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Nunavut Maligaliurvia
Legislative Assembly of Nunavut
Assemblée législative du Nunavut

R E L E A S E

Standing Committee to hold hearings on the Reports of the Auditor General and the Information and Privacy Commissioner

IQALUIT, Nunavut (September 9, 2009) - The Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts will hold hearings from September 29 to October 2, 2009, on the 2009 reports of the Auditor General of Canada and the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut. All Regular Members of the Legislative Assembly serve on the Standing Committee.

The Auditor General of Canada, Ms. Sheila Fraser, has been invited to appear before the Standing Committee at 1:30pm on Tuesday, September 29, 2009, to present her two most recent reports to the Legislative Assembly.

The first report focuses on the financial management practices of the Department of Health and Social Services. This report was undertaken at the request of the previous Legislative Assembly. The second report examines the Government of Nunavut's overall progress in addressing the financial management recommendations contained in the Auditor General's 2005 report to the Legislative Assembly.

"As one of the MLAs who voted to request the Auditor General to examine the Department of Health and Social Services, I am pleased that she has provided us with a detailed report that contains important observations and recommendations," said James Arvaluk, MLA for Tununig and Chair of the Standing Committee. "Our Committee's hearings provide MLAs with the opportunity to hold the government to account for its progress."

The Information and Privacy Commissioner of Nunavut, Ms. Elaine Keenan Bengts, has been invited to appear before the Standing Committee at 3:30pm on Thursday, October 1, 2009.

"Nunavut's *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* is an important piece of legislation that enhances the transparency of government and establishes the rules about how it can collect, use and disclose personal information," said Fred Schell, MLA for South Baffin and Co-Chair of the Standing Committee. "The Information and Privacy Commissioner's annual reports to the Legislative Assembly provide MLAs and Nunavummiut with valuable recommendations in these areas."

The Standing Committee's hearings will take place in the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly and will be open for the public to observe. The hearings will be broadcast in Iqaluit on local cable television and FM radio.

Copies of the Auditor General's reports are available at: <http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca>. Copies of the Information and Privacy Commissioner's reports are available at: <http://www.info-privacy.nu.ca>.

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