



ᐃᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦ

Pitquhiliqiyikkut

Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth

Ministère de la Culture, de la Langue, des Aînés et de la Jeunesse

News Release

Nunavut Volunteer Award Recipients Announced

IQALUIT, Nunavut (April 22, 2004) – Three individuals and one group have been recognized for their volunteer efforts in making Nunavut a better place to live. Louis Tapardjuk, Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth acknowledged their community involvement at a reception for the annual Nunavut Volunteer Awards.

The recipients were chosen from the youth, adult, elder and group categories.

The 2003 Iqaluit Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention Conference Planning Committee received the Group Award. This 15-member team dedicated more than 1,000 hours over a two-year period to make this important event a reality.

Carla Punshon of Rankin Inlet was given the Adult Award for her work with the Girl Guides of Canada. She is responsible for many areas within the organization, and has selflessly volunteered more than 400 hours in the last year.

Joanasie Benjamin Arreak of Pond Inlet was given the Elder Award for his tireless commitment to the Anglican Church. Arreak has also been teaching the community's children about respect, helping others and how to be role models for more than 20 years.

Helena Wortman of Kinngait received the Youth Award. Wortman's extraordinary leadership role with her community's two soccer teams, combined with her positive attitude and solid work ethic ensure that she will be a leader for years to come.

"There are many volunteers who contribute to the strength of programs and services that are offered at the community level," said Tapardjuk. "The Nunavut Volunteer Awards program seeks to acknowledge those who are making valuable contributions to the quality of life in our territory."

Nomination forms for future Nunavut Volunteer Awards are available by e-mail at volunteerawards@gov.nu.ca or through local recreation coordinators.

-30-

For more information, contact:
Catriona Macleod
Communications Officer
Phone: (867) 975-5512