



## News Release

### Finance Minister pleased with outcome of teachers' contract vote

**IQALUIT, Nunavut (March 17, 2000)** – Finance Minister Kelvin Ng is pleased with the vote by the Federation of Nunavut Teachers (FNT) to accept the contract put forward by the Government of Nunavut and FNT bargaining committee.

“I am encouraged by the successful completion of the first Federation of Nunavut Teachers Collective Agreement,” Minister Ng said. “Reaching an agreement is in the best interest of Nunavut students.”

The three-year agreement includes salary increases of 3.5 %, 2.75 % and 2.75 % in each of the three years respectively, retroactive to September 1, 1999. Increases and enhancements have also been made to professional development, language proficiency allowance, Principal's Allowance and the Northern Allowance. As well, a one-time Professional Allowance of \$750 will be paid to all teachers employed as of February 21, 2000.

Negotiated increases to the Northern Allowance provision include a 10% increase retroactive to September 1999 and a 15% increase effective April 1, 2000. This follows from the Minister's January 17, 2000 announcement that a 15% increase would be offered to all Government of Nunavut employees as of April 1, 2000. The changes will take effect for the FNT, Hay Plan and excluded employees on April 1, 2000 and for Nunavut Employees Union members once a new contract has been ratified.

Memorandums of Understanding were signed outlining a timeline for the FNT to provide the Nunavut Government with its views on resources and the allocations of such resources for education. This timeline will allow for FNT participation in the development of a made-in-Nunavut Northern Allowance.

-30-

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