

**The Honorable Johnny Mike
Minister of Community and Government Services**

Nunavut Land Referendum

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to advise my colleagues that the Department of Community and Government Services has been designated the Plebiscite Authority for the upcoming territorial wide Land Referendum.

Article 14.8 of the NLCA required a referendum on the alienation of municipal lands within first and second year after ratification of the NLCA. A referendum was held on April 10, 1995; which resulted in a no vote meaning municipal lands would continue to be disposed of on a leasehold title basis.

Under Article 14.8.4 of the NLCA, after 20 years, the "municipal voters" may elect by referendum to remove the restriction on alienation; Therefore, any time after April 10, 2015, a referendum may be held on removing the municipal lands restriction It has been decided that the Land Referendum will take place on May 9, 2016.

CGS is currently working with NTI and Nunavut Elections to develop a plan for proceeding with the plebiscite.

Over the coming months, CGS planning and lands staff will be conducting community meetings throughout Nunavut to ensure that people are informed about the issues prior to the vote.

Thank you Mr. Speaker