RELEASE

## Standing Committee to Hold Hearings on Proposed Language Legislation

IQALUIT, Nunavut (September 24, 2007) - The Legislative Assembly’s Standing Committee Ajauqtiit will hold hearings on the proposed new Official Languages Act and the proposed new Inuit Language Protection Act from October 18-22, 2007.

Bill 6, the proposed new Official Languages Act and Bill 7, the proposed new Inuit Language Protection Act, received First and Second Readings in the Legislative Assembly in June of this year. Following the referral of the bills to the Standing Committee, it formally invited submissions from the Nunavut public and stakeholders.

Standing Committee Chair Steve Mapsalak said, "We have received a number of thoughtful submissions on these important bills from a variety of organizations. Members of the Standing Committee look forward to having the opportunity to hear directly from presenters."

Organizations or individuals who wish to appear before the Standing Committee but who have not yet made a submission should contact the Office of the Clerk by October 10, 2007. The Standing Committee cannot guarantee that all witnesses requesting to appear in front of the Committee can be accommodated.

The hearings will begin at 1:30pm in the Legislative Assembly Building on October 18, 2007. They will be open to 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. A detailed schedule of presentations will be released in the near future.

Copies of Bills 6 and 7 are available on the Legislative Assembly's website at http://www.assembly.nu.ca.

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