

Statement

Nunavut Premier and HSS Minister commit to a plan to end family violence

December 9, 2010 IQALUIT, Nunavut

Premier Eva Aariak and the Honourable Tagak Curley today released the following statement:

"The Government of Nunavut is committed to supporting strong, vital communities in which all Nunavummiut and their families live in secure, nurturing environments, free from abuse and violence.

Putting an end to family violence in Nunavut is a focus within the Tamapta priorities of helping those at risk in our communities, addressing social concerns at their roots, and improving health through prevention.

To mark the week when jurisdictions across the country raise awareness about violence against women, together we are committing this government to completing an action plan, within the year, to end family violence in our territory.

Much of the work has already been completed. In 2006, a symposium called *Inuuqatigiitsiarniq* was held with participants from across Nunavut. More than 100 participants determined that the solution to violence does not come from outside the community but exists within it.

The group put forward 78 recommendations which, along with the outcome of the current Social Services Review, will be used to build our action plan. The plan, based on the principle of Inuuqatigiitsiarniq, will involve communities and government as partners in our effort to combat family violence today and for future generations.

Working with communities we can build on their strengths and put an end to family violence. Here we have no option; we *must* find solutions that work. It is essential to the lives of our loved ones, the prosperity of our territory, and the future of our children."

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