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## RELEASE

## Auditor General to appear before Standing Committee

**IQALUIT, Nunavut (March 15, 2006)** - The Auditor General of Canada, Ms. Sheila Fraser, will appear before the Standing Committee on Government Operations and Accountability on April 25, 2006, to review her most recent Report to the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. The Auditor General's Report was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on February 21, 2006.

The Auditor General of Canada audits the accounts and financial transactions of the Government of Nunavut, as well as those of the federal government, the NWT and the Yukon. Her reports highlight management issues that are noted during audits. Members of the Standing Committee will pose questions to the Auditor General and senior Government of Nunavut officials during the course of the hearings.

Hunter Tootoo, MLA for Iqaluit Centre and Chair of the Standing Committee, said, "We look forward to welcoming the Auditor General back to Iqaluit. These hearings will provide an important opportunity to give careful consideration to the issues noted in her report. The Committee will also be holding the government to account for its progress in acting on past recommendations made by the Auditor General and the Standing Committee."

Hearings will begin at 2:00pm in the Tuktu Room at the Legislative Assembly Building. They will be open for the public to observe and will be broadcast in Iqaluit on local cable channel 33, as well as 94.9 FM and 93.7 FM radio.

Keith Peterson, MLA for Cambridge Bay and Co-Chair of the Standing Committee, said, "A number of the observations made in the Auditor General's Report are disturbing. It is clear that decisive action to address weaknesses in the government's financial management is required."

Copies of the Auditor General's report are available from the Legislative Assembly and are on-line at: <u>http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca</u>. Copies of the Standing Committee's reports and the Government of Nunavut's responses are available at: <u>http://www.assembly.nu.ca</u>.

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