

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NUNATUKAVUT COMMUNITY COUNCIL DONATES TO GROUPS THAT ARE HELPING MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF NUNATUKAVUT INUIT

HAPPY VALLEY-GOOSE BAY, LABRADOR, May 6, 2021 – The NunatuKavut Community Council (NCC) today announced donations totalling \$14,000 to the following groups that contribute to the health and well-being of NunatuKavut Inuit and communities:

Canadian Cancer Society (\$5,000): in support of the Air Daffodil Program, which provides financial assistance to cancer patients in Labrador who have to travel by air for medical treatment. The Air Daffodil Program helps to alleviate the financial stress and worry that comes with a cancer diagnosis which allows cancer patients to focus on getting well. This donation covers the cost of 10 return flights from Labrador to St. John’s. NCC has provided \$15,000 to this program since 2016.

Diabetes Canada (\$5,000): in support of Liz’s Walk, a cause started by Guy Poole over 13 years ago in memory of his wife, Elizabeth (Liz) Poole, who lost her life to complications from diabetes. Each year, Guy sets out to walk approximately 300 kilometres in different parts of Labrador and on the island of Newfoundland to raise awareness and money for diabetes research and to help find a cure. NCC has supported Liz’s Walk since its inception and has dedicated financial and human resources every year since. NCC has provided over \$23,000 in cash contributions since 2015.

Town of Mary’s Harbour (\$4,000): donation to be shared equally between the fire departments in Mary’s Harbour and Lodge Bay in memory of Keith Rumbolt, a well-known NunatuKavut member who passed away this past February. Keith was a staunch supporter of his community of Lodge Bay. He was the head of the Local Service District for many years and the fire chief of the local fire department as well. Keith was also a strong advocate for NCC and was a former Governing Council member, who fought hard for the rights of NunatuKavut Inuit.

NCC is committed to giving back to the community and continues to support initiatives that make a positive and meaningful difference in the lives of our people and communities.

Quick Facts

- NCC is the representative governing body for approximately 6,000 Inuit who reside primarily in south and central Labrador.
- Translated from Inuttitut, NunatuKavut means “Our Ancient Land” and is the traditional territory of the Inuit who belong to this territory.
- In July 2018, NCC entered into talks with the Government of Canada on the Recognition of its Indigenous Rights and Self-Determination (RIRSD). In September 2019, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed.

Quotes

“The NunatuKavut Community Council is pleased to be making significant donations to these three groups. They each positively impact the health and well-being of our people in different but meaningful ways. Our contribution to Air Daffodil will hopefully ease some of the stress that members face when having to leave the comfort of home to undergo cancer treatment. Diabetes affects so many of our people and NCC truly believes in the vital work that Diabetes Canada does in helping fight this chronic disease. I applaud Guy for his unwavering dedication to finding a cure. And, last but certainly not least, we are especially proud to be able to donate to the Town of Mary’s Harbour to benefit the fire departments in Mary’s Harbour and Lodge Bay in memory of Keith Rumbolt. He cared so deeply for his community and was a man of action. His family wanted to ensure that his work and his life was memorialized in a way that reflected who Keith truly was. He is deeply missed by all who had the honour of knowing him.”

- *Todd Russell, President of NCC*

“Through our Air Daffodil Program, we have provided in excess of 1,300 one-way flights to cancer patients in Labrador who were required to travel outside the region for cancer care. The NunatuKavut Community Council has supported this vital support program since its inception for which we are very grateful. We truly appreciate this gift today which will help with the costs associated with 10 flights.”

- *Al Pelley, Director of Revenue Development, Canadian Cancer Society*

“It is amazing what NCC is doing for Liz’s Walk again this year. Their continued support blows me away. For me, I’m just doing what I love to do, which is walk. In my opinion, the most important work is being done through the support and contributions of groups like NCC, my coworkers at Vale, volunteers who help to fundraise and all others who give. My hope is that one day, together, we can find a cure for this terrible disease.”

- *Guy Poole, creator of Liz’s Walk*

“I am very humbled to accept this donation from NunatuKavut Community Council for the Mary’s Harbour/Lodge Bay Fire Departments in memory of Keith Rumbolt. These funds will allow our department to purchase necessary rescue gear and firefighting equipment. Thank you NCC for your interest and investment in our community.”

- *Mayor Alton Rumbolt, Town of Mary’s Harbour*

“As Keith’s family we are incredibly grateful for the generosity shown from NunatuKavut with their donation in his memory. This past few years Keith has had a goal to see the local volunteer fire brigades do well and obtain necessary equipment that they needed. We are happy to know that in his memory, this donation will be a big step towards his own goal and local volunteers will be better equipped.”

- *The family of the late Keith Rumbolt*

Associated Links

- For further information on NCC, please visit www.nunatukavut.ca. Please also join in the conversation at [Facebook.com/nunatukavut](https://www.facebook.com/nunatukavut) and Twitter [@nunatukavut](https://twitter.com/nunatukavut).

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