



R E L E A S E

Advisory Council Announces 2016 Appointments to the Order of Nunavut

IQALUIT, Nunavut (November 8, 2016) - Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and Chairperson of the Order of Nunavut Advisory Council George Qulaut today announced that Mr. Louie Kamookak, Ms. Ellen Hamilton and Mr. Red Pedersen will be this year's recipients of the Order of Nunavut.

On January 1, 2010, *The Order of Nunavut Act* came into force. The objective of the Order is to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the cultural, social or economic well-being of Nunavut. The Order is the highest honour of Nunavut and takes precedence over all other orders, decorations or medals conferred by the Government of Nunavut.

Louie Kamookak of Gjoa Haven is an oral historian who has earned international recognition for his decades of work in the field of Arctic history, with a focus on the fate of the Franklin Expedition. In 2015, Mr. Kamookak was awarded the Lawrence J. Burpee Medal by the Royal Canadian Geographical Society. Mr. Kamookak is a recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal.

Ellen Hamilton of Iqaluit is an artist, director, producer and founder of the Qaggiavuut Society. The society's work on the *Qaggiq Project: Nurturing the Arctic Performing Arts* was recently recognized as one of the 2015 Laureates of the Arctic Inspiration Prize. Ms. Hamilton is also a recipient of the Canadian Child Care Federation's Award of Excellence.

Red Pedersen of Kugluktuk is an entrepreneur who has lived in the Kitikmeot for over half a century. Mr. Pedersen served in the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories from 1983 to 1991. During his tenure, Mr. Pedersen held a number of positions, including Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and member of the Executive Council (Cabinet). Mr. Pedersen has also served as Mayor of Kugluktuk. Mr. Pedersen is a recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.

"This year's recipients of the Order of Nunavut are distinguished individuals who have made significant contributions to our territory in the fields of public service, history and the arts," said Speaker Qulaut.

The investiture ceremony will be held during the winter 2017 sitting of the Legislative Assembly on a date to be announced. The ceremony will be held in the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly and televised live across the territory.

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For more information:
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