

## RELEASE

## Standing Committee to hold hearings on proposed new *Education Act*

**IQALUIT, Nunavut** (March 11, 2008) - The Legislative Assembly's Standing Committee on Health and Education will hold hearings on Bill 21, the proposed new *Education Act*, from April 23-24, 2008.

Bill 21, the proposed new *Education Act*, received Second Reading in the Legislative Assembly on November 6, 2007. Following the referral of the bill to the Standing Committee, submissions were invited from the Nunavut public and stakeholders.

Standing Committee Chair and Arviat MLA David Alagalak said, "The Standing Committee has received a number of submissions from organizations and individual Nunavummiut on this important piece of proposed legislation. We look forward to inviting them to appear before the Committee to present their ideas and concerns."

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 March 28, 2008. The Standing Committee cannot guarantee that all witnesses requesting to appear in front of the Committee can be accommodated.

Standing Committee Co-Chair and Quttiktuq MLA Levi Barnabas said, "We anticipate inviting the Minister of Education to appear in public before the Standing Committee in May to review the Bill in detail."

The hearings will begin at 09:00am in the Legislative Assembly Building on April 23, 2008. 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 Bill 21 are available on the Legislative Assembly's website at: <a href="http://www.assembly.nu.ca">http://www.assembly.nu.ca</a>.

-30-

For more information:

Nancy Tupik, Office of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

Tel: (867) 975-5100