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RELEASE

Review process gets underway for Bill 1 - Education Act

IQALUIT, **Nunavut (April 29, 2002) -** On April 24, 2002, Bill 1 -Education Act, received second reading in the Legislative Assembly and was referred to the Standing Committee on Health and Education for review.

On Friday, April 26, Standing Committee Chair Jobie Nutarak presented a motion in the House to extend the review period beyond the usual 120 days provided for in the Rules of the Legislative Assembly.

"This Bill will require careful scrutiny, consideration and deliberation," said Mr. Nutarak. "Nunavut's new Education Act must reflect the needs and wishes of Nunavummiut. It will be important for students, parents and other community members to come forward and express their views."

The Standing Committee will undertake community consultations during the fall and early winter. Mr. Nutarak's motion also encouraged other Members of the Legislative Assembly to take part in meetings held in their constituencies. "We look forward to constructive input from all Members of this Assembly. It is important that we all work together to make the best possible product for our children," said Mr. Nutarak.

In the coming months, information will be distributed throughout Nunavut to give residents and stakeholders ample opportunity to consider the proposed legislation. Copies of the Bill are available on the Legislative Assembly's website or by contacting the Legislative Assembly at 1-877-334-7266.

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