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For Immediate Release

## National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is a moment to reflect on the painful history and ongoing impact of residential schools on Indigenous peoples. It is a day when we remember the victims, honour the survivors, and acknowledge the harm that residential schools caused to our children, families and communities.

This year, we mark the third official National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Today, we listen to survivors as they share their experiences of residential schools. We wear orange shirts to honour their stories. We are grateful for the work Inuit survivors did to bring to light to the truths of residential schools, where the government tried to destroy our language, our traditions and our way of life.



The decision by Newfoundland and Labrador Premier Andrew Furey to issue the first provincial apology in Cartwright, with members of the unrecognized, illegitimate group claiming Inuit status, the NunatuKavut Community Council (NCC), is cause for much concern. This apology to a group that Inuit do not accept as Inuit is insulting to Inuit residential schools survivors. It shows a lack of respect for Inuit across Canada and exposes the deep-rooted colonialist attitudes of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador that have existed for generations.

Through his actions, the Premier has chosen to ignore the genuine suffering and historical injustices endured by Labrador Inuit by taking a selective approach towards reconciliation. His actions not only undermine the spirit of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, but also highlight his disregard for the principles of respect, justice and equality for all true Indigenous peoples.

Reconciliation is not just about acknowledging past wrongs. It's about taking steps to make them right. It's about ensuring Indigenous peoples are afforded the respect and dignity they truly deserve.

**Johannes Lampe**  
President