

# SENATOR DENNIS PATTERSON

## I Want to Hear from YOU

There are several important and transformative pieces of legislation that are currently making their way through both Houses of Parliament.

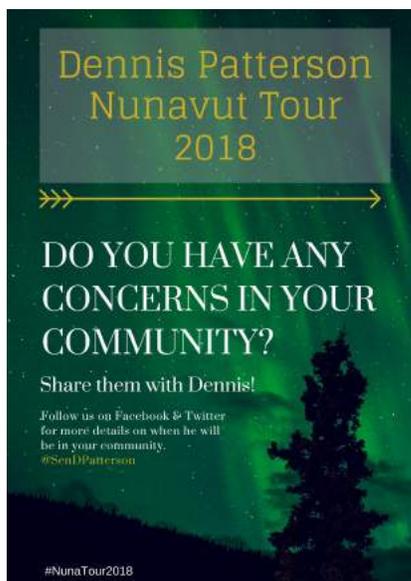
As Senator for Nunavut, it is important to me that the positions I take on bills are reflective of the position of most Nunavummiut.

Some key pieces of legislation and policies that I would like to consult on include, but are not limited to:

- Legalized recreational cannabis
- Carbon pricing
- 2020 Biodiversity Goals & Targets for Canada

Please take the time to share your thoughts one of 3 ways:

1. Fill out this sheet, detach it, and send it in the self-addressed envelope (postage is free when sending mail to parliamentarians).
2. Go online and fill out the digital survey at <http://dennispatterson.ca/nunavut-tour-2018/>
3. Fill out the survey and bring it to your community meeting in 2018! – I will be touring Nunavut February and March, 2018. Visit my website [www.dennispatterson.ca](http://www.dennispatterson.ca) in January for the official tour schedule.



## Legalized Marijuana

I understand and acknowledge that the Liberals were elected with a mandate to legalize cannabis. My position on this issue will be informed by feedback from Nunavummiut, and expert witnesses who appear and testify before the Senate.

Based on the conversations I have had with mayors at the December 1-3, 2017 Nunavut Association of Municipalities meeting in Iqaluit, and the concerns expressed by NTI during their October, 2017 Annual General Meeting, I have spoken out in the Senate about the need to slow down the implementation of legislation legalizing marijuana I feel that there are some serious considerations that still need to be ironed out including:

- What are the social implications for a territory that already struggles with addiction and mental health issues?
- What is the cost of training and enforcement that municipalities will incur?
- Will the Government invest in addiction treatment and rehabilitation centres in Nunavut?

Based on comments resulting from a recent news article on my position that the government should slow down and discuss these issues with NTI and Nunavut Inuit, I feel it's important to hear from you directly:

How old are you?

- Younger than 18?
- 18 – 35?
- 36 – 45?
- 45+?

Do you believe that recreational marijuana should be legal? (circle one) YES NO

Do you feel there are issues that need to be further discussed before legalization? YES NO

If yes – what issues? (please write below)

## Tell me your thoughts on...

### Carbon Pricing

Carbon pricing is designed to act as a disincentive to using diesel and other polluting forms of energy. However, in Nunavut, there are currently no viable alternatives. As a result, carbon pricing could significantly raise the cost of everything from home heating to hunting with a snowmobile.

A joint study conducted by the GN and Government of Canada was supposed to be completed in the fall of 2017, but according to GN employees, it is only nearing completion now, in December 2017. Preliminary findings have been shared with the GN but not yet made public.

Currently, the GN has until the end of 2018 to put a cap-and-trade system in place. In recognition of the uniqueness of Nunavut's current reliance on diesel, multiple ministers and the Prime Minister promised that accommodations would be made for the territory.

Do you think that the GN should seek an exemption until renewable energy is closer to becoming a reality in Nunavut? (please circle one) YES NO  
Why?

Do you feel the GN should be granted an extension to introduce a carbon pricing regime? YES NO

### 2020 Biodiversity Goals and Targets for Canada

Canada has committed to conserving a minimum of 17% of its terrestrial and inland water, and 10% of its coastal and marine areas by 2020. These targets were adopted in 2010 by the former Conservative government and their attainment has been a main focus for the current Liberal government.

Do you believe that more protected areas are required in Nunavut? YES NO

Do you believe that a federal minister should have the ability to create a marine protected area without the need to consult the Government of Nunavut? YES NO

### Education

This past fall I learned that the best-attended school in Iqaluit only had a 70% attendance record. Why do you think youth are not attending school?

How do you think we can improve attendance and graduation rates throughout the territory?

### What is important to you?

What are the three most important issues that you see in Nunavut?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

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For the first time ever, Inuktitut Christmas carols rang out throughout the Senate foyer.

This year, I was honoured to host the Ottawa Inuit Children's Centre as their youth choir put on a cultural performance in the Senate: they sang carols in English and Inuktitut, danced, and demonstrated traditional Inuit games.

Before that, the children and I had the opportunity to tour the new Arctic Exhibit at the Museum of Nature.

Special thanks to the Museum of Nature and OICC for helping to make this special event such a success!

## Nunavut gets added to the Centennial Flame!

18 years after the creation of Nunavut, and 25 years after the first negotiations to leading to the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, Nunavut's crest has finally been added to the Centennial Flame.

This iconic landmark is one of the most visited spots in our nation's capital. However, until recently, it did not include Nunavut in the provinces and territories represented along its rim.

On December 13, 2017, I had the pleasure and privilege of attending its unveiling along with Premier Quassa and Member for Parliament, Hunter Tootoo.

This inclusion brings a sense of closure for me having had the opportunity to be at the table, along with Premier Quassa in 1993, when the NLCA was signed.



## NUNAVUT TOUR 2018

Visit [www.dennispatterson.ca/nunavut-tour-2018/](http://www.dennispatterson.ca/nunavut-tour-2018/)  
#NunaTour2018

# Out & About



Me with Darlene Nuqingaq (Iqaluit) in Parliament after I presented her with a Canada 150 Medal, celebrating all her hard work! November 29, 2017



Miriam Nilaulaaq Aglukkaq receiving her Canada 150 Medal in the Senate Chamber – November 29, 2017



Elder Serapio & Julie Ivalu perform “Aijaa Ijajajaa” at the Senate – December 7, 2017



Me & Premier Quassa signing the NLCA Agreement in Principle – Iqaluit, 1993



## Contact us

502-140 Wellington Street

Ottawa, ON K1A 0A4

T: 613.992.0480

Toll Free: 1.800.267.7362

Email:

[Dennis.Patterson@sen.parl.gc.ca](mailto:Dennis.Patterson@sen.parl.gc.ca)

Facebook: /DennisGlenPatterson

Web: [www.dennispatterson.ca](http://www.dennispatterson.ca)

