



**Nunavut Canada**

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NUNAVUT**

**Election of a Member of the Executive Council**

Official Report

**Wednesday, September 28, 2011**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prayer.....	1
Adoption of Agenda .....	1
Nominations for Cabinet Position .....	1
Election for Cabinet Position.....	4

**Members Present:**

Honourable Eva Aariak, Honourable James Arreak, Mr. Moses Aupaluktuq, Honourable Tagak Curley, Ms. Monica Ell, Mr. Ron Elliott, Mr. Joe Enook, Honourable Lorne Kusugak, Mr. John Ningark, Mr. Johnny Ningeongan, Mr. Hezakah Oshutapik, Honourable Keith Peterson, Mr. Allan Rumbolt, Mr. Fred Schell, Honourable Daniel Shewchuk, Mr. Louis Tapardjuk, Honourable Peter Taptuna, Honourable Hunter Tootoo, Ms. Jeannie Ugyuk.

**Prayer**

**Chairman** (Hon. Hunter Tootoo): Good morning, everybody. It's nice to see a full house. Before we start off, I would like to ask Mr. Ningeongan to lead us off with a prayer, please.

>>*Prayer*

**Adoption of Agenda**

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Ningeongan. Item 2, we have on the agenda, it's the review and adoption of the agenda and procedures. Do members agree to the agenda that is before you?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** Members also have before them the procedures for the Nunavut Leadership Forum. Do members agree that we proceed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Nominations for Cabinet Position**

**Chairman:** Item 3 on the agenda is nomination for members of the Executive Council. I will now open the floor for nominations to the Executive Council and I remind members that if you are nominated, you must immediately accept or decline the nomination. Mr. Ningark.

**Mr. Ningark:** Thank you and good morning, Mr. Chairman. Good morning to all of my colleagues here. As I prepare myself to make a nomination, Mr. Chairman, I would like to bring us back to the time when we were getting ready for the creation of Nunavut, when a great leader, Louis Pilakapsi, told us about his dreams and vision for Nunavut, a Nunavut without a boundary. With that, I wish to nominate Mr. Fred Schell, Member for South Baffin. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Mr. Schell, do you accept the nomination?

**Mr. Schell:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I do.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Schell. The member has accepted the nomination. Are there any more nominations? Mr. Elliott.

**Mr. Elliott:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I wish to nominate Jeannie Ugyuk. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Elliott. Ms. Ugyuk, do you accept the nomination?

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you. Yes, I do.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Ms. Ugyuk. The member has accepted the nomination. Are there any more nominations? Seeing no more hands, do members agree that the nominations are closed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** According to the procedures that we have agreed to, there are no more nominations, so we will now proceed to speeches by candidates. We will proceed in alphabetical order. I will remind candidates that you have up to 10 minutes to deliver your speech. I would like to, again going in alphabetical order, ask Mr. Schell if he would proceed.

**Mr. Schell:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, fellow members. I had actually decided that I wasn't going to put my name forward to stand for your consideration for this open cabinet position. However, with many of you coming to me and asking me to consider accepting this nomination, I felt I had to at least consider your encouragement and honour your support by accepting the nomination.

It has been just about three years since most of us have been elected to this term. I can say with a clear conscience that I have done my best to bring accountability and transparency to this legislature. I cannot say that I have always been successful, but I'm very encouraged by the steps that are being taken by some of our corporations and departments to get their spending under control and to live up with their commitments.

In the coming months, we will be facing some very serious and difficult decisions. The entire world is on the brink of a global recession, and it would be irresponsible if we do not recognize this issue and try to take steps to weather the impending storm.

I'm a believer in you are what you do. For the past three years, I have been a very vocal member of this legislature and, if you decide that you wish me to take on a different role, I'll be honoured to undertake your request if you all choose to decide to appoint me to the cabinet.

I have been vigorous and determined to bring accountability for my endeavours for the past three years. I'm very humbled by your support and continued support, and the encouragement from my constituents and my family. Thank you sincerely for your support and your direction.

>> *Applause*

**Chairman:** Thank you, Mr. Schell. We will now proceed. Ms. Ugyuk, you have 10 minutes. Thank you.

**Ms. Ugyuk** (interpretation): Thank you. My name is Jeannie Kanayuk Ugyuk. I'm the Member for the Nattilik riding. I am putting my name as a candidate to become a member of the Executive Council.

Since the time I became a Member of the Legislative Assembly, I have been nominated and tried for the Executive Council of Nunavut whenever an opening came up. I work hard on behalf of Gjoa Haven, Taloyoak, and Nunavummiut. When issues require voicing, I have no compunctions about voicing the issues on behalf of my constituents.

The legislation we draft today will have an affect in the future. My stances on issues are clear and everyone knows of my stances. I am able to speak Inuktitut fluently and if we need to utilize our culture, I agree with that wholeheartedly. I am capable of working hard and I have demonstrated my commitment by attending every session since I became a member and in participating.

The main reasons why I want to become a member of the Executive Council is to ensure that people at risk and who are vulnerable are protected. From my perspective, I feel that change needs to be made. These people at risk seem to be falling through the cracks, especially orphans and elders.

My second focus will be on education in Nunavut. I believe that there is room for improvement in our system, and I believe that I can put forward good ideas to enhance and improve our education system.

Another matter that occupies my time is the field of health and social services. In my opinion, the health issues are large, especially for people who are suffering from illness and the government expends a huge amount of funds in this field. However, it seems as if social services are an afterthought, even though it too is a very important part of our service provision work.

Another matter that I want to speak to is the justice system for people and people who are incarcerated at correctional facilities which are overcrowded. I know that with the addition of correctional facilities being completed, it will ease the overcrowding. However, Inuit will be impacted by this issue in our immediate future, so this is another matter that I want to be able to resolve. I believe that I can provide support and this is a matter that is one of my priorities.

In particular, the reason why I stand as a candidate is because I believe I can provide a different perspective and be a strong member of the Executive Council if I were chosen as a minister. Thank you.

**Chairman:** Thank you, Ms. Jeannie Ugyuk. That concludes the speeches by the candidates.

Maybe before we go on to balloting, as I indicated earlier, it's nice to have a full house and I would like to welcome the three new members who are going through this for the first time. They're here from Pangnirtung, Tununig, and Iqaluit West. I would like to welcome the three of you to the House in participating in your first public official duty, if you want to call it that, as a Member of the Legislative Assembly. Welcome.

### **Election for Cabinet Position**

Now we will proceed to the balloting. I'll ask the table officers to distribute the ballots and then I will ask all members to proceed in a very orderly fashion to the ballot box to enter their ballots. Thank you.

Thank you. Everybody put their ballot in, I hope. If not, it's too late now. I would like to ask that the ballots now be taken to a secure area for counting. The members may wish to wait in the Members' Lounge to take a brief recess for that to occur.

Welcome back. The forum has reconvened. I wish to advise members that the member from South Baffin, Mr. Schell, has been chosen to serve as a member of the Executive Council of Nunavut.

*>>Applause*

I will now ask for a motion to destroy the ballots. Mr. Aupaluktuq.

**Mr. Aupaluktuq:** Mr. Speaker, I seek a motion to destroy the ballots.

**Chairman:** Do members agree that the ballots will be destroyed?

**Some Members:** Agreed.

**Chairman:** The ballots will be destroyed. They're getting destroyed right now. That concludes the leadership forum. I would like to remind members that the House will convene at eleven o'clock this morning and that these proceedings are now concluded. Thank you.

*>>Meeting adjourned at 9:17*