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Pitquhiliqiyikkut
Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth
Ministère de la Culture, de la Langue, des Aînés et de la Jeunesse

News Release

2006 Titiraliritti!, Nunavut Literary Prize Winners Announced

IQALUIT, Nunavut (February 10, 2006) – Honourable Louis Tapardjuk, Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth is pleased to announce the winners of the 2006 Titiraliritti, Nunavut Literary Prize. This year's theme was Inuit legends.

In order to encourage more writers across Nunavut, the contest was presented differently for the 2006 edition, with a first prize of \$3,500 and second prize of \$1,500 for each region.

In the Kitikmeot region, Theresa Carter of Gjoa Haven received the first prize for her legend on Aqturarnaq (legend about a blind boy). Peter Apiana of Gjoa Haven received the second prize for his legend on Tuutalik (Mermaid).

In the Kivalliq region, Mary Angidlik of Rankin Inlet received the first prize for her legend on Asasaq (An orphan boy name Asasaq). Alexina Nanordluk of Repulse Bay received the second prize for her legend on Anaanattia unikkaaqtualaurit, (Grandma tell me a story).

In the Qikiqtani region, Sakiasee Qaunaq of Arctic Bay received the first prize for his legend on Itimia Pujaqtaqi (A man named Itimia). Madeline Ivalu of Igloodik received the second prize for her legend on Tulugaqtuut (story about a person who wore raven fur clothes). The legends will be published in the near future.

Under *Pinasuaqtavut's* priorities, the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth is building a stronger cultural foundation based on Inuit Societal Values and the protection of Inuit languages. The department launched the annual literary prize in 2003 to increase the amount of Inuktitut literature for adult readers. This year over 70 entries were received.

"I am delighted that people from across Nunavut submitted their legends," said Minister Tapardjuk. "This contest will encourage more Nunavummiut to write their legends down for future generation to remember and enjoy."

Authors of any age were invited to submit their legend stories. A panel of judges for each region selected the top six finalists.

The theme for the 2007 Titiraliritti is open to any subject. The deadline to submit entries for the contest is October 31, 2006.

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