

Public Service Announcement

Enter the 2026 Qilaut Inuktitut songwriting contest

Start Date: June 1, 2026

End Date: July 31, 2026

Nunavut-wide

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Do you love writing and performing songs in Inuktitut? The 2026 Qilaut Inuktitut songwriting contest is now open for submissions. This year's theme is *Avatiliriniq*, which speaks of respect and care for the land, animals and the environment.

The Department of Culture and Heritage is inviting Nunavut artists to share their voices, stories and creativity through original music.

Qilaut continues to celebrate and elevate Inuktitut music across Nunavut. Over the years, the contest has provided artists with a platform to create, record and share their songs in Inuktitut. To date, more than 90 songs and over 11 albums have been recorded and released, showcasing Nunavut's vibrant Inuktitut music scene and supporting the revitalization and preservation of Inuit culture and language.

This year, the prizes have increased:

- First Prize: \$8,000
- Second Prize: \$3,000
- Third Prize: \$2,000
- 4-10 Runners-Up: \$1,000 each

Winning submissions will be professionally recorded in Iqaluit for a compilation album to be released in 2026. Winners will also have the opportunity to perform live in Nunavut.

To view official contest rules, requirements for submissions, and to learn about this year's theme, visit the [2026 Qilaut](#) page on the Government of Nunavut website. Please send submissions to qilaut@gmail.com.

The deadline to apply is July 31, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. EST.

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