

**Response to Standing Committee on  
Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts**

Submitted by the Representative for Children and Youth's Office

September 8, 2025



ᓄᑦᑕᑦᑕᑦᑕᑦ ᓄᑦᑕᑦᑕᑦᑕᑦ  
ᓄᑦᑕᑦᑕᑦᑕᑦ

NUTAQQANUT INULRAMIRNULLU  
UQAQTIKHAANIK

REPRÉSENTANT DE  
L'ENFANCE ET DE LA JEUNESSE

REPRESENTATIVE FOR  
CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The Representative for Children and Youth's Office (RCYO) extends its thanks to the Standing Committee on Oversight of Government Operations and Public Accounts (standing committee) for providing the opportunity to discuss our work. We are pleased to provide the following response to the standing committee's *Report on the Review of the 2023-2024 Annual Report of Nunavut's Representative for Children and Youth*.

1. That the Representative for Children and Youth seek nominations and appoint Elder Advisors to the Office of the Representative for Children and Youth at the earliest opportunity.

**Response:**

The RCYO agrees with the standing committee's recommendation.

Based on suggestions made by members at the Standing Committee in April 2024, prior to seeking nominations and appointing Elder Advisor's, the RCYO has undertaken research on how Elder Advisors are identified and utilized elsewhere in Nunavut and across Canada.

Historically, RCYO identified Elder Advisors through a nomination process via the media and RCYO staff knowledge. This process was not reliable or inclusive, additionally how and when to contact Elder's was not a requirement or embedded into the office's operations, policies and procedures.

To date, the RCYO has contacted Hamlet's across Nunavut and Representative offices across Canada to learn from their experiences and successes in identifying and utilizing Elder Advisors. Our goal is to ensure that the identification and appointment of Elder's is an inclusive and consistent process. That the involvement and input of Elder's is part of day-to-day operations at the RCYO and not discretionary.

This approach will not result in the immediate nomination and appointment of Elder Advisors as it requires thoughtful consideration, organizational and operational changes. Our plan is to develop options on how to effectively integrate elders into our day-to-day operations and present these to RCYO staff and Management and Services Board (MSB) for input on how to proceed.

The RCYO appreciates the feedback provided by the standing committee in support of piliriqatigiinni, working together for the common cause and pijitsirniq, serving and providing for family and community, and all child rights detailed in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

We will continue to reflect on and action the advice of the standing committee as our advocacy services evolve to meet the needs of young Nunavummiut and their families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jane Bates". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jane Bates  
Representative for Children and Youth