



October 4, 2024
For Immediate Release

Foster Families Appreciation Month

As we celebrate National Foster Families Appreciation Month this October, as the Minister of Health and Social Development, and on behalf of the Nunatsiavut Government, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to all the foster parents in each of the five Labrador Inuit communities and Upper Lake Melville. Your dedication and compassion are truly commendable.

This year's theme, "Together We Thrive: Celebrating Foster Families," emphasizes the profound impact of collective care and support within our communities. Foster families are indispensable in the lives of our children and youth, ensuring they maintain strong connections to their families, communities, and Inuit culture and traditions. By choosing to support our young people every day, foster families play a pivotal role in nurturing the health and resilience of our communities.

The Nunatsiavut Government recognizes and deeply values the significant contributions of foster parents. To honour your unwavering commitment, the Department of Health and Social Development's *Caring for our Children Project* staff, in collaboration with the provincial Department of Children, Seniors and Social Development, have organized special, invitation-only events in each of our communities and Upper Lake Melville. These events are a small token of our appreciation for the vital work you do.

Furthermore, through the *Caring for our Children Project*, the Nunatsiavut Government is dedicated to supporting and recruiting new Labrador Inuit foster families. This initiative provides essential services within the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area and Upper Lake Melville, ensuring that our children and youth receive the care and support they need to thrive.

Again, thank you for your unwavering dedication and for making a lasting difference in the lives of our children and youth. Together, we are building stronger, healthier communities.

Gerald Asivak
Minister of Health and Social Development

