



News Release

Premier Paul Okalik appoints Maligarnit Qimirrujiit commissioners

IQALUIT, Nunavut (November 29, 1999) - Premier Paul Okalik announced the appointment of four commissioners to serve on Maligarnit Qimirrujiit, Nunavut's Law Review Commission.

Premier Okalik met with the four commissioners during their weekend meeting in Iqaluit.

"I appreciate the interest expressed by these Nunavut residents to take on this extremely important endeavor," Premier Okalik said. "There was a considerable number of applicants and I want to thank each one of them for their desire to have a role in this important effort."

Sandra Omik of Iqaluit was appointed chief commissioner. Omik worked for many years with Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik in Pond Inlet, as a court worker and legal secretary.

Well-known Iqaluit resident **Jonah Kelly** was appointed commissioner. Kelly received the CBC President's Award for cross-cultural broadcasting for his 32 years work with CBC. He's also received Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated's President's Award for keeping Inuit culture alive.

Lena Pederson of Kugluktuk will take a leave from her work as a drug and alcohol program coordinator for the hamlet to sit on the Commission. In the past, Pederson served as a board member for the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada and the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation.

Baker Lake resident **Barnabas Piryuaq**, who was also appointed commissioner, is vice-president and a founding member of the Inuit Heritage Trust. Piryuaq has also been a member of the Elders' Advisory Committee since 1993.

The Commission's mandate will expire on December 31, 2001.

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For more information, contact:

Annette Bourgeois
Press Secretary
Office of the Premier
Government of Nunavut
☎ (867) 975-5050
📠 (867) 975-5051
Email: abourgeois@gov.nu.ca