

News release

Government announces NWMB appointment

IQALUIT, Nunavut (January 16, 2001) – Premier Paul Okalik and Sustainable Development Minister Olayuk Akesuk announced the appointment of Okalik Eegeesiak of Iqaluit to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board.

"Ms. Eegeesiak will bring a great deal of board governance experience to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, as well as a national perspective on wildlife issues," Premier Okalik said. "I am pleased she has accepted this appointment."

The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB) is considered the primary instrument of wildlife management in Nunavut and is composed of members appointed by federal and territorial government agencies, NTI and Regional Wildlife Organizations (RWOs). The duties of the NWMB are described in Article 5 of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. Decisions on wildlife management are brought before the NWMB for consideration by all government wildlife agencies, RWOs and Hunters' and Trappers' Organizations.

"The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board provides a very important role in Nunavut as co-manager of our wildlife resources, and I look forward to working closely with its members as we embark on the development of a new *Wildlife Act*," Minister Akesuk said. "Ms. Eeegeesiak's experience and familiarity with the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* will be a great asset to the NWMB."

The appointment of Ms. Eegeesiak followed a public call for nominations. The appointment takes effect January 01, 2001.

-30-

For more information, contact:

Wende Halonen Manager, Communications and Planning Government of Nunavut ■ (867) 979-5822 = (867) 979-5833 Email: whalonen@gov.nu.ca