



**NUNATSIAVUT**  
kavamanga Government

Nunaliginikmik amma Nunamiutani  
Ujaganik Imaniklu  
**Lands and Natural Resources**

**DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**NUNATSIAVUT ASSEMBLY, QUARTERLY REPORT / MINISTERS**  
**STATEMENT**  
**January 2026**

Mister Speaker,

I am pleased to present my quarterly report as Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. This update highlights key developments since my last statement.

**Renewable Resources – Fisheries**

Mister Speaker, the cod fishery is ongoing, with three beneficiary fishers left to land their quotas. They will soon be fishing their cod quotas using otter trawl and have until March 31 to fish. We are hoping to land all our cod inshore.

The 2026 commercial fishery applications are now available until February 28 and this is standard as per policy.

## **Wildlife**

Mister Speaker, the 2025-26 moose hunting season is now open, to date four licenses have been filled, three in Nain and one in Rigolet. The hunting season will be open until March 20.

Mister Speaker, my staff will once again be assisting both the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Province of Quebec in Collaring of the GRCH, will take place during the last week in January.

Mister Speaker, unfortunately caribou from the KAF are unavailable again this year, my staff are now in the process of securing other wild meat for our project.

## **Lands Division**

Mister Speaker, 31 land use applications were submitted and processed in 2025, we have yet to receive any submissions for 2026 at this point.

The Lands division is also actively involved and supporting the Environment Division in the environmental reviews of the Nain Airport and Microgrid projects.

Lastly for the lands division Mister Speaker, we are pleased to welcome back James Williamson as our GIS Specialist.

## **Impact Benefit Agreements**

Mister Speaker, Vale has hired 11 Nunatsiavut Beneficiaries into Job Readiness Trainees to begin their 12-month training employment. The trainees will be starting in the coming weeks.

Mister Speaker, The IBA Coordinator will be attending Winter Shipping information sessions in Hopedale and Nain on January 20 & 21. These sessions provide information on Vale's winter shipping season.

Mister Speaker, The Torngat Mountains National Park Reserve Co-Management Board had a virtual meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup>. Discussions included updates from Parks Canada, as well as the CMB and a continued discussion on management of the Torngat Mountains Caribou Herd.

Mister Speaker, The Mealy Mountain National Park Reserve Co-Management Board did not meet since the last Assembly sitting. There is a planned virtual meeting in the coming weeks. Parks Canada is in the recruitment process in hiring key positions to support work happening in the MMNPR. These positions include a Park/Site Manager and a Resource Conservation Manager. They are also hiring a Program Manager – Caribou Ecologist to support both TMNPR and MMNPR.

### **Non-Renewable Resources**

Mister Speaker, Vale applied to conduct mineral exploration on Labrador Inuit Lands on their mineral licenses adjacent to the mine, this year's work includes prospecting, geochem, ground geophysics, and a seismic survey. Their workplan is still currently under review.

Mister Speaker, Aurora Energy confirmed that there will be no winter program this year. But is anticipating they will have a summer/ fall program for 2026.

### **Environment Division**

Mister Speaker, The Environment Division travelled to Postville to report back to the community on the ongoing research and monitoring work that is taking place to better

understand the impacts of the Postville spill. Research results were presented and the community was informed that the contaminant levels are low and are not a risk to those that are consuming those birds and animals in the area. It also provided a great opportunity for discussions and future research idea.

The Environment Reviews for the new Nain Airport and the Nain Microgrid continue with the Environment Division and the Assembly Committee supporting the process. The Guidelines for the Environmental Impact Statement for the new Nain Airport are about to go out for public comment and the Environment Division is working with NG energy staff and Natural Forces to continue to move the Nain Microgrid project, including the additional collector line, along through the Environmental Review process.