



News Release

Titiraliritti! Nunavut Literary Prize winning stories published

Iqaluit, Nunavut (September 12, 2008) – Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth Louis Tapardjuk today announced the publication of *Titiraliritti*, a commemorative book with winning stories from the annual Nunavut Literary Prize. The announcement came at a book launch at the Nunavut Legislative Assembly.

The book includes 22 stories from the first five years of the Nunavut Literary Prize. All stories in the book are in various dialects of Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun.

“I know that there are many Nunavummiut out there who are excellent writers and who have stories and ideas that really need to be written down and shared with the rest of us,” said Tapardjuk. “We thank the many Nunavummiut who contribute to the richness of the Inuit Language through initiatives such as the Titiraliritti literary prize.”

Three authors from across Nunavut are attending to celebrate the launch of the book. Theresa Carter from Gjoa Haven was the 2005 winner with the story titled: Unipkaaqtuaq Aqturaarnaaq. Arsene Ivalu from Igloolik won the 2006 writing contest with the story titled: Aulajumisiurniviniatuttinnik Unikkaa. Jennifer Kadjuk from Repulse Bay won the 1st prize in 2006. Kadjuk is the youngest author to have been selected for the 1st prize in the adult category with the 2006 winning story titled: Uqausituqanga

“Titiraliritti is a needed addition to material that has been written and printed in the Inuit Language,” said Tapardjuk. “I am thrilled to see these stories published and look forward to more publication in Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun as we continue to work to preserve and enhance our language.”

In 2002, the Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth launched the annual literary prize to increase Inuktitut literature available for adult readers. An annual writing contest takes place with changing themes and prizes to encourage participation by Nunavummiut. A cash prize is awarded each year for the best stories.

The department has received more than 800 submissions since the start of the initiative.

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