



## Fact Sheet

### *Role of Hansard*

*Hansard* is the daily printed transcript of what was said in the Legislative Assembly. It is published in both Inuktitut and English. The Nunavut *Hansard* is one of only four bilingual *Hansards* in Canada, the others being those of the House of Commons, the Senate and the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick.

*Hansard* is the name given throughout the Commonwealth to the daily printed transcript of the debates of parliament. Political reformer William Cobbett introduced Britain's first record of parliamentary debates in 1810, but later sold his interest in the debates to the Hansard family, printers to the British House of Commons. Although the Hansard family only produced the record of debates from 1812 to 1888, the report retained the Hansard name by which it is known today.

Each morning during Session, Members receive a copy of the “Blues.” This is an unedited transcript of the previous day’s proceedings. It is printed on blue paper to distinguish itself from the final *Hansard*. Members may make certain corrections, including providing the correct spelling of constituents’ names and fixing basic grammatical, spelling or translation errors. Members may not alter the substance of what they said.

*Hansard* is widely distributed throughout the Government of Nunavut and is made available to the public through the Legislative Assembly’s Internet website. The media frequently refer to Members’ comments in *Hansard* when covering stories related to the Legislative Assembly. The Legislative Library maintains a comprehensive collection of Nunavut *Hansards* dating back to April 1, 1999.

*Hansard* is a valuable tool for Members to use in communicating with their constituents on their activities in the Legislative Assembly.