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Building Nunavut Together
Nunavuliuqatigiingniq
Bâtir le Nunavut ensemble

News Release

For Immediate Release

Uqausirmut Quviasuutiqarniq 2021

IQALUIT, Nunavut (February 1, 2021) – February is *Uqausirmut Quviasuutiqarniq*, Nunavut's annual celebration of Inuktut language. This year's theme is *Inuit Pinnguarusingit* – Inuit Traditional Games.

"Inuit traditional games have been a staple of our culture for generations, helping us develop survival skills by building strength and endurance, as well as the ties between our communities," said Minister of Culture and Heritage Margaret Nakashuk. "After almost a full year of the COVID-19 pandemic, the lessons and knowledge learned from our games still serve as an important reminder. As we continue to stay connected, even when apart, our traditional games allow us how to pass time as we foster and learn Inuit culture and identity."

This year, Nunavummiut are invited to join the celebrations by sharing their experiences and stories around this year's theme. Some of this year's highlights include Elders sharing the importance of the games in the preservation of Inuit culture and language, the Word of the Week, and new projects promoting Inuktut such as the addition of Inuktitut to the Microsoft translator.

Nunavut is a unique and distinct linguistic space within Canada. *Uqausirmut Quviasuutiqarniq* is an annual event to promote the importance, history and diversity of Inuktut in the territory. Nunavummiut are encouraged to promote Inuktut everyday through stories, games and participating in the fun on social media using #Quviasuutiqarniq.

For more information visit https://www.gov.nu.ca/culture-and-heritage/information/2021-uqausirmut-quviasuutiqarniq.

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