

## News Release

## Government signs first collective agreement with Nunavut teachers' union

**IQALUIT, Nunavut (April 3, 2000)** – Finance and Administration Minister Kelvin Ng and Federation of Nunavut Teachers President Donna Stephania signed the first collective agreement between the Government of Nunavut and the union.

"A three-year agreement with our teachers provides the opportunity to continue to build on our strengths and to add value to the education program," Minister Ng said.

The signing ceremony took place in the Legislative Assembly this morning.

"I would like to extend my thanks to Ms. Stephania and members of both the FNT negotiating team and Government negotiating team for their commitment and on a job well done," Minister Ng added.

The agreement includes salary increases of 3.5%, 2.75% and 2.75% in each of three years respectively, retroactive to September 1, 1999.

The new collective agreement covers a number of other important areas of concern for Nunavut's teachers, including professional development, recognition for language proficiency in Inuktitut and Innuinaquun, a one-time professional allowance and a significant increase of 25% to the Northern Allowance.

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