Statement

The Government of Nunavut prioritizes the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

September 29, 2022
Iqaluit, Nunavut

The Premier of Nunavut, P.J. Akeeagok, today issued the following statement:

“National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Day is September 30 – a day for all Canadians to observe and acknowledge the harm Indigenous peoples, communities, friends, and families endured at residential schools. To some, this day is a day of mourning; to others, it is a day of quiet reflection. Some will feel it is a day for conversation, while others will use this as a day of activism and expression. No matter how you observe this day, I encourage you do so in a safe and supportive environment.

The Government of Nunavut (GN) recognizes the intergenerational impacts that the residential and day school systems continue to have on generations of Nunavummiut and remains committed to ensuring that this tragedy is never forgotten. We prioritized the recognition of this day by declaring September 30 as a holiday for the public service. Many departments have been working together to ensure proper mental health resources, support and education are available to anyone who needs it.

I will be taking part in the Truth and Reconciliation event planned for Iqaluit starting at 1:00 p.m. on September 30, organized by Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association. I encourage others to come join the walk wearing orange to show your support to our communities.

As we remember and reflect on this dark period, we must continue to work together to foster reconciliation and healing by honouring survivors and their families and recognizing the historic and long lasting impacts residential schools had and continue to have.

If you or someone you know needs support, please find resources listed on the Department of Health's website here: https://www.gov.nu.ca/health/information/mental-health-2. There is specific support available surrounding Residential Schools."

###

Media Contact:

Sima Sahar Zerehi
Press Secretary, Office of Premier Akeeagok
867-975-5058 or
867-222-5344
szerehi6@gov.nu.ca

ᐱᕙᓪᓕᐊᔪᑦ ᑐᓴᒐᒃᓴᙳᖅᑎᑕᐅᔪᑦ ᐱᔭᐅᔪᓐᓇᖅᑕᖅᑐᑦ ᐃᓄᒃᑎᑑᖓᓗᑎᒃ, ᖃᓪᓗᓈᑎᑦ, ᐃᓄᐃᓐᓇᖅᑐᓐ ᐅᐃᕖᑎᑦᓗ ᐅᕙᓂ, *www.gov.nu.ca*.
News releases are available in Inuktitut, English, Inuinnaqtun and French on *www.gov.nu.ca*.
Tuhaqtaghat ittut Inuktitut, Qablunaatitut, Inuinnaqtun Uiviititullu talvani *www.gov.nu.ca*.
Les communiqués de presse sont disponibles en inuktitut, en anglais, en inuinnaqtun et en français au *www.gov.nu.ca.*