

News Release

For Immediate Release

Ceremonial Cabinet Meeting Held in Iglu

IQALUIT, Nunavut (April 11, 2013) – Cabinet ministers took part in a ceremonial Cabinet meeting in an iglu this afternoon, to mark the 20th anniversary of the signature of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement.

"During this anniversary year, the Government of Nunavut is commemorating the historic agreement that forever changed the people of a new territory and Canada's place in the Arctic," said Premier Eva Aariak. "The anniversary is a time to look back on all that we have achieved, and a time to recognize that our work is not complete."

During the short meeting, an Elder lit a qulliq and two resolutions were read in the iglu built outside the Legislative Assembly building. The ice structure was decorated with sealskin, and invited dignitaries were also asked to wear traditional clothing. Four middle-school students, representing the future generations of Nunavummiut, participated in the event as observers.

"Through the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, our Government reaffirms the rights of Nunavummiut to control and manage their territory, and we are fully committed to working with the Government of Canada and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated on the continued implementation of the Agreement," said Premier Eva Aariak.

"In our busy daily lives, it is easy to lose sight of the historic times that we are living through. I hope the 20th anniversary celebrations will be a time to rekindle the spirit and inspiration behind our desire to reclaim the self-reliance at the heart of our way of life," said Premier Eva Aariak

Other events to mark the 20th anniversary of the Agreement will take place throughout the year.

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