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RELEASE

A joint news release from the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut's Standing Committee *Ajauqtiit* and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.

Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. makes presentation to Ajauqtiit, a Standing Committee of the Nunavut Legislative Assembly.

Iqaluit, **NU (April 21, 1999)** - Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. President Jose Kusugak made a presentation to the first Standing Committee meeting of *Ajauqtiit*.

"The goal of *Ajauqtiit* is to ensure the Government of Nunavut lives up to spirit and intent of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement. We would like to establish a cooperative process where both parties can work together to monitor the Government's obligations under the Claim." said Hunter Tootoo, Chairperson of the Standing Committee.

"We want to ensure an open dialogue is established right from the beginning. We would like the process to be mutually beneficial," said Tootoo.

"The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement is a fundamental and permanent part of Nunavut's jurisdictional landscape. The people of Nunavut should know that, even at these early stages, our organizations are establishing a close working relationship. The existence of a dedicated committee recognizes the importance of the land claim to the Government of Nunavut," said NTI President Jose Kusugak.

NTI briefed the members on the content of the Contract Relating to the Nunavut Final Agreement, the document which defines the specific implementation obligations.

Members of the Standing Committee Ajauqtiit are Hunter Tootoo (MLA, Iqaluit Centre, Chairperson of Committee), Ovide Alakannuark (MLA, Akulliq, Co-Chairperson of Committee) Olayuk Akesuk (MLA, South Baffin), David Iqaqrialuk (MLA, Uqqummiut) and Peter Kattuk (MLA, Hudson Bay).

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