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**Nunavut Maligaliurvia**  
**Legislative Assembly of Nunavut**  
**Assemblée législative du Nunavut**

***RELEASE***

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### **Legislative Assembly Recommends the Re-appointment of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut**

**IQALUIT, Nunavut (November 25, 2004)** - The Legislative Assembly today recommended that Ms. Elaine Keenan Bengts be re-appointed as the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut for a five-year term of office.

Section 61 of Nunavut's *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* provides that the Commissioner of Nunavut, on the recommendation of the Legislative Assembly, shall appoint an Information and Privacy Commissioner. The position is one of a number of independent officers who report directly to the Legislative Assembly.

The purposes of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* are to make public bodies more accountable to the public and to protect personal privacy by giving the public a right of access to records held by public bodies; giving individuals a right of access to, and a right to request correction of, personal information about themselves held by public bodies; specifying limited exceptions to the rights of access; preventing the unauthorized collection, use or disclosure of personal information by public bodies; and providing for an independent review of decisions made under the Act.

The Information and Privacy Commissioner performs a number of duties under the Act, and reports annually to the Legislative Assembly.

Ms. Keenan Bengts was appointed Nunavut's first Information and Privacy Commissioner in 1999. She is a long-term Northerner and non-resident member of the Law Society of Nunavut.

Hunter Tootoo, MLA for Iqaluit Centre and Chair of the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Accountability said, "I had the privilege of chairing the Standing Committee which recommended the original appointment of Ms. Keenan Bengts. Her service to the Legislative Assembly over the past several years has been valuable."

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