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Nunavut Maligaliurvia
Legislative Assembly of Nunavut
Assemblée législative du Nunavut

R E L E A S E

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly announces designation of new Languages Commissioner of Nunavut

IQALUIT, Nunavut (December 10, 2012) - Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Hunter Tootoo today announced that the Management and Services Board will be recommending to all Members of the Legislative Assembly that a formal motion be moved at the next sitting of the House to appoint Ms. Sandra Inutiq as Languages Commissioner of Nunavut. The 3rd Session of the 3rd Legislative Assembly reconvenes on February 26, 2013. Ms. Inutiq has been appointed Acting Languages Commissioner, effective January 14, 2013.

Under the *Official Languages Act*, the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut is appointed by the Commissioner on the recommendation of the Legislative Assembly. The Languages Commissioner is one of a number of independent officers of the Legislative Assembly who report directly to the House as a whole.

“On behalf of the Management and Services Board, I am very pleased to welcome Ms. Inutiq back to the Office of the Languages Commissioner in her new capacity,” said Speaker Tootoo. “I am confident that she will demonstrate strong leadership in this important position.”

A public call for applications for the position of Languages Commissioner was issued in September of 2012, following the retirement of the previous office-holder. The Legislative Assembly’s Management and Services Board conducted a competitive selection process for the position. Under the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*, the Board has authority for matters that fall under the jurisdiction of the Legislative Assembly.

“I am looking forward to building on the work of my predecessors to ensure that the official language rights of Nunavummiut are respected and protected,” said Ms. Inutiq.

A biographical note is attached.

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For more information:
John Quirke, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
Tel: (867) 975-5000

Sandra Kunuk Inutiq

Sandra Inutiq graduated from the Akitsiraq Law School Program in 2005 and was subsequently called to the Nunavut Bar. Prior to receiving her law degree from the University of Victoria, Ms. Inutiq participated in the Government of Nunavut's Sivuliqtiksat Management Training Program. Ms. Inutiq has also undertaken studies at Carleton University and the Nunavut Sivuniksavut Program in Ottawa.

Ms. Inutiq has held a number of positions in the public service, including:

- Executive Director - Qullit Status of Women Council;
- Director of Policy - Office of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut;
- Legal Counsel - Government of Nunavut Department of Justice;
- Policy Analyst - Government of Nunavut Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs;
- Technician/Announcer - Canadian Broadcasting Corporation; and
- Host – Inuit Broadcasting Corporation.

Ms. Inutiq has been actively involved with a number of national and territorial organizations, including:

- The Labour Standards Board of Nunavut;
- The Legal Services Board of Nunavut;
- The Nunavut Judicial Advisory Committee;
- The Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Task Force;
- The National Inuit Youth Council; and
- The Aboriginal Justice Learning Network Advisory Council.

Ms. Inutiq is a resident of Iqaluit. She is fluent in both Inuktitut and English.