

News Release

For Immediate Release

Uqausirmut Quviasuutiqarniq 2018: promoting Inuktut through Inuit Ukpirijangit Unikkaangillu.

IQALUIT, Nunavut (February 1, 2018) – February is *Uqausirmut Quviasuutiqarniq -* Inuktut Language Month, a time for Nunavummiut to celebrate Inuit language and culture. This year's theme is *Inuit Ukpirijangit Unikkaangillu -* Inuit beliefs and myths.

"Inuit beliefs and myths have been passed on in our language for thousands of years," said Minister of Languages David Joanasie. "I encourage parents, educators, Elders and youth to share them with one another, and speak Inuktut every day at home, at work and in our communities. Celebrate our language and culture!"

As part of this year's celebration, the Department of Culture and Heritage will release recordings of the 2017 winners of *Qilaut*, Nunavut's annual Inuktut songwriting contest. The winning songs will be available online and on CD. Inuktut resources and books reflecting this year's theme have also been distributed to every school, daycare and library in the territory.

For more information about this year's theme and resources for language and family literacy activities, please visit www.ch.gov.nu.ca.

###

Media Contact:

Dan Pimentel
Communications Manager
Department of Culture and Heritage
867-975-5526
dpimentel@gov.nu.ca