

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
Division for Social Policy and Development
Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

**INTERNATIONAL EXPERT GROUP MEETING
ON INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES**

8-10 January 2008, New York

Implementing the Dream: Our Made-in-Nunavut Language Legislation

Government of Nunavut

- ensure that sufficient government staff positions are designated to serve the public in all the official languages
- require a review of the success in implementing both pieces of legislation every five years.

What will Bill 7 the Inuit Languages Protection Act do?

The Inuit Language Protection Act will provide the most important elements to ensure that the Inuit Language is at the centre of work, education, and daily life in Nunavut.

Bill 7 will:

- ensure that services to the public such as signs, posters, advertising, reception and customer services are offered in the Inuit Language throughout Nunavut
- ensure that communication with the public regarding essential, household, residential, and hospitality services are in the Inuit Language including bills, notices, warnings, and instructions
- require that municipal services be offered in the Inuit Language
- protect the existing rights of English and French speakers
- sets the standard for the proposed new Education Act by ensuring the right to an education in the Inuit Language for any student and emphasize that students should graduate with proficiency in the Inuit Language
- emphasize the importance of early childhood education in the Inuit Language and support the development of materials and standards
- support adult education in the Inuit Language and the development of related materials
- place a priority on language revitalization in the Inuinnaqtun speaking communities
- ensure the right to work in the Inuit Language in the GN public service and support language instruction to ensure proficiency
- establish *Taiguusiliuqtit*, which will become a fully independent body that will be the authority on Inuit Language use with responsibility to develop and standardize Inuit language terms and provide assistance to organizations on proper language use
- increase the key responsibility of the Languages Commissioner to investigate complaints about language practices and order remedies while retaining the role to raise awareness of language rights
- for the first time, give a Minister legislated responsibility to promote the Inuit Language and mandate support through policies and programs.

To get copies or more information on Bill 6, the Official Languages Act, and Bill 7, the Inuit Language Protection Act, please contact:

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