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Building Nunavut Together
Nunavuliuqatigiingniq
Bâtir le Nunavut ensemble

News Release

For Immediate Release

Uqausirmut Quviasuutiqarniq 2026

Iqaluit, Nunavut (February 2, 2026) – The Government of Nunavut is celebrating Uqausirmut Quviasuutiqarniq throughout February with the theme Nunarait Nunavummi, the plants of Nunavut.

Plants play an integral part of Nunavut's culture. For generations, Inuit have relied on plants for survival. This year's Uqausirmut Quviasuutiqarniq celebrates the importance of Nunarait Nunavummi in Inuit heritage, traditions and language. From food and traditional medicines to qulliq lighting, Nunavut's plants have provided sustenance and thrived with Inuit.

In July 2025, the Department of Culture and Heritage hosted a plant scavenger hunt. The photos and submissions collected from the scavenger hunt have been used to create posters that will be distributed in Nunavut.

Throughout February, Government of Nunavut departments will promote a variety of activities and resources to celebrate Nunarait Nunavummi in Inuktut. This year's highlights will include the distribution of two books – *Edible and Medicinal Arctic Plants* and *An Inuit Elder's Perspective and Common Plants of Nunavut* – a traditional word contest, an electronic newsletter, posters about plants in Nunavut and social media posts highlighting the use of Nunavut plants and their significance in Inuit culture and tradition.

In Iqaluit, the official languages division will be hosting an open house event. Every Friday in February, Iqalungmiut are welcome to come to the Aeroplex building, 1084 Mivvik Street, to learn more about Nunavut plants, their traditional uses, and recipes. Refreshments will be provided.

"Celebrating Inuktut ensures the continuation and revitalization of our vibrant language," said Culture and Heritage Minister Brian Koonoo. "Inuktut is deeply engrained in our traditions and culture and is the pride of Inuit. I encourage Nunavummiut, regardless of age, background or fluency levels, to come together to celebrate this month with us."

To learn more about the activities for Uqausirmut Quviasuutiqarniq 2026, visit the Government of Nunavut website.

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Media Contact:

Weichien Chan
Manager, Communications
Department of Culture and Heritage
867-975-5508
chcomms@gov.nu.ca

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