



Report of the Standing Committee  
on Agencies, Boards and Commissions

Thank you Mr. Speaker.

As Chairman of the Standing Committee on Agencies, Boards and Commissions, I rise today to bring the House up to date on your Committee's recent activities.

In mid-August, the Committee travelled to Iqaluit to discuss the directions and activities we are planning for the next three years. The Committee met on August 16th and 17th in the Boardroom of the Regional Office. Our discussions were very productive and all Members left these meetings with a much clearer idea of our mandate and the methods by which we intend to carry out our duties and responsibilities.

Your Committee also enjoyed a number of tours of some of the local facilities. We made visits to the new Arctic College campus, the Ukkivik Student Residence, the Baffin Correctional Centre, the Regional offices and general tours of both Iqaluit and Apex.

We were also pleased to have the opportunity to meet with a number of local residents, including political leaders, businessmen and senior government officials. The informal discussions that took place allowed the Committee members to gain a more meaningful understanding of the issues directly affecting people in Iqaluit and, to a lesser degree, other Baffin residents.

It should also be mentioned that your Committee travelled to Lake Harbour to get a first-hand look at the airstrip we have heard so much about. Although the Honourable Member for Baffin South was not in his home community at the time of our visit, we did enjoy a brief community tour, including visits to the nursing station, the school and the municipal office. Now that we have experienced a landing on the Lake Harbour airstrip, we understand and support the Member's efforts toward improving the situation.

Mr. Speaker, the Members of the Standing Committee on Agencies, Boards and Commissions were very pleased to have had this opportunity to visit the Baffin Region. Our visit was in response to the Legislative Assembly's stated desire to hold meetings of standing and special committees in communities other than the capital. We feel that the public contact and exposure your Committee received, while we were

there, is beneficial to everyone involved. For a number of us on the Committee, it was the first time we had travelled to the Baffin Region. I can assure you that it was an experience we will value for many years.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend on behalf of your Committee, our sincere thanks to the staff of the Baffin Regional Office for the capable assistance, time and effort they provided to the Committee in making our visit a productive, educational and enjoyable one.

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