



November 8, 2022
For Immediate Release

National Indigenous Veterans Day

The following statement is being issued today by Nunatsiavut President Johannes Lampe:

For Inuit and other Indigenous peoples throughout Canada, today, November 8, is recognized as National Indigenous Veterans Day. Indigenous people were exempt from conscription during the First and Second World Wars. They were not considered citizens of Canada and they did not have the right to vote. However, some 4,000 Indigenous men, including Labrador Inuit, enlisted in the First World War and over 300 died. Another 20,000 volunteered for service in the Second World War and over 200 died.

There are many others who served in conflicts since, and many more who continue to serve today.

As Labrador Inuit, we should be proud of these brave men and women who helped shape this great country we live in – proud of the sacrifices they made, and proud of the legacy they have left behind.

To mark this day, I encourage all Beneficiaries, no matter where you live, to observe a minute of silence to honor those who sacrificed their lives so that we can enjoy the freedoms we have today.

