



## News Release

### 2005 Nunavut Language Award Winners Announced

**IQALUIT, Nunavut (March 4, 2005)** – Honourable Louis Tapardjuk, Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth is pleased to announce the winners of the 2005 Nunavut Language Awards. These awards acknowledge Nunavummiut who promote the daily use of Inuit language. This year, four recipients were chosen in youth, adult and elder-based categories.

“There are many people in Nunavut who work hard to strengthen and protect our Inuit language. The Language Awards program aims to recognize these people,” Minister Tapardjuk said. “I am pleased to be able to recognize these individuals and encourage others to follow their example. We must work together to strengthen our language.”

Miali-Elise Coley from Iqaluit received the Youth Language Award. Coley is President of the Inuit Circumpolar Youth Conference and promotes Inuktitut through cultural appearances and public speaking events. She is studying to become a teacher and is committed to promoting Inuktitut at home, at school and at work.

Mark Kalluak of Arviat received the Adult Language Award. Kalluak has translated the New Testament of the Bible into Inuktitut, and was the editor of the Kivalliq region’s first newspaper, *Keewatin Echo* during the 1960s and 1970s. He also works with those in the community to preserve oral sayings and improve Inuktitut pronunciation.

Gloria Mimialik of Iqaluit also received the Adult Language Award. Mimialik, a nursing student, encourages her classmates to use Inuktitut medical terms in the classroom and teaches her language through numerous games and activities. She also encourages Iqaluit’s youth to speak and write in Inuktitut.

Manasa Evic from Pangnirtung received the Elder Language Award for his efforts to pass on Inuktitut and traditional knowledge to younger generations. He has recorded the community elders’ stories for the local schools and also teaches youth how to raise dog teams.

This is the third year for the Nunavut Language Awards which are part of Uqausirmut Quviasuutiqarniq. Nomination forms are available on-line at [www.gov.nu.ca/cley](http://www.gov.nu.ca/cley) or by e-mail at [cley@gov.nu.ca](mailto:cley@gov.nu.ca).

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For more information, contact:

Catriona Whitworth, Communications Officer  
Culture, Language, Elders and Youth

☎ (867) 975.5512  
📠 (867) 975.5523