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Nunavut Maligaliurvia
Legislative Assembly of Nunavut
Assemblée législative du Nunavut

RELEASE

Standing Committee Releases Interim Report on the Review of Proposed Language Legislation

IQALUIT, Nunavut (October 31, 2007) - The Legislative Assembly's Standing Committee *Ajauqtiit* has presented its Interim Report on the Review of Bill 6, the proposed *Official Languages Act* and Bill 7, the proposed *Inuit Language Protection Act*.

Standing Committee Chair Steve Mapsalak said, "A number of themes have emerged during the Standing Committee's consideration of the bills. During its recent public hearings, a wide range of diverse perspectives and recommendations were articulated by witnesses. In some cases, recommendations on certain issues differed between presenters. Our report highlights a number of these issues."

Chairman Mapsalak has also tabled the written submissions that have been provided from language stakeholders in Nunavut. The Legislative Assembly has approved a motion to extend the period of time for the Standing Committee to report Bills 6 and 7 back to the House by an additional 120 days.

The Standing Committee will be inviting the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth to appear before it during the week of December 3, 2007, to address issues emerging from the Committee's review. Given the importance and complexity of language issues in Nunavut, this appearance will be held in a public forum. This will be the first time during this Assembly that a Minister will appear in public before a Standing Committee at this stage of the legislative process regarding proposed legislation. The starting time and date for the Minister's appearance will be announced in the near future.

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

-30-

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