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Nunavut Maligaliurvia
Legislative Assembly of Nunavut
Assemblée législative du Nunavut

RELEASE

Special Committee gets on the road to hear from communities

IQALUIT, Nunavut (September 12, 2002) - The Legislative Assembly's Special Committee to Review the Official Languages Act gets on the road this weekend to consult with Nunavummiut.

The Special Committee was established by the Legislative Assembly to undertake a review of the Official Languages Act, which was inherited from the Northwest Territories on April 1, 1999.

"We have already held a successful series of roundtable meetings in Iqaluit, Cambridge Bay and Rankin Inlet with stakeholder groups," said Rebekah Uqi Williams, Chair of the Special Committee. "We're now going to hear directly from Nunavummiut on what changes they want to see in a made-in-Nunavut Official Languages Act."

The Special Committee tabled its first Interim Report in March of this year.

"The linguistic diversity of Nunavut is one of our territory's strengths," said Donald Havioyak, MLA for Kugluktuk and Co-Chair of the Special Committee. "Hearing from communities is critical to the success of our work."

The Special Committee will kick off its series of public meetings this Saturday in Sanikiluaq. Members will travel throughout next week to Qikiqtarjuaq, Arctic Bay, Taloyoak, Chesterfield Inlet, Baker Lake and Kugluktuk. Further hearings are scheduled to take place in the new year.

Copies of the Special Committee's first Interim Report are available from the Legislative Assembly and are available on-line at <http://www.assembly.nu.ca>.

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