



Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Iqaluit, Nunavut

October 23-25, 2018

Resolution #: RSA 18-10-09

Inuktit Language Legislation

Moved by: Joe Attagutaaluk

Seconded by: Louis Uttak

WHEREAS in December 2016, the Prime Minister committed to an Indigenous Languages Act (ILA) co-developed with Indigenous Peoples, aimed at preserving, protecting and revitalizing Indigenous languages;

AND WHEREAS that commitment was a most welcome one;

AND WHEREAS in June 2017, the Government of Canada, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK), the Assembly of First Nations, and the Métis established a Co-Development Working Group to work on the ILA, and NTI has taken part in that work;

AND WHEREAS NTI has advocated for federal legislation in relation to Inuktit that would go well beyond symbolic recognition, and would include legislative provisions that would give Inuktit a certain level of official or elevated status in Inuit Nunangat, would make Inuktit a language in federal offices in Inuit Nunangat and in the delivery of federal programs and services, and would provide federal funding support for Inuktit equitable to federal spending on French and English minority language groups in Inuit Nunangat;

AND WHEREAS given that there is only one year left in the forecasted life of the current Parliament, the co-development of federal languages legislation in relation to Inuktit and other indigenous languages must result in draft legislation, suitable for tabling in Parliament, being completed in the near future;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. NTI continue to be engaged, fully and actively and making best use of its expertise and resources at both the political and working levels, in the co-development of federal Inuktit language legislation;
2. NTI continue to promote Inuktit language legislation that goes well beyond mere symbolic recognition of Inuktit, but, instead, defines a status and set of rights and commitments in relation to Inuktit that will contribute, in meaningful and measurable ways, to Inuktit being the primary language of work, education, and delivery of public sector programs and services, in Nunavut and in other parts of Inuit Nunangat.

In Favour: All

Against:

Abstentions:

Carried:

Defeated: