

## News Release

## Qulliit President and Vice-Presidents Appointed

**IQALUIT, Nunavut** (March 25, 2008) – Leona Aglukkaq, Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, today announced the appointments of Donna Olsen-Hakongak as the President of the Qulliit Nunavut Status of Women Council, and Neevee Wilkins as vice-president.

"It's important for Qulliit to be very visible, and I am confident that Donna will ensure that Nunavut women have opportunities to take an active role in advancing the status of women," said Aglukkaq.

Olsen-Hakongak's current term ends October 31, 2008 at which point she is eligible for reappointment.

The council supports two vice-presidential roles and Neevee Wilkins joins current vice-president Leonie Napa Duffy (Coral Harbour).

Wilkins is one of the five new members the Minister recently appointed to the Council for a two-year term, which also include Bernadette Miqasuuq Dean (Rankin Inlet), Meeka Alivaktuk (Pangnirtung), Annie Iqalukjuak (Clyde River) and Trista Mercer (Iqaluit). They join other current members Anne Isnor (Cambridge Bay) and Arnaoyuk Alookee (Taloyoak).

"I look forward to seeing the council challenge equality issues," said Aglukkaq. "It is important to speak out when the territorial and federal governments propose policies or legislation that impact women and offer support and alternatives as the circumstances warrant."

Qulliit's mandate is to work for the equality of all women in Nunavut through advice to government, research, public education and advocacy. Council appointments reflect the geographic and cultural diversity of Nunavut.

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