Government of Nunavut Tentative Agreement Ratified

For Immediate Release: July 12, 2022- Iqaluit, Nunavut— Nunavut Employees Union (NEU)/Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) Members working for the Government of Nunavut (GN) have ratified the tentative agreement reached in March. This agreement impacts more than 4,000 GN employees who have been working under an expired contract for more than three years.

The NEU and PSAC recognize that it took a long time to reach this point and would have preferred that the GN had come to the table sooner to negotiate seriously. Nevertheless, the NEU and PSAC travelled to almost every community across Nunavut to reach out to Members and provide then with the opportunity to vote on the tentative agreement.

“Challenges posed by travel and connectivity didn’t prevent us from conducting votes and hearing from as many Members as possible,” says PSAC North Regional Executive Vice President Lorraine Rousseau. “I want to thank all Members for their patience. It took a long time, but you’ve always been here for Nunavut with your tireless work and dedication.”

Earlier this year, a Here for Nunavut campaign launched by PSAC and NEU called on the government to step up for workers by providing stable jobs, fair wages, and northern allowances that keep up with rising costs. Residents of Nunavut sent hundreds of letters to MLAs in support of GN workers and a call for the GN to return to the bargaining table in good faith.

“Thank you, NEU Members, for your questions and comments and sharing your concerns and experiences during the ratification of your new collective agreement,” says NEU President Jason Rochon. “We listened and we are going use what we heard to keep pushing for a better tomorrow for all of Nunavut.”

The NEU and PSAC look forward to working with the GN for a swift implementation of this new agreement.

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