Keewatin Central: Joseph Kaludjak, John Todd.

Kitikmeot: Ernest N. Bernhardt, Kelvin Ng.

Kivallivik: David Aglukark, Sam Alagalak, Silas Arngn'naaq, Kevin J. O'Brien, David Simailak, Joy Suluk.

Mackenzie Delta: Charles Furlong, David Krutko, Richard Nerysoo.

Natilikmiot: John Ningark, Uriash Puqiqnak.

North Slave: Violet Camsell-Blondin, Leon Lafferty, Richard Lafferty, Gabrielle (Mackenzie) Scott, James Rabesca, Henry Zoe, Isadore Zoe, Joseph Zoe.

... /2

Nunakput: Eddie T. Dillon, Vince Steen.

Sahtu: George Cleary, Stephen Kakfwi.

Thebacha: Allan Heron, Sean Mageean, K.A. Jeannie Marie-Jewell, J. Michael Miltenberger.

Tu Nedhe: Larry Bearard, Archie Catholique, Don Morin.

Yellowknife Centre: Gary J. Boyd, Marie Coe, Roland Gosselin, Arlene Hache, Jake Ootes, Dave Ramsay, Don Yamkowy.

Yellowknife Frame Lake: Charles Dent, David McCann, Tom Pagonis, Rob Roman.

Yellowknife North: Roy Erasmus, Jim Evoy, Sandy Holmes, Donna Hunt, Wally Larocque, Louis Leonardis, Clem Paul.

Yellowknife South: Kirby Marshall, Seamus Henry, Tony Whitford.

Elected by acclamation to the 13th Legislative Assembly is Jim Antoine in the electoral district of Nahendeh.

An Advance Poll will be held on Thursday, October 5 between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Polls will be open on election day, Monday, October 16 between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

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95-18

Nearly 33,000 N.W.T. Residents Eligible to Vote

YELLOWKNIFE (October 2, 1995) More residents of the Northwest Territories than ever are on the official list of electors for the October 16 election of Members of the Legislative Assembly.

A new enumeration system was used which resulted in the most extensive and accurate voters' list ever compiled for an election in the Northwest Territories. The Official List of voters contains 33,842 names including 1,401 voters in Nahendeh where Jim Antoine was acclaimed as MLA after the close of nominations on September 18.

In 1991, a total of 27,367 voters were enumerated. However, because six candidates were elected by acclamation, the total number of electors on the official voters' list was 21,073.

The following are the numbers of eligible voters in electoral districts where elections will be held in 1995: Aivilik 693; Amittuq 1,400; Baffin Central 1,285; Baffin South 979; Deh Cho 644; Hay River 2,164; High Arctic 612; Inuvik 1,558; Iqaluit 1,364; Keewatin Central 1,288; Kitikmeot 1,300; Kivallivik 1,425; Mackenzie Delta 1,090; Natilikmiot 993; North Slave 1,496; Nunakput 946; Sahtu 1,407; Thebacha 1,557; Tu Nedhe 617; Yellowknife Centre 2,043; Yellowknife Frame Lake 1,521; Yellowknife North 2,426; Yellowknife South 3,633.

Any N.W.T. resident who was not enumerated and whose name does not appear on the official list of electors can still vote on Advance Polling Day or on Polling Day if he or she takes an oath at the polling station. However, a person who is not on the voters' list cannot vote by proxy.

In 1991, 16,068 ballots were cast, representing 76.25% of the electors on the list. Voters in the Kitikmeot electoral district were the most active - 95.15% of the electors on the list cast a ballot. In Keewatin Central, 92.45% of the electorate voted. Two Yellowknife ridings had the lowest turnout. In Yellowknife Centre 52.09% of 1,747 electors voted while in Yellowknife Frame Lake 53.67% of the eligible voters cast a ballot.

Advance polls will be held on Thursday, October 5 between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. local time. Polls will be open on Election Day, Monday, October 16, from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. local time.

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95-19

Results Available at Election Central

YELLOWKNIFE (October 6, 1995) The results of the voting for Members of the Legislative Assembly in each constituency across the Northwest Territories will be available at Election Central on Polling Day, Monday October 16.

The Great Hall at the Legislative Assembly is the location of Election Central. The public is welcome to attend and watch the voting results being posted as they are received. CBC Radio, CBC Television, and Yellowknife radio stations, CJCD and CKLB will be broadcasting live from Election Central on Election Night. A portion of CBC Television's program will be broadcast nationally on Newsworld.

Election Central will be open at 6:00 p.m. when the polls close in the eastern Arctic and will remain open until the last results have been received.

The results received on Election Night are unofficial counts only. The official counts for each electoral district are completed by each Returning Officer at a later date.

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95-20

Thirteen new MLA's Elected

YELLOWKNIFE (October 16, 1995) Nine incumbents and two former Members will be joined by thirteen new faces in the 13th Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

Elections were held in 23 electoral districts across the Northwest Territories today. An election was not needed in the riding of Nahendeh where Jim Antoine was re-elected by acclamation.

In three electoral districts, Amittuq, Yellowknife Centre and Yellowknife South, a recount will be required. Section 137 of the *Elections Act* requires a Returning Officer to apply to a judge for a recount if the number of votes separating the candidate receiving the most votes and any other candidate is less than 2% of the total votes cast.

Pending the results of the recount in Amittuq, former MLA, Mark Evaloarjuk will be returning for a third term. He was a Member of the Eighth and Ninth Assemblies. James Rabesca, Member-elect in North Slave, was a Member of the 7th Territorial Council from 1970 to 1975.

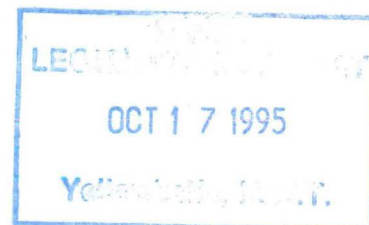
The unofficial results indicate 77.41 % of the 34,012 voters on the Official List turned out to cast a ballot. In Iqaluit, more people voted than were on the Official Voters' List. In Deh Cho, 94.87% of eligible voters cast a ballot. The lowest turnout was in Yellowknife Frame Lake where 49.50% of eligible voters went to the polls. In the 1991 territorial election, an average of 76.25% of electors on the list cast votes.

The newly-elected Members are expected to gather in Yellowknife in mid-November to begin making preparations for the opening Session of the 13th Assembly. This was the final general election across the Northwest Territories, which will be divided into two new territories in 1999.

(Unofficial results attached)

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**Unofficial Results of the Election for
Members of the 13th Legislative Assembly
of the Northwest Territories - October 16, 1995**

<u>Aivilik</u>	<u>Votes Received</u>
Manitok Thompson *	273
Marion T. Love	238
Donat Milortok	88
<u>Amittug **</u>	
Mark Evaloarjuk	308
Caleb Sangoya	303
Titus Allooloo *	186
Paul Hauli	168
<u>Baffin Central</u>	
Tommy Enuaraq	294
Lootie Toomasie	185
Sakiasie Sowdlooapik	150
Jaypeetee Akpalialuk	105
Jaypeetee Karpik	89
Pauloosie Paniloo	73
Rebecca Mike *	60
Charlie Kalluk	11
<u>Baffin South</u>	
Goo Arlooktoo	256
Matthew Saveakjuk Jaw	162
Peter Kattuk	128
Walter Audla	98
Kenoayoak Pudlat *	74
Akalayok Qavavau	50
<u>Deh Cho</u>	
Samuel Gargan *	333
Joachim Bonnetrouge	189
Richard C. Lafferty	86
<u>Hay River</u>	
Jane Groenewegen	696
Ron Courtoreille	654
George B. Morin	253
Mansell C. Grey	137
<u>High Arctic</u>	
Levi Barnabas	135
Elizabeth Allakariallak-Roberts	90
Aziz Kheraj	89
Larry Audlaluk	78
<u>Inuvik</u>	
Floyd K. Roland	683
Fred E. Koe *	492

Iqaluit

Edward Picco	692
Mary Ekho-Wilman	637
Gordon McIntosh	99

Keewatin Central

John Todd *	947
Joseph Kaludjak	201

Kitikmeot

Kelvin Ng *	792
Ernest N. Bernhardt	322

Kivallivik

Kevin J. O'Brien	700
David Simailak	211
Silas Arngna'naaq *	140
David Aglukark	120
Sam Alagalak	63
Joy Suluk	52

Mackenzie Delta

David Krutko	350
Richard Nerysoo *	218
Charles Furlong	204

Nahendeh

Jim Antoine *	ACCLAIMED
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Natilikmiot

John Ningark *	366
Uriash Puqiqnak	338

North Slave

James Rabesca	481
Violet Camsell-Blondin	204
Leon Lafferty	175
Henry Zoe *	158
Joseph Zoe	67
Isadore Zoe	47

Nunakput

Vince Steen	395
Eddie T. Dillon	240

Sahtu

Stephen Kakfwi *	745
George Cleary	326

Thebacha

J. Michael Miltenberger	607
K.A. Jeannie Marie-Jewell *	571
Sean Mageean	119
Allan Heron	96

Tu Nedhe

Don Morin *	368
Archie Catholique	110
Larry Bearard	58

Yellowknife Centre **

Jake Ootes	249
Arlene Hache	231
Dave Ramsay	209
Gary J. Boyd	165
Marie Coe	162
Roland Gosselin	139
Don Yamkowy	108

Yellowknife Frame Lake

Charles Dent *	446
Rob Roman	135
David McCann	122
Tom Pagonis	49

Yellowknife North

Roy Erasmus	686
Jim Evoy	334
Clem Paul	249
Wally Larocque	158
Donna Hunt	109
Sandy Holmes	56
Louis Leonardis	29

Yellowknife South **

Seamus Henry	972
Tony Whitford *	968
Kirby Marshall	399

* Incumbent

** Recount required



Chief Polling Officer

**NEWS RELEASE
NEWS RELEASE
NEWS RELEASE**

95-21

Two Communities on Ballot for Nunavut Capital Vote

Yellowknife (November 9, 1995) Residents of Nunavut will choose either of two communities when they mark their ballot in the Nunavut Capital Public Vote on December 11, 1995.

The following question will appear on the ballot: "*Which of these communities do you want to become the capital of Nunavut - Iqaluit or Rankin Inlet?*"

The Chief Polling Officer, David Hamilton, said he received a copy of a resolution, prior to today's 2:00 p.m. deadline, from the municipal councils of only those two communities indicating they wish to appear on the ballot for the public vote. A resolution was received from the Hamlet of Cambridge Bay indicating it did not want to be listed on the ballot.

The capital vote will be held on December 11, 1995, to coincide with municipal elections across Nunavut. Additional polling stations will be established in Iqaluit and Nanisivik, where municipal elections will not take place.

The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development will convey the results of the community to receive at least 50% plus one of the votes cast to the federal Cabinet as the voters' preference for the future capital.

An information package has been developed and approved by the Government of the Northwest Territories, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and the Government of Canada, to provide voters with information concerning the choice of capital. Next week, posters describing the voting procedures, will be distributed to all Nunavut communities. The brochure, "*Your Guide to the Nunavut Capital Public Vote*" will be distributed throughout all Nunavut communities later this month.

To be eligible to vote, a voter must be: a Canadian citizen; 18 years of age before the day on which he or she votes; a resident in Nunavut since December 11, 1994; and a resident in Nunavut on the day in which he or she votes.

... /2

Voting stations will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. local time on voting day.

Ballot boxes will be sealed and sent to a central location where the results will be tabulated.

The territorial government of Nunavut will be established on April 1, 1999.

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95-22

Business Loans Paid by Nahendeh MLA

Yellowknife (Nov. 15, 1995) Jim Antoine, MLA Nahendeh has paid back the outstanding principal and interest accruing on two government loans.

Tagaah Ltd., a company owned and controlled by Mr. Antoine and his wife, received two loans in 1989 from the Business Credit Corporation to develop a service station in Fort Simpson.

Attempts to sell the property and pay off the outstanding loans were delayed due to difficulties relating to the title of the land and placement of the service station.

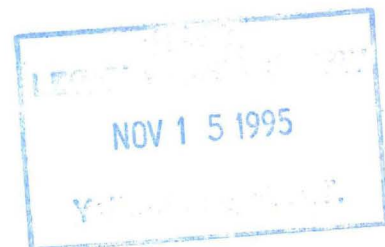
The service station has since been sold and the funds used to pay off the principal on the loan. Mr. Antoine has made other financial arrangements to repay the entire amount of accumulated interest to the Business Credit Corporation, an agency of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism.

"A great deal of attention was given to this predicament, which was essentially a private business matter, earlier this year," Antoine said. "I'm dismayed that it has not been given the same level of publicity now that it has been completely resolved."

Mr. Antoine maintains that there are flaws in the Corporation's methods of supporting business development, a matter which he intends to pursue during the 13th Legislative Assembly.

Contact:

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95-23

Agenda Set for Territorial Leadership Committee

Yellowknife (November 17, 1995) - Members of the 13th Legislative Assembly have determined the agenda for their meeting leading to the selection of a new Premier and Cabinet Ministers.

The 24 Members began an orientation session in Yellowknife on Monday. Today, as that orientation drew to a close, Members finalized agenda items for the Territorial Leadership Committee.

The Committee meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. Monday, November 20 in the Legislative Assembly Chamber and will be chaired by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, David Hamilton. The first item of business Members will deal with is the selection of a Speaker.

The person chosen Speaker-elect will assume the chairperson's role as Members proceed through the following agenda:

- Discussion about number of Cabinet seats
- Discussion about position of Deputy Premier
- Discussion regarding mid-term review
- Election of Premier
- Election of Cabinet Ministers
- Statements by Members

The Territorial Leadership Committee is open to the public. Television Northern Canada (TVNC) will broadcast a two-hour program featuring highlights of the discussion, according to the following schedule:

- Mon. Nov. 20 @ 10:30 p.m. (MST) - English
- Tues. Nov. 21 @ 1:30 p.m. (MST) - Inuktitut
- Tues. Nov. 21 @ 10:30 p.m. (MST) - English
- Wed. Nov. 22 @ 1:30 p.m. (MST) - Inuktitut

The First Session of the Thirteenth Legislative Assembly will open at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 22, with the Commissioner's Address.

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95-24

Gargan Re-elected Speaker

YELLOWKNIFE (November 20, 1995) - Sam Gargan has been elected Speaker of the 13th Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Gargan also served as Speaker of the 12th Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Gargan represents the electoral district of Deh Cho. He is the longest-serving Member, having been first elected to the Legislative Assembly in 1983. He was re-elected in 1987, acclaimed in the 1991 election and re-elected in the territorial general election on October 16, 1995.

During the 12th Assembly, Mr. Gargan also chaired the Standing Committee on Legislation and was Deputy Chair of the Special Committee on Housing. He was a member of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts and an alternate member of the Standing Committee on Finance and the Special Joint Committee on Division.

Mr. Gargan served as Deputy Speaker of the 11th Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Gargan was born near Redknife River, N.W.T. in 1948. Prior to his election in 1983, Mr. Gargan worked as a counsellor with Hire North, he was a Classroom Assistant at Elizabeth Ward School in Fort Providence and he was a director with the Dene Nation. He has been a member of the Fort Providence hamlet and band councils and sat on the National Aboriginal Health Board.

As Speaker, Mr. Gargan will chair the Management and Services Board which administers the Assembly support services and advises the Legislature.

Mr. Gargan and his wife, Alphonsine, have three sons: Manuel Jerome, Soloman Lee, and Sammy Baptiste; and two daughters, Patricia Ann and Olga Dawn.

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95-25

Don Morin Elected Premier

YELLOWKNIFE (November 20, 1995) - Don Morin has been elected Premier by Members of the 13th Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Morin (MLA, Tu Nedhe) was chosen in a secret ballot election over the only other candidate for the position, Jane Groenewegen (MLA, Hay River) today.

Mr. Morin was born in Hay River in 1954. In 1976, he moved to Fort Resolution where he operated his own construction business. He represented the Dene Nation on the Great Slave Lake Advisory Committee and was a member of the Deninoo Community Council in Fort Resolution.

Mr. Morin was first elected to the Legislative Assembly in 1987. He was re-elected in 1991 and elected to the 13th Assembly in the territorial general election on October 16, 1995.

During the 12th Legislative Assembly, Mr. Morin was the Minister of Public Works and Services and the Minister responsible for the N.W.T. Housing Corporation. He also chaired the Special Committee on Housing and was a member of the Special Joint Committee on Division.

Seven other Members of the Assembly will be chosen to the Executive Council in a secret ballot election on Tuesday, November 21, 1995.

Mr. Morin will replace Hon. Nellie Cournoyea as Premier. Ms. Cournoyea did not seek another term in the October 16th election.

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95-26

Executive Council Members Elected

YELLOWKNIFE (November 21, 1995) - Members of the 13th Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories have elected seven members of the Executive Council.

The Cabinet Ministers were chosen in a secret ballot election in the Legislative Assembly Chamber today.

The following Members, once formally sworn in, will join Premier-elect Don Morin on Cabinet:

- Jim Antoine (MLA, Nahendeh)
- Goo Arlooktoo (MLA, Baffin South)
- Charles Dent (MLA, Yellowknife Frame Lake)
- Stephen Kakfwi (MLA, Sahtu)
- Kelvin Ng (MLA, Kitikmeot)
- Manito Thompson (MLA, Aivilik)
- John Todd (MLA, Keewatin Central)

Portfolios for individual Ministers will be assigned by the Premier at a later date.

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(biographies attached)

95-27

Appointments Made to Standing Committees

YELLOWKNIFE (November 24, 1995) - The 13th Legislative Assembly has appointed Members to its six Standing Committees.

Members of the Assembly have adopted a new committee structure, designed to tackle the many difficult challenges they will face during their term in office, such as division and financial restraint.

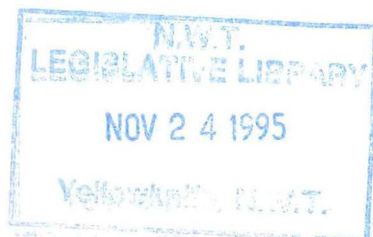
The six committees are: the Standing Committee on Infrastructure; the Standing Committee on Resource Management and Development; the Standing Committee on Social Programs; the Standing Committee on Rules and Procedures; the Standing Committee on Government Operations and the Management and Services Board.

The mandate of each of the Standing Committees on Infrastructure, Resource Management and Development and Social Programs is to:

- a) Review legislative and policy proposals, multi-year plans and budgets, Bills, boards and agencies, public accounts and division issues;
- b) Review departmental performance; and
- c) Consider any other matter referred by the House.

Each Committee concentrates its efforts on a different group of government departments tailored along the lines of the government's envelope system.

The Standing Committee on Infrastructure considers the above matters for the Departments of: Finance; Public Works and Services; Municipal and Community Affairs; Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs; Executive; Personnel Secretariat and the Financial Management Board Secretariat. The Chairman is Edward Picco and the Deputy Chairman is Seamus Henry. The other members are Levi Barnabas, Jane Groenewegen and Vince Steen. Alternates are David Krutko, John Ningark and Jake Ootes.



The Standing Committee on Resource Management and Development considers the above matters for the Departments of: Economic Development and Tourism; Renewable Resources; Transportation; Safety and Public Services; and Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources. The Chairman is David Krutko and the Deputy Chairman is Kevin O'Brien. The other members are Mark Evaloarjuk, Jake Ootes and James Rabesca. Alternates are Tommy Enuaraq, Roy Erasmus and Edward Picco.

The Standing Committee on Social Programs considers the above matters for the Departments of: Health and Social Services; Education, Culture and Employment; Justice; and the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation. The Chairman is Tommy Enuaraq and the Deputy Chairman is Michael Miltenberger. The other members are Roy Erasmus, John Ningark and Floyd Roland. Alternates are Levi Barnabas, Jane Groenewegen and James Rabesca.

In addition the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of each of these 'envelope' committees sit on **the Standing Committee on Government Operations**. The seven-person committee is chaired by Roy Erasmus. Its role is to:

- a) Review issues with government-wide implications;
- b) Consider items and issues referred from other Committees and the House;
- c) Conduct the overview of the budget and the fiscal framework;
- d) Consider the budgets and financial management of boards and agencies that are outside the responsibility of any Standing Committee including the Office of the Legislative Assembly;
- e) Examine the reports on the annual financial statements and public accounts of the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Report of the Auditor General;
- f) Review the estimates and financial status of the Government of the Northwest Territories to monitor compliance with the *Deficit Elimination Act*;
- g) Allocate to any other Standing Committee its examination of any estimates and any review of departmental performance;
- h) Recommend the appointment of the Statutory Officers of the Legislative Assembly; and
- i) Examine and consider the overall issues that affect the operation of the Government of the Northwest Territories relating to division and the creation of two new Territories.

The Standing Committee on Rules and Procedures shall inquire into matters that are referred to it by the Legislative Assembly, the Speaker, or the Management and Services Board. Its members are the Hon. Charles Dent, Mark Evaloarjuk, Seamus Henry, Michael Miltenberger and John Ningark. Alternates are Tommy Enuaraq, David Krutko and Vince Steen.

The Management and Services Board, chaired by the Speaker, has the responsibility for the general administration of the Legislative Assembly. The Board exercises financial authority over the Legislative Assembly and provides policy advice on organization and administration. Its members are the Hon. Sam Gargan (Chairman), Hon. Kelvin Ng, Kevin O'Brien, Floyd Roland and Vince Steen.

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Several departments and agencies were the source of 12 valid complaints completed in 1994-95. In these cases, the Languages Commissioner investigated and determined that some administrative error, oversight or unfairness occurred. All of these issues are already being dealt with by the GNWT.

The third Annual Report of the Languages Commissioner of the NWT also asks the Standing Committee on Agencies, Boards and Commissions (ABC) to review the *Access to Information/Protection of Privacy Act* before its coming into effect to ensure that this Act does not contravene any provision of the *Official Languages Act*.

The four year term of the present Languages Commissioner expires on January 31st, 1996. Last year, the Legislative Assembly recommended that the next Languages Commissioner be on contract. The Languages Commissioner recommends that before the appointment of the next Languages Commissioner, the ABC Committee and the Management Services Board, consider this new contractual arrangement to ensure that it complies with the *Official Languages Act* and clearly addresses the many administrative questions that have risen in the last four years.

Under the NWT *Official Languages Act*, there are eight Official Languages in the NWT: Chipewyan, Dogrib, Slavey (North and South), Gwich'in, Cree, Inuktitut (including Inuvialuktun and Inuinnaqtun), French and English. The Languages Commissioner is a linguistic ombudsman and reports to the Legislature through the Speaker.

For more information, contact
Office of the Languages Commissioner
873-7034 or 1-800-661-0889



Memo

TO: MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FROM: ART SORENSEN
PRESS SECRETARY, OFFICE OF THE PREMIER
GNWT

403-669-2302 (W)
403-873-5086 (H)
403-873-0169 (FAX)

SUBJECT: ANNOUNCEMENT

DATE: Monday, November 27, 1995 @ 11:26 AM

Note: The premier intends to make the following announcement today.

YELLOWKNIFE (November 27) - Premier Don Morin says Cabinet will meet for two days in Fort Smith beginning Tuesday.

He said ministers will meet there at the invitation of Thebacha MLA Mike Miltenberger to start the process of developing a common purpose on the many issues facing the government.

The premier also announced that Joe Handley is heading up a transition team established to make sure there is a smooth change-over to the new government.

The premier said he expects the transition period to be handled in an "efficient and effective manner" and that he plans to announce portfolio assignments Tuesday.

Mr. Handley, deputy minister of renewable resources, has also been named acting Secretary to Cabinet. New responsibilities for Pierre Alvarez, who held the position, will be announced at a later date.

Bob Macleod, deputy minister of renewable resources, will head up that department until Mr. Handley's interim assignment ends.



NEWS RELEASE

Chief Polling Officer

Nunavut Capital Public Vote

For Immediate Release

12,200 Voters Eligible for Nunavut Capital Public Vote

Yellowknife (December 5, 1995) - More than 12,000 voters are eligible to participate in the Nunavut Capital Public Vote on Monday, December 11, 1995.

Residents of Nunavut will go to the polls December 11 to select Iqaluit or Rankin Inlet as the capital of Nunavut. Polling stations will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. local time.

The Chief Polling Officer, David Hamilton, says the names of approximately 12,200 voters appear on the finalized voters lists. However, eligible voters whose names do not appear on the list can be sworn in at the polls.

Eligible voters who are not able to vote on December 11 may vote by proxy. Proxy vote applications may be obtained from the Returning Officer. Please phone toll-free 1-800-661-0784 for more information, or to find out the name of the Returning Officer for any given community.

Eligible voters must be: 18 years of age, a Canadian citizen, a resident in Nunavut since December 11, 1994, and a resident in Nunavut on the day of voting.

The Chief Polling Officer is sponsoring a live phone-in show on TVNC to allow voters an opportunity to discuss the vote with the Mayors of Rankin Inlet and Iqaluit. The show is scheduled for Sunday, December 10 from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

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Contact:

David M. Hamilton
Chief Polling Officer
Phone: (403) 669-2299 or 1-800-661-0784
Fax: (403) 920-4735



NEWS RELEASE

Chief Polling Officer

Nunavut Capital Public Vote

95-29

Nunavut Ballots To Be Counted in Communities

Yellowknife (December 8 1995) - The unofficial count of ballots for the Nunavut Capital Public Vote will be conducted in each community, not Yellowknife.

Returning Officers will communicate their community-by-community results to Mr. David Hamilton, the Chief Polling Officer. Once all communities have reported, the Chief Polling Officer will announce the unofficial results on a Nunavut-wide basis. All voting materials will subsequently be forwarded to the Chief Polling Officer, who will confirm the official results of the vote approximately a week later.

The change in procedures and an initialed amendment to the guidelines were forwarded to the Chief Polling Officer by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the Premier of the NWT and the President of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated.

This change to the guidelines will permit the unofficial results to be made public earlier, but the community-by-community vote will still not be made public and will be kept strictly confidential.

Residents of Nunavut will choose either of two communities when they mark their ballot in the Nunavut Capital Public Vote on December 11, 1995.

The following question will appear on the ballot: ***"Which of these communities do you want to become the capital of Nunavut - Iqaluit or Rankin Inlet?"***

To be eligible to vote, a voter must be: a Canadian citizen; 18 years of age before the day on which he or she votes; a resident in Nunavut since December 11, 1994; and a resident in Nunavut on the day in which he or she votes.

Voting stations will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. local time on voting day.

Contact:

David M. Hamilton
Chief Polling Officer
Phone: (403) 669-2299 or 1-800-661-0784
Fax: (403) 920-4735



NEWS RELEASE

Chief Polling Officer

Nunavut Capital Public Vote

Minor Changes in Official Addition

Yellowknife (Dec. 18, 1995) - Results of the Nunavut Capital Public Vote remain unchanged with only minor revisions following the Official Addition last weekend.

The Official Addition confirmed Iqaluit with 60 per cent of votes and Rankin Inlet with 40 per cent, says Chief Polling Officer David Hamilton. Iqaluit received 5,888 votes to Rankin Inlet's 3,879. Unofficial results gave Iqaluit 5,869 votes, and Rankin Inlet 3,876.

A total of 9,833 ballots were cast on December 11, 1995. One ballot was spoiled, 65 rejected, and 9,767 accepted in the Official Addition, says Mr. Hamilton. Unofficial results showed 65 spoiled ballots, 23 rejected ballots and a total of 9,745 accepted ballots.

The Official Addition was conducted at the Legislative Assembly in the presence of representatives of the Government of Canada, the Government of the NWT, and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. The Official Results have been forwarded to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

For more information, contact:

David M. Hamilton
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