

Statement Family Literacy Day is Sunday, January 27

January 25, 2013 Iqaluit, NU

Monica Ell, Minister responsible for Qulliit Nunavut Status of Women Council, released the following statement:

"I encourage Nunavummiut to participate in activities to celebrate Family Literacy Day on Sunday, January 27. Family Literacy Day is an initiative started by ABC Life-Literacy Canada in 1999 to create national awareness on the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family.

Nunavut Literacy Council reminds us all that parents and grandparents are children's first and most important teachers, so please set aside time this Sunday to develop – by playing and reading – your young ones' language and literacy skills.

Passing on Inuit legends or reading together helps children form strong personal and cultural identity. Grounding your child in family activities and providing them with literacy skills will also help your child be resilient against life's challenges in the future.

Now that my own children have grown up and left home, I just love the time I spend reading to and with my grandchildren. I do hope that Nunavummiut participate in Family Literacy Day as it can be so much fun. Hopefully, it will be so much fun you will develop a habit of spending at least 15 minutes a day either reading together or in other literacyrelated activities. Even just 15 minutes a day can improve a child's literacy skills dramatically, and can also help a parent improve their skills as well."

Check out <u>www.nunavutliteracy.ca</u> for online resources as well as <u>http://abclifeliteracy.ca/fld/family-literacy-day</u> for ideas and literacy-related activities.

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