

# How DEAs can Participate in the 5 year Review of the Nunavut Education Act.



# 5 Year Review of Nunavut Education Act

- When the Nunavut Education Act was enacted in 2009, there was a provision in the Act that it would be reviewed in 5 years.
- The Nunavut Legislature's Special Committee to Review the Education Act will begin this review soon.
- DEAs will be asked to provide their input to this review process.




# What is the Focus of the Review?

- The Chairperson of the Special Committee to Review the Education Act (George Hickes) has said the review of the Education Act will include an examination of:
  1. the **administration and implementation** of the Act.
  2. **the effectiveness** of its provisions.
  3. the **achievement of its objectives...and**
  4. it may include recommendations for changes” to the legislation.



# The New Education Act: What Was it Intended to Do for DEAs?



Build a new partnership  
between DEAs and  
Government.

Empower DEAs with  
new authority to impact  
the quality of education  
in their communities.



# What have we learned about the new Education Act in the last 5 years?



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- The new Nunavut Education Act was intended to increase the level of **partnership** between Government by transferring more authority to DEAs.
- This partnership between DEAs (most) and Government, and DEAs and the Coalition has not made much progress.
- DEAs have been poorly informed about their authority, and how to use their authority to impact education in their community.
- Consultation with DEAs on new regulations has not been very effective.



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- Since the introduction of the new Education Act, some DEAs have expressed concern about the number of new responsibilities that DEAs are handling, without a budget increase.
- In 2010 the Coalition undertook a study on DEA operations to get a better understanding of these pressures.



# What did We Learn from the Coalition Study on DEA Budgets?



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- Since 2008 there has been a 43% increase in DEA responsibilities.
- DEAs have responsibility for 49 different tasks. 21 of these tasks were added in the new Act.
- DEAs responsibilities has increased without an increase in budget or sufficient levels of training and development.
- Because of their new responsibilities, DEAs are focused on administration, instead of improving the quality of education in their communities.
- Many DEAs don't have (qualified) full-time staff to deliver their new responsibilities.



# Office by the Auditor General (OAG) Audited the Department of Education in 2013

- The OAG looked at: attendance, inclusive education, bilingual education, assessment, parental involvement and curriculum in the school system.
- The OAG report concluded that the Department of Education has not adequately managed most aspects of the implementation of the Education Act.





# **The Special Committee to Review the Education Act Needs to Hear from DEAs about the Quality of Education in Your Community.**



# 5 Ways DEAs Can Participate in the Education Act Review:

1. DEAs received correspondence from the Chairperson of the Special Committee to Review the Education Act (George Hickes) asking for input on the review.
2. The Standing Committee will be holding regional consultations and will be asking DEAs to participate.
3. The Coalition of Nunavut DEAs will be surveying all DEAs with the results being shared with the Standing Committee. (Will discuss this shortly)
4. DEAs can prepare their own submissions.
5. Share your issues with your MLA.



# Some things you may want to look at, etc.

- **Question:** In the last 5 years, have you seen a significant shift in emphasis in your schools toward **incorporating Inuit societal values and principles** in school operations? If yes, please provide an example (s). If no, please explain.
- **Question:** What programs developed by the school to involve parents and community have been initiated in your community? And, have these programs been helpful and in what way? If no, please explain.
- **Question:** How is this **bilingual policy** working in your community? What changes would you recommend? Has the program been evaluated to determine what's working and where improvements could be made? If no, please explain.
- **Question:** Has your DEA established a **attendance policy** for your school(s) and has it improved attendance. Describe your experience in using this attendance policy. If no, please explain.
- **Question:** How does your DEA use the Innait inuksiutiliriit and the Inuuqatigiitsiarniq funding, what initiatives and how are this making a difference in the school?

# The Most Important Thing to Remember....

Add Your Voices to the Review of the Education Act!

