

News Release

Minister announces FASD poster winners, new campaign

IQALUIT, Nunavut (October 4, 2006) – Health and Social Services Minister Leona Aglukkaq today announced several important developments around Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder (FASD) in Nunavut.

"FASD is completely preventable," Aglukkaq says. "Helping pregnant women to not only abstain from alcohol but have a healthy pregnancy is something everyone can do."

The winners of the first-ever FASD poster contest are: Akpalialyk Duval (Baker Lake), Bathsheba Evviuk (Baker Lake), Caroline Oman (Baker Lake), Keri Iksiktaayuk (Baker Lake), Saila Gillis (Cape Dorset), Jen Ryan (Iqaluit), Lucy Maniyogena (Kugluktuk), Courtney Dunphy (Pond Inlet), Mia Pudnak (Pond Inlet), Cassandra Bergeron (Rankin Inlet), Alicia Manik (Resolute Bay), Naomi Alookee (Taloyoak).

The posters will be used for a calendar that will promote public awareness about FASD. The posters are on display in the lobby of the Legislative Assembly building in Iqaluit. More than 60 posters were submitted.

Minister Aglukkaq also launched the Nunavut FASD Knot pin campaign. The Baker Lake Prenatal Nutrition Project developed the pin and its accompanying certificate. Anyone who pledges either to not drink during her pregnancy or to support someone in their efforts to not drink during pregnancy wears the pin as a visible symbol of their commitment.

"Women don't drink to harm their baby," Aglukkaq said. "With positive and visible support, like the FASD Knot pin, women and their loved ones can send a clear message about their willingness to prevent FASD."

Aglukkaq noted that the Nunavut campaigns complement work done by other members of the Canada Northwest FASD Partnership. She attended the partnership meeting held Sept. 24-25 in Yellowknife.

For More Information Contact:

Nancy Campbell Health & Social Services (867) 975-5714

Les communiqués de presse sont disponibles en inuktitut, en anglais, en inuinnaqtun et en français à : www.gov.nu.ca.