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

# News Release

For Immediate Release

## Promoting our language through *Tuqłurausiit / Ilaruhiriigut*

**IQALUIT, Nunavut (February 16, 2015)** – *Uqausirmut Quviasuutiqarniq*, Nunavut's annual celebration of Inuit culture and language, is February 16 to 27, 2015.

“The purpose of *Uqausirmut Quviasuutiqarniq* is to celebrate and strengthen the use of Inuktitut in all areas of our lives,” said the Honourable George Kuksuk, Minister of Languages. “This year’s theme is *Tuqłurausiit / Ilaruhiriigut*, which refers to the tradition of using kinship terms when addressing each other. This theme was chosen to highlight the everyday connections between language, family, and culture.”

This year, the department distributed boxes of Inuktitut resources to every school, day care, and library in Nunavut. Each box includes books, flashcards, posters, and an information sheet about the 2015 theme.

Minister of Languages, George Kuksuk and Nunavut’s Languages Commissioner, Sandra Inutiq will also co-host *Inuugatta*, a three-day conference in Iqaluit from February 24 to 26, 2015, in collaboration with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI) and the Inuit Uqausinginnik Taiguusiliuqtiit. Participants will focus on the connections between culture, identity, and current language issues.

The Department of Culture and Heritage recently conducted a review of *Uqausirmut Quviasuutiqarniq*, with support from language partners, including the Languages Commissioner and NTI. The department will work together with partners to improve and expand the program in years to come.

The Department encourages all Nunavummiut to participate in this year’s celebrations by speaking, teaching, and learning Inuktitut, and by organizing cultural activities at home and in our communities, including workplaces and schools.

For more information, please visit [www.ch.gov.nu.ca](http://www.ch.gov.nu.ca).

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