

مم⊅َ ∟–ل–⊳∿∧⊲ Nunavut Maligaliurvia Legislative Assembly of Nunavut Assemblée législative du Nunavut

RELEASE

Legislative Assembly Invites Submissions on Proposed New *Plebiscites Act*

IQALUIT, Nunavut (October 29, 2012) - Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Hunter Tootoo today invited members of the public and interested organizations to provide formal written submissions on Nunavut's proposed new *Plebiscites Act*.

"Ten years ago, the Legislative Assembly approved the new *Nunavut Elections Act*," said Speaker Tootoo. "The passage of a new, made-in-Nunavut *Plebiscites Act* to replace the statute that was inherited on division will help to ensure that we have a modern and responsive piece of legislation in place."

Speaker Tootoo tabled a draft *Plebiscites Act* at today's sitting of the Legislative Assembly. Legislation concerning territory-wide elections falls under the jurisdiction of the Legislative Assembly itself. In 2010, the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut conducted extensive community consultations on the issue of plebiscites that led to the development of the proposed new statute.

Submissions concerning the proposed *Plebiscites Act* will be accepted until 5:00pm on January 18, 2013. Submitters may be invited to appear before the Management and Services Board of the Legislative Assembly at a later date.

"After my colleagues and I have had the opportunity to consider comments and recommendations from Nunavummiut, I anticipate being in a position to formally introduce the proposed new *Plebiscites Act* at the spring 2013 sitting of the House," said Speaker Tootoo.

The proposed new *Plebiscites Act* can be downloaded from the Legislative Assembly's website at <u>www.assembly.nu.ca</u>. Paper copies are also available from the Office of the Legislative Assembly.

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