



**The Honourable Nellie T. Kusugak  
Commissioner of Nunavut**

**Swearing-in ceremony**

**Iqaluit, Nunavut**

**September 18, 2015**

Elders, Premier, Mr. Speaker, Members of the Legislative Assembly,  
Government of Canada representatives, honoured guests and all people of  
Nunavut.

Thank you Premier Taptuna for the kind words, Speaker Qulaut, I appreciate  
you being the Master of Ceremonies for this event.

It is with great honor and respect that I accept this position.

I would like to thank my older sister, my younger sister, my daughters Aliisa  
Uvinik and Alana Papaaq, and my baby Special, my grandchildren, my son-  
in-law, my nieces, my nephews and their spouses, and my relatives. I am so  
grateful and happy that you are all here.

Jose is in my thoughts. I am sorry that my parents, my son and daughter-in-  
law, my siblings, my other relatives and dear friends are not able to be here.  
But you are in my heart.

I am humbled to be able to represent all Nunavummiut. Becoming the  
Commissioner for Nunavut is not a small task and I want to do well in my  
new role and work well with the Territorial leaders so that we can showcase

our unity and keep our language, knowledge and culture for the betterment of Nunavummiut.

As the 5<sup>th</sup> Commissioner of Nunavut I want to welcome all Nunavummiut. The Commissioner, as the Government of Canada's senior representative in Nunavut, is the link between the government and you, the people of Nunavut. I look forward to fulfilling my formal duties of opening and closing each session of the Legislative Assembly, giving assent to bills and Acts and swearing in new members of the Legislative Assembly. However, you can invite me to any special events within your communities. I want to participate in your activities and celebrate your successes with you.

As your Commissioner, I want to have a good communication system and work well together, including with the staff who have been wonderful and helpful since my appointment. It's noted and appreciated. I also thank the federal government staff, and especially Martha, my assistant. Thank you!

I am here today because of your support. I thank you for your confidence in me. I am moved that you are here to celebrate with me, and all Nunavummiut. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

With on-going support, advice and guidance of family, Elders and Nunavummiut, I will fulfill the role of Commissioner of Nunavut with respect, honor and dignity.

Thank you again. God bless you all!