



November 30, 2023  
For Immediate Release

## **Nunatsiavut Assembly enacts *Helmets Act***

The Nunatsiavut Assembly has passed legislation concerning the use of helmets by operators and passengers of off-road vehicles on Labrador Inuit Lands.

**The *Helmets Act*, effective as of November 20, 2023, states that operators or passengers of off-road vehicles or passengers being towed by an off-road vehicle are not required to wear helmets when on Labrador Inuit Lands outside of the boundaries of the Inuit Communities.**

The Helmets Act does not apply outside of Labrador Inuit Lands or within Inuit Community boundaries.

“Off-road vehicles” includes snowmobiles, ATVs and side-by-sides but does not include agricultural equipment, infrastructure equipment, garden lawnmowers, lawn tractors or golf carts.

While the use of off-road vehicles is generally regulated by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, section 17.9.3 of the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement* specifically gives the Nunatsiavut Government the power to create legislation regarding recreational vehicles on Labrador Inuit Lands.

The Nunatsiavut Government recognizes the importance of safety while operating off-road vehicles and encourages operators and passengers to wear helmets, even though *Helmets Act* states that are not required.

The *Helmets Act* also does not prevent employers or insurers from requiring their employees or people covered under insurance policies to wear helmets. Users of off-road vehicles are encouraged to check with their employers or insurance companies to determine if they need to wear helmets when using off-road vehicles.

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