



# News Release

## Senior Appointments to Nunavut's Public Service

**IQALUIT, Nunavut (May 14, 2009)** - Premier Eva Aariak today announced the appointment of Mr. Bob Long as the Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Transportation.

Mr. Long has worked in business, business development, and community economic development for over forty years. His varied experience ranges from owning a business to working in large organizations. He has lived in Nunavut since 1982 and has performed many different, related roles, including seven years as the President of the Baffin Regional Chamber of Commerce and as the Chair of the Nunavut Trade Show and Conference. For the past ten years, he has been the general manager of the Baffin Business Development Corporation.

The Honourable Peter Taptuna, the Minister of Economic Development & Transportation, welcomed the appointment and stated that "this government has committed, in *Tamapta/CLC: Building our future together*, to supporting community-based, sustainable economies. Bob Long's many years of experience in building businesses and community economic development will help government work closely with businesses and all Nunavummiut toward that vision."

The Premier thanked Rosemary Keenainak, the current Deputy Minister of Economic Development & Transportation, for her service in that position over the past two years. Ms. Keenainak has been a very committed public service employee, having served the governments of the NWT and Nunavut, for 20 years so far.

Ms. Keenainak stated "I have enjoyed working in progressively responsible positions in the Government of Nunavut. I have decided to take a new direction in my life, and will be pursuing educational opportunities in the fall."

The Premier also announced the appointment of Yasmina Pepa to the position of Press Secretary to the Premier. Ms. Pepa has been working for the Department of Health & Social Services as the Director of Communications. She has also worked in other areas of Nunavut's public service since 2003 as a communications professional, including with the Qulliq Energy Corporation and with Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Premier Aariak stated "I am excited to have Yasmina join the other excellent staff in the Ministerial offices. Together, we will continue to find ways to improve our two-way dialogue with Nunavummiut. Her predecessor, Karen Kabloona, was essential in allowing our government to communicate with the public and I am grateful for her contributions in that position over the past two years." Ms. Kabloona is now working for the Government of Nunavut as the Director of Aboriginal and Circumpolar Affairs.

Ms. Pepa's appointment is effective May 21, 2009 and Mr. Long's appointment is effective June 22, 2009.

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