



## News Release

### Nunavummiut Recognized by Canadian Fur Institute

**IQALUIT, Nunavut (June 13, 2011)** – Nunavummiut Simon Awa and Aaju Peter have been recognized for their outstanding contributions to the Canadian fur and seal industry by the Canadian Fur Institute of Canada.

“Simon Awa and Aaju Peter play important roles in defending the rights of all Canadian hunters,” said Nunavut Minister of Environment, Daniel Shewchuk. “Nunavummiut should be proud to have these two outstanding individuals working on their behalf.”

Simon Awa received the Jim Bourque Award in recognition of his commitment to the sustainable use of wildlife resources, improved animal welfare, the development of Canada’s modern fur trade, recognition of indigenous peoples’ cultures, and the stewardship role that hunters and trappers play in the conservation and management of Canada’s wildlife.

Aaju Peter received the Bernard Cahill Memorial Award for volunteer contributions in promoting respect for people, animals and the environment at the community level with a global perspective.

They both actively promote these ideals within Nunavut, within Canada, and internationally. They have educated European parliamentarians about the seal hunt, explained to members of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species why Inuit should continue to hunt polar bears and sell polar bear products, and spoke to the media about sustainable wildlife harvesting in Nunavut.

The Fur Institute of Canada is a non-government organization funded by the wildlife and environment departments of provincial, territorial and federal governments. The Fur Institute of Canada has recently partnered with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami to share the lead role in a legal challenge of the European Union seal products ban.

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