

Statement

Premier Aariak remembers Kenojuak Ashevak

January 8, 2013 IQALUIT, Nunavut

Premier Eva Aariak today released the following statement:

"It is with great sadness that I honour Kenojuak Ashevak who passed away this morning at her home in Cape Dorset.

Nunavut lost one of its finest artists and most respected Elders today.

Kenojuak has such a rich history in Nunavut having received both the Order of Canada and the Order of Nunavut – the highest honours that can be bestowed on an individual in Canada and the Territory.

Kenojuak was always quick to smile and was tireless in her promotion of the Cape Dorset Collection from Kinngait Studios where she was one of the original artists.

Kenojuak was first and foremost an artist – an artist who put Inuit art on the world map. Both her skill and her personality were inspirations for many younger artists including her adopted son who became a well known artist in his own right before passing away almost four years ago.

On behalf of the Government of Nunavut, my deepest sympathies are offered to Kenojuak's many family members and friends."

###

Pam Coulter Director of Communications Government of Nunavut Tel: 867-975-6049 Email: <u>pcoulter2@gov.nu.ca</u>