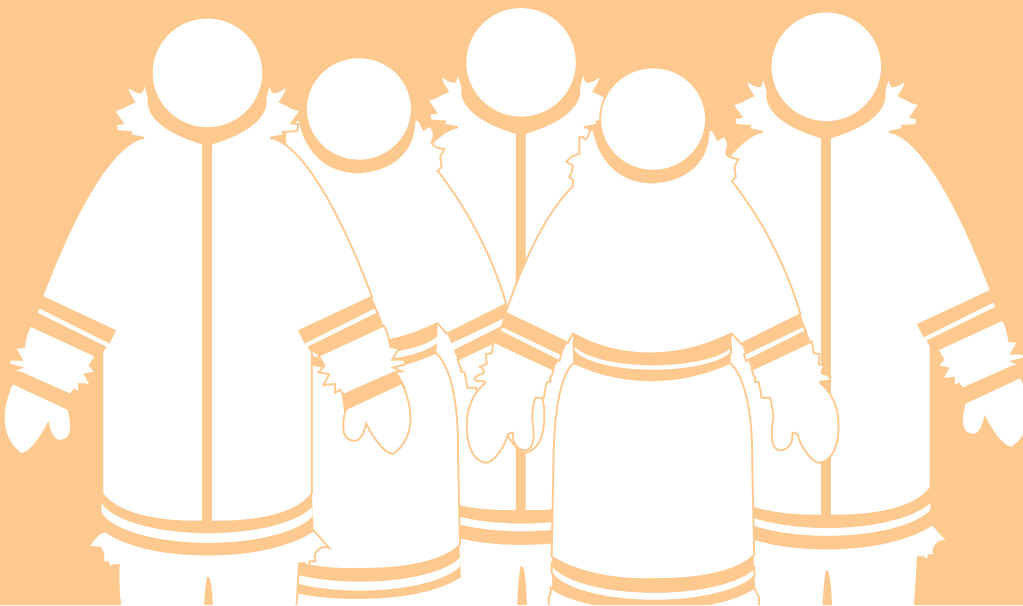


Elections Nunavut

2013-2014 Annual Report of the Chief Electoral Officer



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June 30, 2014

Hon. George Qulaut
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut
Box 1200
Iqaluit, NU
X0A 0H0

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I have the pleasure of submitting to you my annual report for the fiscal year 2013-2014 in accordance with reporting requirements of the *Nunavut Elections Act*.

I am prepared to discuss the contents of the report at the pleasure of the Assembly.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'S. Kusugak'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sandy Kusugak
Chief Electoral Officer

Overview

This document refers to activities not directly related to the October 28, 2013 General Election. An election report is submitted as a separated document in accordance with the *Nunavut Elections Act* s. 197.

Any recommendations to improve the Act normally included with the Annual Report arose from the General Election and will therefore be included with that report.



Activities April 2013 - March 2014

Legislation

1. *Plebiscites Act*

A new *Plebiscites Act* was enacted in September 2013 to

- modernize the plebiscite process;
- harmonize the plebiscite process with the election process established in the *Nunavut Elections Act*;
- allow local plebiscites as well as Nunavut-wide ones;
- provide for e-democracy initiatives in the future;
- adapt the Act to Nunavut; and
- use plain language;
- but it does not pertain to local option liquor plebiscites.

The *Plebiscites Act* arose from the recommendation of the *Ajauqtiit Standing Committee* Review of the Report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Nunavut: *Election of the First Legislative Assembly of Nunavut – 1999: A New Beginning*. The Committee recommended that all legislation related to voting in Nunavut, be brought under the auspices of Elections Nunavut.

2. Fixed Election Date

On March 28 the Legislative Assembly passed an amendment to the *Nunavut Elections Act* as the first legislative initiative of the 4th Assembly. As a result of Bill 1, general elections in Nunavut will take place on the last Monday of October every four years beginning with October 23, 2017.

NEA s. 36 Fixed election day

(3.1) Subject to section 17 of the *Nunavut Act* (Canada), the election day for a general election must be the last Monday in October in the fourth calendar year following the election day for the most recent general election.



Activities April 2013 - March 2014

Liquor Plebiscites

Elections Nunavut administers liquor plebiscites on behalf of the Department of Finance on a cost-recovery basis, producing and disseminating neutral communications material as well as ballots. Ballot questions are devised by the Legislation Division, Department of Justice on the basis of a petition submitted to the Minister of Finance, by at least 20 eligible voters in the affected community. During the reporting period Elections Nunavut administered 3 such plebiscites. At least 60% of the votes at a liquor plebiscite must be in favour in order to cause change.

To be eligible to vote at a liquor plebiscite, a person must be a Canadian citizen, a resident of the affected community for the previous 12 months and 19 years of age or more on voting day.

During the reporting period the Minister agreed to plebiscites in three Nunavut communities. The ballot questions and results are as follows:

February 24, 2013 Arviat

"Are you in favour of ending the current system of liquor prohibition in Arviat and having an unrestricted system where only the general liquor laws of Nunavut apply?"

Result Yes: 236 (32%) No: 509 (68%) Rejected: 0

Turnout: 745 of 1102 (68%)

Arviat will remain a liquor-prohibited community

February 24, 2013 Chesterfield Inlet

"Are you in favour of ending the current system of liquor restriction in Chesterfield Inlet and having an unrestricted system where only the general liquor laws of Nunavut apply?"

Result Yes: 26 (39%) No: 40 (61%) Rejected: 0

Turnout: 66 of 196 (34%)

The current system remains in place in Chesterfield Inlet



February 24, 2013 Kugluktuk

"Are you in favour of ending the current system of liquor restriction in Kugluktuk and having an unrestricted system where only the general liquor laws of Nunavut apply?"

Result Yes: 180 (44%) No: 230 (56%) Rejected: 1

Turnout: 410 of 633 (65%)

The current system remains in place in Kugluktuk



Administrative Activities

Agreements

As indicated in her 2012-13 Annual Report Chief Electoral Officer had anticipated concluding an agreement with the Nunavut Housing Corporation regarding the provision by NHC of tenants' 'phone book' information to Elections Nunavut for the purpose of improving accuracy of voter addresses.

No agreement has yet been put in place as NHC is reviewing the way such an agreement would impact the organization.

Communications

Communications with voters during the reporting period focused on raising awareness of the new constituency boundaries, of particular importance to the residents of Arviat, Igloolik and Iqaluit where significant changes had been made.

The establishment of civic or street addressing in Arviat and Igloolik necessitated a communications blitz by both the involved hamlets and Elections Nunavut to build awareness with voters.

Media Guide

Elections Nunavut completed work on and distributed a Media Guide. The purpose of this Guide is to provide a basic understanding of the conduct of elections in Nunavut.

Community Broadcasting

Elections Nunavut completed and distributed to each municipal government, copies of the Broadcasters' Guide to Elections for Members of the Nunavut Legislative Assembly and Nunavut Election Broadcast Essentials. Both documents can be found on our website: www.elections.nu.ca in the Documents and Legislation section.

The Municipal Training Organization undertook an initiative to develop an online course for community broadcasters in Nunavut. Elections Nunavut contributed a section on the limits and requirements for broadcasters during an election period.



Document development

In June, our plain language consultant spent a week on site, editing all elections documents ahead of the fall general election.

As well, Elections Nunavut developed a Judicial Recount Kit to provide support for returning officers and judges at judicial recounts.

Electronic infrastructure

Our IT consultant, web designer and database manager worked to enable addresses entered into the database to migrate to our public site, enabling voters in Arviat, Igloolik, Iqaluit and Rankin Inlet to find their constituency by entering their street address.

With guidance from our GIS consultant, the staff entered data to geo-code residential and non-residential buildings throughout Nunavut to support the change in constituency boundaries.

Elections Nunavut examined the possibility of converting the CD ROM version of the campaign financial return to a web-based format but determined that to do so at present would not be cost-effective.

Office Move

Due to delays in the arrival of materials, the renovation of our new office space was delayed until early July. This in turn hampered our ability to complete production of election officer training materials on schedule.

Presentation to CGS Lands

On March 26, 2014 at a meeting in Rankin Inlet of GN Lands administrators and other CGS staff, the CEO made a presentation regarding the process for initiating and administering plebiscites under the Plebiscites Act.



Staff Training

In keeping with its mandate as an independent office and respecting the weather and transportation limitations that exist in our territory, Elections Nunavut has developed the capacity to produce 90% of our materials in-house. Additionally, the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer has a commitment to the development of strong modern workforce skills in our headquarters staff. All permanent and casual staff are cross-trained to ensure that basic functions continue despite staff absence.

Respecting those values our consultants provide training in our office on a regular basis in addition to their regular services. In June and July 2013 Elections Nunavut staff participated in workshops on IT, GIS and plain language writing.



Activities April 2013 - March 2014

Coordination with other Electoral Agencies

Canadian Elections Resource Library

Elections Nunavut continues to make financial contributions on a pro rata basis to support CERL. The Resource Library is maintained by Elections Manitoba and provides a forum for elections staff across the country to find related to elections policy and practise.

Conference of Canadian Election Officials

The Chief Electoral Officer participated in the annual conference of the CCEO at Yellowknife on July 26 and 27, 2013.

Conference on Governmental Ethics Laws

COGEL, an international organization whose membership includes election agencies conducts annual conferences in North America. The CEO attended this year's meeting in Quebec City from December 6 - 10.

2013 Provincial General Election Conference British Columbia

From January 31 - February 2, 2014 Elections BC co-hosted a conference with the University of British Columbia to showcase the results of research done during the 2013 general election in that province. Papers were presented on topics ranging from Enumeration and Voting Modernization to Youth Engagement to Political Party and 3rd Party Financing. Universities in BC, Alberta and Ontario as well as Student Vote and Elections Canada contributed to the research.



Planned Activities 2014 - 2015

General Review

Headquarters staff will conduct a detailed internal review of the processes used in the general election to improve operations for the following election.

Returning Officer Election Review

Elections Nunavut will make changes where practicable, suggested by returning officers at a meeting of some ROs following the general election.

Website

Inuinnaqtun

Elections Nunavut will strive over the coming year to make an Inuinnaqtun version of the website functional.

Plebiscites

The Chief Electoral Officer will work to ensure a Plebiscites section is created and fully functional by September 2015, providing guidance for voters well ahead of any Nunavut-wide plebiscite.

Mobile Application

The CEO will work with IT professionals over the coming year to develop specifications for a mobile application to be used at the 2017 general election.



Permanent Salaries	-	-	-
Casual Wages	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-
Materials & Supplies	-	2,558.00	- (2,558.00)
Purchased Services	-	11,971.00	- (11,971.00)
Utilities (Building Related)	-	-	-
Contract Services	-	62,705.00	- (62,705.00)
Fees and Payments	-	-	-
Other Expenses	-	-	-
Tangible Assets	-	-	-
Computer Hardware & Software	-	-	-
		77,234.00	(77,234.00)

Summary

	Budget	Spent	Committed	Balance
Election Event Expenses-0170002				
Permanent Salaries	-	-	-	-
Casual Wages	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	385.00	-	(385.00)
Materials & Supplies	-	946.00	-	(946.00)
Purchased Services	-	17,464.00	-	(17,464.00)
Utilities (Building Related)	-	-	-	-
Contract Services	-	38,085.00	-	(38,085.00)
Fees and Payments	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	-	-	-	-
Tangible Assets	-	-	-	-
Computer Hardware & Software	-	-	-	-
	-	56,880.00	-	(56,880.00)
Electoral Boundaries Comm-0170004				
Permanent Salaries	-	-	-	-
Casual Wages	-	1,547.00	-	(1,547.00)
Travel	-	-	-	-
Materials & Supplies	-	-	-	-
Purchased Services	-	-	-	-
Utilities (Building Related)	-	-	-	-
Contract Services	-	-	-	-
Fees and Payments	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	-	-	-	-
Tangible Assets	-	-	-	-
Computer Hardware & Software	-	-	-	-
	-	1,547.00	-	(1,547.00)
Nunavut By-Elections-0171001				
Permanent Salaries	-	-	-	-
Casual Wages	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-	-
Materials & Supplies	-	2,365.00	-	(2,365.00)
Purchased Services	-	54.00	-	(54.00)
Utilities (Building Related)	-	-	-	-
Contract Services	-	18,600.00	-	(18,600.00)
Fees and Payments	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	-	-	-	-
Tangible Assets	-	-	-	-
Computer Hardware & Software	-	-	-	-
	-	21,019.00	-	(21,019.00)

Summary

	Budget	Spent	Committed	Balance
Plebiscite - 0172000				
Permanent Salaries	-	-		-
Casual Wages	-	-		-
				-
Travel	-			-
Materials & Supplies	-			-
Purchased Services	-	1,100.00		(1,100.00)
Utilities (Building Related)	-	-		-
Contract Services	-	6,020.00		(6,020.00)
Fees and Payments	-			-
Other Expenses	-	-		-
Tangible Assets	-	-		-
Computer Hardware & Software	-			-
	-	7,120.00	-	(7,120.00)
Liquor Plebiscites -0172001				
Permanent Salaries	-		-	-
Casual Wages	-	68.00		(68.00)
				-
Travel	-			-
Materials & Supplies	-	732.00		(732.00)
Purchased Services	-	154.00		(154.00)
Contract Services	-			-
Fees & Payments	-			-
Other Expenses	-			-
	-	954.00	-	(954.00)
Total Budget	2,300,000.00	1,936,673.00	-	363,327.00



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Nunavut Maligaliurvia
Legislative Assembly of Nunavut
Assemblée législative du Nunavut

Office of the Chief Electoral Officer

BUDGET REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED JULY 2014

Budget year 2014-15

Summary

	Budget	Spent	Committed	Balance
Permanent Salaries	510,000.00	113,965.00	-	396,035.00
Casual Wages	25,000.00	26,628.00	-	(1,628.00)
	535,000.00	140,593.00	-	394,407.00

Nunavut Elections - 0170000

Travel	80,000.00	20,744.00	-	59,256.00
Materials & Supplies	50,000.00	14,388.00	-	35,612.00
Purchased Services	80,000.00	11,719.00	-	68,281.00
Utilities (Building Related)	-	-	-	-
Contract Services	270,000.00	67,536.00	-	202,464.00
Fees and Payments	40,000.00	7,750.00	-	32,250.00
Other Expenses	-	94.00	-	(94.00)
Tangible Assets	-	344.00	-	(344.00)
Computer hardware & Software	-	-	-	-
	520,000.00	122,575.00	-	397,425.00

Pre-Election expenses-01700001

Permanent Salaries	-	-	-
Casual Wages	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-
Materials & Supplies	-	-	-
Purchased Services	-	-	-
Utilities (Building Related)	-	-	-
Contract Services	-	-	-
Fees and Payments	-	-	-
Other Expenses	-	-	-
Tangible Assets	-	-	-
Computer Hardware & Software	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Summary

	Budget	Spent	Committed	Balance
Election Event Expenses-0170002				
Permanent Salaries	-	-	-	-
Casual Wages	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-	-
Materials & Supplies	-	1,154.00	-	(1,154.00)
Purchased Services	-	1,664.00	-	(1,664.00)
Utilities (Building Related)	-	-	-	-
Contract Services	-	-	-	-
Fees and Payments	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	-	-	-	-
Tangible Assets	-	-	-	-
Computer Hardware & Software	-	-	-	-
	-	2,818.00	-	(2,818.00)
Electoral Boundaries Comm-0170004				
Permanent Salaries	-	-	-	-
Casual Wages	-	936.00	-	(936.00)
Travel	-	-	-	-
Materials & Supplies	-	-	-	-
Purchased Services	-	-	-	-
Utilities (Building Related)	-	-	-	-
Contract Services	-	-	-	-
Fees and Payments	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	-	-	-	-
Tangible Assets	-	-	-	-
Computer Hardware & Software	-	-	-	-
	-	936.00	-	(936.00)
Nunavut By-Elections-0171001				
Permanent Salaries	-	-	-	-
Casual Wages	-	-	-	-
Travel	-	-	-	-
Materials & Supplies	-	-	-	-
Purchased Services	-	323.00	-	(323.00)
Utilities (Building Related)	-	-	-	-
Contract Services	-	-	-	-
Fees and Payments	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	-	-	-	-
Tangible Assets	-	-	-	-
Computer Hardware & Software	-	-	-	-
	-	323.00	-	(323.00)

Summary

	Budget	Spent	Committed	Balance
Plebiscite - 0172000				
Permanent Salaries	-	-		-
Casual Wages	-	-		-
				-
Travel	-			-
Materials & Supplies	-			-
Purchased Services	-			-
Utilities (Building Related)	-			-
Contract Services	-			-
Fees and Payments	-			-
Other Expenses	-	-		-
Tangible Assets	-	-		-
Computer Hardware & Software	-			-
	-	-	-	-
Liquor Plebiscites -0172001				
Permanent Salaries	-		-	-
Casual Wages	-			-
				-
Travel	-	(437.00)		437.00
Materials & Supplies	-			-
Purchased Services	-	293.00		(293.00)
Contract Services	-			-
Fees & Payments	-			-
Other Expenses	-			-
	-	(144.00)	-	144.00
Total Budget	1,055,000.00	267,101.00	-	787,899.00

