



A Message from
Levi Barnabas, MLA for Quttiktuq
June 2, 2004

Welcome and good evening.

As the Member of the Legislative Assembly of Quttiktuq, I am pleased to extend to the community and residents of Arctic Bay my best wishes for a productive meeting. As the Legislative Assembly is presently in Session, I am unable to be with you this evening for this important event.

I know that Arctic Bay is frustrated with the lack of success in addressing the needs of the community. Over the past couple of years, we have heard many announcements from the Government with respect to such issues as how the community can take advantage of the existing infrastructure in Nanisivik. We have been disappointed that there has been little forward movement on identifying alternate uses for the site.

As the MLA for Quttiktuq, I am committed to being the community's voice on this issue. I will continue to speak out on the need for the Government to work with the community and find opportunities for training and employment. Although we know that the Government does not have unlimited funds, we are entitled to be treated fairly.

I have asked Mayor Ikalukjuaq to provide me with an update on the success of this meeting. As tomorrow is the last sitting day of the Legislative Assembly's present Session, it is my intention to make a statement in the House on the issues surrounding the mine closure. I will make it clear to the Government of Nunavut what the concerns of the community are, and what action we want see accomplished.

Thank you.