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Nunavut Maligaliurvia
Legislative Assembly of Nunavut
Assemblée législative du Nunavut

R E L E A S E

Legislative Assembly approves motions

IQALUIT, Nunavut (March 21, 2005) - The Legislative Assembly has approved a number of formal motions.

Rankin Inlet North MLA Tagak Curley, seconded by Iqaluit Centre MLA Hunter Tootoo, moved a motion calling on the federal government to exempt all vessels providing sealift services to Nunavut communities from paying marine service fees.

Mr. Curley said, "Nunavummiut already pay some of the highest prices in Canada for goods and services. Addressing this issue would help to reduce the cost of living for our residents."

Cambridge Bay MLA Keith Peterson, seconded by Rankin Inlet North MLA Tagak Curley, moved a motion to recommend that the Government of Nunavut re-allocate the \$500,000 that was deleted earlier in the current Session from the 2005-2006 main estimates of the Department of Community and Government Services. The motion called on the funding to be primarily directed to contributions for community-based search and rescue organizations.

Mr. Peterson said, "Local search and rescue organizations perform a vital function in our communities. They deserve our support."

Nanulik MLA Patterk Netser, seconded by Nattilik MLA Leona Aglukkaq, moved a motion to refer the 2004 annual report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut to the Committee of the Whole for detailed consideration. The CEO has been invited to appear before the Committee in April.

Mr. Netser said, "Elections are important to democracy. The CEO's report contains a number of recommendations to improve our legislation, and we need to consider these with care."

Iqaluit Centre MLA Hunter Tootoo, seconded by Quttiktuq MLA Levi Barnabas, moved a motion calling on the accommodation rate for patients or escorts staying in private homes in Nunavut when travelling for medical treatment to be reinstated to its previous level.


Mr. Tootoo said, "It is important that ordinary Nunavummiut be fairly compensated for the services they provide."


After its present sitting concludes, the Legislative Assembly will reconvene on April 26, 2005.

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