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For Immediate Release

Makkovik Inuit Community Government AngajukKâk suspended for making inappropriate and harassing comments

Nunatsiavut Assembly Speaker Tyler Edmunds announced today the outcome of a Discipline Committee review into a complaint against Mr. Herbert Jacque, AngajukKâk of the Makkovik Inuit Community Government. The complaint alleged that Mr. Jacque made inappropriate and harassing comments to a female constituent during a private telephone conversation.

The Nunatsiavut Code of Conduct is an Inuit Law that was passed by the Nunatsiavut Assembly in 2008 and it is premised on the fact that the action(s) of elected officials have a profound impact on the lives of all Beneficiaries under the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement and must be carried out in accordance with the highest ethical standards.

The Speaker of the Nunatsiavut Assembly is the elected official who is charged with the responsibility for dealing with complaints under this law. In accordance with the procedures set out in Part 5 of the Code of Conduct, the Speaker referred the complaint to an ad hoc Disciplinary Committee of the Nunatsiavut Assembly.

On review of the matter, the Committee made the following decision:

The Committee is satisfied that on December 4, 2016 Mr. Jacque, AngajukKâk of the Makkovik Inuit Community Government, breached the Code of Conduct and is guilty of misconduct. He treated a constituent with a lack of courtesy and respect contrary to section 2.6 of the Code. Further, by committing that breach of the Code of Conduct the Committee is also satisfied that Mr. Jacque's behavior brought discredit to his office pursuant to section 2.4 of the Code of Conduct.

The Committee has decided that the appropriate penalty for Mr. Jacque's misconduct would be a suspension from office without pay for a period of one week, pursuant to section 5.5(i) (i) of the Code of Conduct. The Committee also requires that Mr. Jacque issue a formal written apology to the complainant for his words and actions. A copy of the letter must also be filed with the Clerk of the Nunatsiavut Assembly.

The Disciplinary Committee will table its report to the Nunatsiavut Assembly at the next Assembly sitting.

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