

News Release

Suicide Intervention and Prevention Strategy Released

IQALUIT, Nunavut (**June 29, 2007**) – The Government of Nunavut has released *Annirusuktugut: A Suicide Intervention and Prevention Strategy*. The strategy is based on six key objectives that will foster stronger interdepartmental coordination as well as a strengthened working relationship with Isaksimagit Inuusirmi Katujjiqatigiit (the Embrace Life Council) in order to better address the needs of communities.

"Nunavummiut are saddened by suicides and attempted suicides," said Premier Paul Okalik. "We all suffer when such devastating action is taken. This strategy builds on good works already taking place in the territory, so that our programs are better coordinated, communicated and updated to reflect best practices and cultural relevancy."

The government will use existing resources to establish an office with a staff of three that will support interdepartmental collaboration and provide continuity in government suicide intervention and prevention efforts. The office will work closely with the Isaksimagit Inuusirmi Katujjiqatigiit – the Embrace Life Council to increase cooperation in program and service delivery at the community level.

"At the heart of *Annirusuktugut* is our commitment to supporting communities and building a stronger cultural foundation based on Inuit societal values," said Okalik.

Copies of Annirusuktugut are available online at www.gov.nu.ca.

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