Statement

Northern Premiers meet with Minister Cannon

March 23, 2010
IQALUIT, Nunavut

Premier Eva Aariak today released the following statement:

“This afternoon I was pleased to take part in a telephone meeting with federal Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon, and my fellow territorial colleagues from the Northwest Territories and the Yukon, Premier Roland and Premier Fentie.

This meeting provided an opportunity to voice the perspectives of Nunavummiut directly to our federal government prior to the March 29, 2010 meeting between Arctic foreign ministers from the Arctic Ocean Coastal states, including Canada, Denmark, Norway, Russia and the United States.

During this afternoon’s discussion, I clearly outlined our Government’s position. The issues which dominate the agenda of the Arctic Council are inherently the challenges and priorities facing Nunavut. Our territory is looking forward to the near future when Canada will chair the Arctic Council and I am hoping one of the meetings of the council will be held in Nunavut.

I emphasized to Minister Cannon that Nunavut must be consulted on all matters that affect our jurisdiction. Nunavut is not a frontier: it is our homeland. The territories will continue to support increased efforts by Canada to strengthen relations with our Arctic neighbors to help ensure that our circumpolar interests remain a priority area for multilateral cooperation.

I would like to thank Minister Cannon for valuing the role and contributions that Nunavut has made to the Arctic Council and to national and international issues affecting the north, and we look forward to working with Canada as this file moves forward.”

###

Emily Woods
Press Secretary, Office of the Premier
Government of Nunavut
☎(867) 975-5059
Email: ewoods@gov.nu.ca

ᐱᕋᓪᓕᐊᔪᑦ ᑐᓴᕐᑲᕐᓴᖑᖅᑎᑕᐅᔪᑦ ᐱᔭᐅᔪᓐᓇᖅᑕᑦᑕᖅᑐᑦ ᐃᓄᒃᑎᑐᑦᑐᖓᒃ, ᖃᓪᓗᓈᑎᑐᑦ, ᐃᓄᐃᓐᓇᖅᑐᓐ ᐅᐃᕖᑎᑐᓪᓗ ᐅᕙᓂ, *www.gov.nu.ca*.
News releases are available in Inuktitut, English, Inuinnaqtun and French on *www.gov.nu.ca*.
Tuhaqtaghat ittut Inuktitut, Qablunaatitut, Inuinnaqtun Uiviititullu talvani *www.gov.nu.ca*.
Les communiqués de presse sont disponibles en inuktitut, en anglais, en inuinnaqtun et en français à : *www.gov.nu.ca*.