



## **Backgrounder:**

### **Commissioner's Award Recipients by community**

#### ***Chesterfield Inlet***

##### **Bravery**

**Peter Jr. Kattegatsiak** – For his help in finding Elder Louis Autut whom had been lost on the land for more than 30 hours in a fierce blizzard.

##### **Special Skills**

**Leo Mimialik** – For the teaching of survival skills and knowledge of land and sea that he accumulated all his life. His contributions are essential for current and future generations.

##### **Youth Achievements**

**Scott Sammurtok-Walters** – For his high achievements, involvement in the community and beyond, and commitment in making his community a better place.

**Jordin Ippiak** – For his commitment to achieving additional high school credits after meeting graduation requirements and for having the qualities needed to be selected by the RCMP to work on their summer program.

#### ***Baker Lake***

##### **Service to Community**

**Late Bill Martee and David Simailak** – For their volunteer work delivering church services and acting as pianist for all church occasions for more than 35 years.

##### **Bravery**

**Martha Aptanik and Victoria Kayuryuk** – For risking their own lives to help save Nancy Kangiryuaq and her baby, Ruth Neevick, when they fell through thin ice.

**Sammy Arnaluaq** – For his act of courage, when as a small child, he was on his own without any adult supervision and was ultimately responsible for helping to save his father's life.

**Moses Parker** – For his quick response when he noticed that Jacob Mautaritnaaq was in distress out on the land. He immediately rushed him to the Health Center, likely saving his life.

#### ***Arviat***

##### **Volunteer**

**Nancy Kalluak** – For taking it upon herself to host and set up activities for Elders. Her volunteer work, fundraising efforts and energy, all serve to make life more enjoyable for the Elders.

**Tony Uluadluak, Pierre Ikakhik, Dominic Pingushat** – For volunteering on many committees but mainly for their volunteer work with the local coroners, preparing the deceased for funerals. Their dedication gives peace of mind to the families and friends of those who pass away.

### **Bravery**

**Late Jimmy Ishalook** – For forming a search and rescue team in Arviat in 1975, when John Uhotooq went missing .

**Michael Emiktowt Illnik** – For saving Ethan (Blu) Kablutsiaq Tassiuk who was being mauled by a ferocious dog on April 26 2009.

**Peter Alareak** – For taking action when he noticed that Michael Ivu was in trouble while wolf hunting and as a result saved his life.

### **Service to Community**

**Johnny Karetak** – For serving more than 30 years as a special constable with the RCMP in the days where survival depended on skills. After retirement he continued to share his expertise with organizations and his community.

**Rhoda Karetak** – For being a mentor and advisor to others and for truly living Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit in all areas of her life. And for her generosity towards everyone in need, of food, advice or clothing as well as teaching others throughout her life.

## **Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal Recipients**

### ***Arviat***

**Rhoda Akpaliapik Karetak** is awarded the Diamond Jubilee medal in the field of Arts & Culture. As a well-known Elder and expert in Inuit knowledge, culture and language, Rhoda is being honoured for her numerous skills as an artist as well as her generosity, wisdom and service to her community.

**Lois Suluk-Locke** is awarded the Diamond Jubilee medal in the field of Arts & Culture. She is being honoured for her involvement in the Inuit arts, specifically music, at the community level, as well as the international level, promoting and showcasing the art of throat singing.

**Donald Uluakluak Sr.** is awarded the Diamond Jubilee medal in the field of Education. He is being honoured for his contributions in developing a curriculum for Nunavut schools and sustaining Inuit culture and language.

### ***Rankin Inlet***

Despite his young age, **Jordin kalluk Tootoo** is a very strong and brave man. For the love of his hockey career, he had the courage and strength to admit what was becoming a negative impact on his game – alcoholism. As a highly respected role model in Nunavut, he is a real man. It takes a man to admit his weakness but a “real man” to deal with it, thus becoming a greater player and role model.