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NEWS 22 OCTOBER 2020 – 8:39 AM EDT

Nunavut's MLAs to debate on Friday whether to remove Patterk Netser from cabinet

Netser says he's being punished "because of my Christian principles and values"

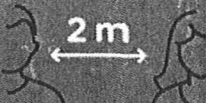


Patterk Netser, Nunavut's MLA for Aivilik, stood in the legislature on Wednesday, Oct. 21, to make a lengthy statement about the fallout from a social media post he made that's been decried as racist and sexist. On Friday, MLAs will debate whether to remove him from cabinet. (Photo by Meagan Deuling)

By Meagan Deuling

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

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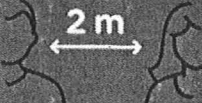
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He apologized to the Black community, saying he didn't mean to cause offence.



Netser went on to say that he was stripped of his portfolios “because of my Christian principles and values.”

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Building Nunavut together
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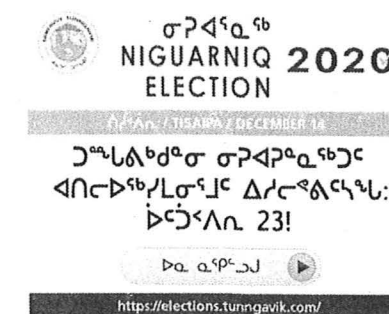
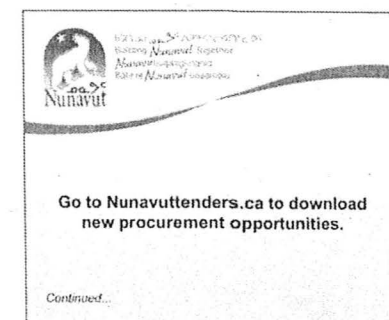
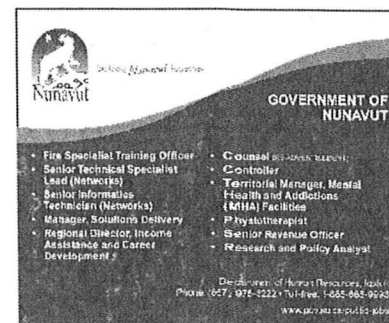
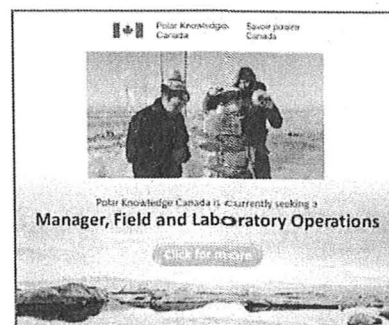
He said this is an example of a trend of erosion of diversity, equality, fairness and tolerance in Canada and Nunavut.

Savikataaq interrupted him to make a point of order, saying that Netser wasn't stripped of his portfolios because of his religious beliefs.

Later, during the break, Savikataaq said he was a bit surprised by Netser's statement.


"His comments were based on racism and gender violence, and it's not reflective of the Government of Nunavut's values and principles," Savikataaq said.

If the motion is carried by members on Friday, Netser will be removed from cabinet, but he will still be a regular MLA.



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Posted by Tusaajuq on 22 October, 2020

