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News Release

For Immediate Release

Premier announces ministerial and senior management changes

Iqaluit, Nunavut (December 14, 2018) – Premier Joe Savikataaq today appointed Lorne Kusugak as Minister of Human Resources, to ensure a smooth and efficient transition of services when the new department becomes operational on April 1, 2019. Additionally, Sheila Kolola has been named Deputy Minister of the Department of Human Resources effective December 17, 2018.

“I committed early in my term to the creation of the Department of Human Resources, and I am very excited to get it up and running in the next few months,” said Premier Savikataaq. “Minister Kusugak has the skills and abilities to ensure fairness and consistency in this important portfolio, and Ms. Kolola has significant experience and success in fostering Inuit employment, training and development.”

The standalone Department of Human Resources will re-focus and streamline services to ensure a more robust commitment to Inuit employment through training and career advancement, as well as a renewed dedicated to employee wellness.

Premier Savikataaq has also made changes to the Government of Nunavut (GN)’s senior management. Effective December 17, 2018:

- Louise Flaherty moves from Deputy of Culture and Heritage to Deputy Minister of Education;
- Pujjuut Kusugak moves from Deputy of Education to Deputy Minister of Culture and Heritage;
- Pauloosie Suvega moves from Deputy of Environment to President of Nunavut Arctic College; and
- Steve Pinksen will be Acting Deputy Minister of Environment.

“The GN is fortunate to have strong and capable leaders, and I am certain these changes will have positive effects across departments and in service delivery for Nunavummiut,” said Premier Savikataaq. “I look forward to a busy new year and working to strengthen our public service and programs to benefit the territory.”

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