

News Release

NTEP Revitalization Moves Forward

IQALUIT, Nunavut (March 17, 2006) – Education Minister Ed Picco today announced the members of the Expert Panel on the Revitalization of the Nunavut Teacher Education Program. The group will be responsible for developing a long-term, strategic plan for the Nunavut Teacher Education Program (NTEP), delivered by Nunavut Arctic College.

"I look forward to hearing the ideas of the Expert Panel," said Picco. "I have every confidence that their cumulative experience will provide a wealth of knowledge and help to ensure the lasting quality of NTEP."

The Expert Panel will be co-chaired by Nellie Kusugak of Rankin Inlet and Jacqueline Bishop of Iqaluit, long-term teachers in Nunavut who have extensive experience with northern education issues and the procedures of Nunavut Arctic College. Other members of the panel include Cathy McGregor, Director of Curriculum and School Services with the Department of Education, Noel McDermott, NTEP Instructor and Pelagie Owlijoot, Curriculum Development Manager, both with Nunavut Arctic College.

The recently released *Final Report on the Evaluation of the Nunavut Teacher Education Program* will serve as the foundation for the Panel's work. Objectives for the long-term plan will include how to best incorporate Inuit Societal Values and the Bilingual Education Strategy into the program, as well as increasing the number of graduates. This strategic planning will help the College build on the current success of NTEP through program renewal. The Expert Panel is expected to produce a five year strategic plan for NTEP by June 2006.

"The Nunavut Teacher Education Program is vitally important to the growth and development of all Nunavummiut. The Expert Panel's direction will help map the future of the program, and ultimately lead to an increase in the number of Inuit teachers at all levels in our schools," said Picco

The Nunavut Teacher Education Program has been delivered for more than twenty years and is one of Nunavut Arctic College's most successful programs. The College regularly conducts reviews and assessments to ensure that its programs meet the needs of Nunavummiut and are delivered using the highest standards.

-30-

To request a copy of the Evaluation of the Nunavut Teacher Evaluation Report, contact: Oo Aqpik, Communications Manager, Department of Education (867) 975.5631

News releases are available in Inuktitut, English, Inuinnaqtun and French on www.gov.nu.ca. Tuhaqtaghat ittut Inuktitut, Qablunaatitut, Inuinnaqtun Uiviititullu talvani www.gov.nu.ca.

Les communiqués de presse sont disponibles en inuktitut, en anglais, en inuinnaqtun et en français à : www.gov.nu.ca.

Communications 2006-10-C