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Nunavut Maligaliurvia
Legislative Assembly of Nunavut
Assemblée législative du Nunavut

RELEASE

Legislative Assembly amends *Nunavut Elections Act*

IQALUIT, Nunavut (December 2, 2005) – Improvements to the *Nunavut Elections Act* were passed today by the Legislative Assembly.

Chair of Full Caucus Levi Barnabas said, “These amendments will strengthen a number of provisions related to the integrity of the electoral process, while making voting more accessible to Nunavummiut.”

In order to ensure that all Nunavummiut receive timely election results, polls across the territory will open and close at the same time. All polls will open at 9:00am CST and close at 7:00pm CST (10:00am - 8:00pm EST; 8:00am - 6:00pm MST).

Changes have been made to mobile and advance polls to provide Returning Officers with enhanced ability to ensure that Nunavummiut have the opportunity to cast their ballots. Provisions related to emergency voting have been modified to allow greater voter flexibility.

Financial agents will be required to be residents of Nunavut and financial reports will have to be signed by both the financial agent and candidate. In recognition of the fact that costs are high in the North, the maximum limit on campaign contributions will be raised to \$2,500.

The amendments implement recommendations contained in the Chief Electoral Officer’s report on the 2004 general election, which was tabled in the Legislative Assembly earlier this year. Chief Electoral Officer Sandy Kusugak said, “These amendments will help us at Elections Nunavut to further improve the level of service provided to Nunavut’s voters.”

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