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Building *Nunavut* Together  
*Nunavut* iuqatigiingniq  
Bâtir le *Nunavut* ensemble

# Statement

## Recognizing National Aboriginal Day in Nunavut

June 21, 2013  
Iqaluit, NU

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Premier Eva Aariak released the following statement today:

“Today communities and cities across the country are enjoying not only the longest day of summer sunshine, but celebrating the rich culture and diversity of Canada’s aboriginal peoples.

In 1999, the map of Canada was redrawn to include Nunavut, recognizing the importance of indigenous self-government and Inuit societal values. On National Aboriginal Day, the creation of Nunavut continues to be a shining example of what is possible when government and aboriginal peoples are united in nation-building.

However, National Aboriginal Day is also an opportunity for an honest inventory of the issues facing aboriginal peoples today. This past year, Canadians across the country rallied together to raise awareness of issues currently facing our aboriginal population and to call on the government for a new relationship.

In Nunavut, our Government is taking bold steps with new collaborative approaches to tackle complex challenges such as poverty reduction, food security and improving education. Renewing the relationship between aboriginal people and all levels of government through innovative and collaborative approaches will strengthen and enrich our country, from coast-to-coast-to-coast.”

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