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Nunavut Maligaliurvia
Legislative Assembly of Nunavut
Assemblée législative du Nunavut

RELEASE

Standing Committee tables review of Information and Privacy Commissioner's Annual Report

IQALUIT, Nunavut (February 23, 2001) - The Standing Committee on Government Operations and Services today tabled its *Review of the 1999-2000 Annual Report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut*.

Elaine Keenan Bengts, the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut, is an independent officer of the Legislative Assembly. Her first annual report was presented to the Legislative Assembly at its last Session. The Information and Privacy Commissioner appeared before the Standing Committee at a public meeting to discuss her report and recommendations in November of 2000.

"The work of the Information and Privacy Commissioner is vital to helping ensure that our government is transparent, yet sensitive to privacy issues," said Hunter Tootoo, MLA for Iqaluit Centre and Chair of the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Services. "Members of the Standing Committee were pleased to have the opportunity to raise a wide range of concerns with the Information and Privacy Commissioner, and these are reflected in our report."

In addition to addressing each of the recommendations contained in the Information and Privacy Commissioner's annual report, the Standing Committee made a number of additional recommendations concerning such issues as the confidentiality of medical test results, and the need for increased public awareness concerning the access and privacy rights of Nunavummiut under the Act.

The Standing Committee has requested that the Government of Nunavut table a comprehensive response to the report and its recommendations within 120 days, as provided for by the Rules of the Legislative Assembly.

"Striking a balance between the public's right to know and the need to safeguard personal information from unauthorized disclosure is a continuous challenge," Mr. Tootoo said.

Click [here](#) to read the review (requires Adobe Acrobat)

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