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Nunavut Maligaliurvia
Legislative Assembly of Nunavut
Assemblée législative du Nunavut

R E L E A S E

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Announces Designation of New Languages Commissioner of Nunavut

IQALUIT, Nunavut (June 15, 2017) - Speaker of the Legislative Assembly George Qulaut today announced that a formal motion will be moved at the next sitting of the House to appoint Ms. Helen Klengenber of Kugluktuk as Languages Commissioner of Nunavut for a five-year term of office. The 3rd Session of the 4th Legislative Assembly reconvenes on September 12, 2017.

Under the *Official Languages Act*, the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut is appointed by the Commissioner on the recommendation of the Legislative Assembly. The Management and Services Board of the Legislative Assembly may recommend the appointment of an Acting Languages Commissioner when the office is vacant and the House is not sitting. Ms. Klengenber's appointment as Acting Languages Commissioner is effective June 29, 2017. A public invitation for applications for the position of Languages Commissioner was issued last year.

Speaker Qulaut said, "Helen Klengenber has extensive senior management experience in both the public and private sectors. A proven advocate for language rights, she was a member of the Task Force on Aboriginal Languages and Cultures that presented a landmark report on indigenous language revitalization to the Government of Canada. I am proud that she is our territory's first Languages Commissioner from an Inuinnaqtun-speaking community."

A biographical note is attached.

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For more information:
John Quirke, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
Tel: (867) 975-5000

Biographical Note

Helen K. Klengenber, BA, MBA

Helen K. Klengenber was born on the land.

Ms. Klengenber holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Western Ontario, a Master's of Business Administration degree from Saint Mary's University and a certificate in Municipal Administration from McMaster University.

Ms. Klengenber is fluent in both Inuinnaqtun and English. She is conversant in a variety of dialects of the Inuit Language.

Ms. Klengenber received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Baffin Regional Chamber of Commerce in 2014. She has held a variety of positions in both the public and private sectors, including:

- President and Chief Executive Officer of the Akhaliak Group of Companies;
- Vice-President, Aarluk Consulting;
- Advisor, Arts and Traditional Economy, Government of Nunavut;
- Director of Human Resources, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated;
- Wildlife Manager, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated;
- Regional Director, Kitikmeot Region, Government of the Northwest Territories;
- Member of the Task Force on Aboriginal Languages and Cultures;
- Member of the Board of Directors of the Canada Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Research Network; and
- Member of the Board of Directors of the Kitikmeot Trust.