



## News Release

### Nunavut Volunteer Award Winners Announced

**IQALUIT, Nunavut (April 28, 2006)** – The Honourable Louis Tapardjuk, Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth, today presented this year's Nunavut Volunteer Awards. Recipients were chosen for their hard work and dedication to their communities.

“Our volunteers make Nunavut a better place to live. They donate their time and skills for free and ask for nothing in return,” said Minister Tapardjuk. “By holding the Nunavut Volunteer Awards ceremony we acknowledge the efforts of these dedicated recipients as well as the hundreds of volunteers across the territory. I hope we can continue to encourage all Nunavummiut to get involved in volunteering.

Seven awards were given out to volunteers across Nunavut. The ceremony took place at The Frobisher Inn, Iqaluit.

The two recipients from Gjoa Haven are Samo Takkiruk and Paul Ikuallaq who both serve on the local recreation committee. Paul has been a longstanding member with over 30 years of service to the committee and Samo also volunteers with other local committees.

Ben O'Hara and Bobbi-Jo Grover both of Cambridge Bay each received an award for their tireless dedication to the world of sport. Ben coaches Atom, Peewee and Midget level hockey. He also fundraises for Cambridge Bay Athletics Association and coordinates the donation of hockey equipment. Bobbi-Jo also coaches hockey. In addition she has given her time to support Suicide Awareness Week and Impaired Driving Week.

From Iqaluit, three volunteers accepted awards for their work around the city. Heather Daley received an award for her commitment to the Iqaluit Music Society where she has been President for three years. Charlotte Borg has worked hard to help those in need by volunteering with Kamatsiaqtut Helpline. She is also involved with Nunavut Embrace Life Council which works towards suicide prevention. Michelle Cronman was nominated because of her work with the Children's Group Home where she volunteers on a daily basis. She also works to keep the streets of Iqaluit clean by picking up garbage.

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