



MLAs announce Nunavut Leadership Forum Procedures

IQALUIT, Nunavut (March 3, 2004) - The Legislative Assembly's Caucus today announced the format for the 2004 Nunavut Leadership Forum. The Forum consists of all 19 MLAs, and is used to select Nunavut's Speaker, Premier and Cabinet Ministers.

- The Leadership Forum will be held in the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly, beginning at 10:00am EST on Friday, March 5, 2004.
- The proceedings will be open to the public to observe from the Visitors' Gallery. The proceedings will be broadcast live across Nunavut on APTN's north of 60 feed; in Iqaluit on cable channel 33 and on 93.7 and 94.9 Iqaluit FM radio.
- The selection of the Speaker, Premier and Ministers will be made by secret ballot.
- The first item of business will be the election of the Speaker.
- The second item of business will be the election of the Premier. Each nominated candidate will be permitted to make a 20-minute speech. MLAs not standing for the position of Premier will be permitted to ask questions of candidates.
- MLAs agreed that the Cabinet will consist of eight members: the Premier and seven Ministers. Each nominated candidate for Cabinet will be permitted to make a 10-minute speech. A question period does not occur.
- Formal motions to confirm the appointments of the Speaker, Premier and Cabinet will be made on the first sitting day of the Second Legislative Assembly, which will take place on March 9, 2004, at 1:30pm EST.
- The *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act* provides that the Premier has the prerogative to assign Ministerial portfolios.

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For more information:
Tony Rose, Public Affairs Officer
Tel: (867) 975-5000 / Fax: (867) 975-5190
Email: TRose@Assembly.Nu.Ca