



News Release

Iqaluit students to represent Nunavut at Canada Day Celebrations on Parliament Hill

IQALUIT, Nunavut (June 27, 2001) – A group of talented Iqaluit students have been invited to represent Nunavut at the Canada Day celebrations on Parliament Hill.

Aqsarniit Quviasuttittijiit, a troop of 24 student performers from Aqsarniit School, will be attending the 2001 Unisong Festival in Ottawa. Unisong is short for ‘united in song’ and the festival demonstrates that Canada works best when Canadians work together.

The festival, organized around five days of workshops, invites students from across Canada to come together to sing patriotic, celebratory music over the Canada Day weekend. Her Excellency the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, Governor General of Canada, saw Aqsarniit Quviasuttittijiit perform in Iqaluit in 1999 and recommended they represent Nunavut at this year’s festival.

“Aqsarniit Quviasuttittijiit and its directors Darlene Nuqingaq and Carol Horn are well deserving of the honour to represent Nunavut at the Canada Day celebrations in Ottawa,” Education Minister Peter Kilabuk said. “Through hard work and dedication they have earned this privilege and I know they will be excellent ambassadors for Nunavut and all Nunavummiut.”

The various choirs and student groups rehearse together, stay together, go sightseeing and perform in various combinations for the public and their own enjoyment. On Canada Day, the Nunavut troop will be part of 500 choristers singing together for the Gala Massed Unisong Concert at the National Arts Centre. They will also join Susan Aglukark to perform at the nationally televised main stage event on Parliament Hill.

All members of Aqsarniit Quviasuttittijiit sing but many are also fiddlers, drummers or jugglers. Beyond Canada Day, members of the Aqsarniit Quviasuttittijiit will have an opportunity to attend St. Anne’s Gaelic College of Celtic Arts & Crafts Summer Music Camp in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia for 10 days.

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For more information, contact:

Seemee Nookiguak
Corporate & Public Affairs Coordinator
Department of Education
Government of Nunavut
☎ (867) 975-5620
☎ (867) 975-5605
✉ snookiguak@gov.nu.ca

Communications

Darlene Nuqingaq/Carol Horn
Aqsarniit Middle School
Iqaluit, Nunavut
☎ (867) 979-3900
☎ (867) 979-3390

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