



## News Release

### Premier Announces Cabinet Assignments

**IQALUIT, Nunavut, March 9, 2004** – Premier Paul Okalik has announced the assignments for his cabinet ministers as well as making changes to government departments in order to meet his campaign commitments of economic prosperity and the promotion of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit in government. The assignments draw on the strength of the new cabinet ministers, strengthens territorial unity and increases the participation of women.

“The Assembly has given me a strong cabinet to work with. In assigning cabinet responsibilities I have sought to highlight individual strengths as well as building a solid team that reflects the aspirations and concerns of all Nunavummiut,” said Okalik.

The formation of the new Executive Council also provides an opportunity to re-profile government operations to better meet the economic and social needs of the territory.

“Our first government adopted many structures from outside of Nunavut, this new government will focus on building the structures and programs that meet the specific needs of Nunavummiut,” said Okalik.

Giving a single Minister responsibility for the Department of Human Resources and the Department of Culture, Languages, Elders and Youth will strengthen the government’s commitment to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and its commitment to Inuit employment.

In order to better serve community interests the Public Works Department will become part of the Department of Community and Government Services.

Transportation responsibilities will be transferred to a new Department of Economic Development and Transportation.

The former Department of Sustainable Development will focus on key areas of conservation and fish and wildlife management as the Department of the Environment.

“Our new cabinet will promote greater prosperity and self-reliance of Nunavummiut. I look forward to working with my cabinet colleagues and fellow MLAs as we move forward,” concluded Okalik.

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Editors Note: List of Ministers and their responsibilities attached