



News Release

Premier Assigns Cabinet Portfolios to Executive Council

IQALUIT, Nunavut (January 28, 2009) – Following Monday’s selection of the eighth member of Executive Council, Premier Eva Aariak has announced the portfolios for the full Nunavut Cabinet.

“I have met with each member of Cabinet and considered their priorities,” said Premier Aariak. “As a result, I know they will work with their departments and agencies to improve our services and operations.”

Today’s assignments support regional and small community representation, advances Inuit language and culture, and builds on each Minister’s strengths.

To encourage adult learning and create training programs relevant for construction projects and the job market, Minister Shewchuk will take on the responsibility for the Nunavut Arctic College. “With this government’s focus on training and education, I welcome the challenge of increasing Inuit employment in government operations and the private sector,” said Minister Shewchuk.

Minister Keith Peterson will take on the portfolio of Justice and continue as Minister of Finance. As a long-time resident of Nunavut, he will continue the work of reflecting Inuit needs and culture in the justice system. His experience representing municipalities gives him a strong understanding of communities’ financial needs and the importance of strengthening financial management.

“To bring Inuit culture into the education system and to advance Inuit language curriculum development, I have asked Minister Tapardjuk to take on Education,” said Premier Aariak. “It is a priority for this government to produce fully bilingual, educated young Inuit.”

With his extensive municipal experience, Minister Lorne Kusugak will retain Community and Government Services and will ensure the Building Canada Fund infrastructure projects are completed on time and on budget.

“The new housing money will mean more than 300 new homes and we want to see local benefit and local jobs,” said Minister Hunter Tootoo, the Minister responsible for the Nunavut Housing Corporation and the Qulliq Energy Corporation. “I also want to see long-term sustainable solutions to our energy needs.”

