



**The Honourable Edna Ekhivalak Elias
Commissioner of Nunavut
Investiture as Chancellor to the Order of Nunavut
28 November 2011
Chamber of the Legislative Assembly**

Merci Monsieur Tootoo, merci beaucoup, Quana.

First and foremost I would like to thank my son Derek and my daughter Darlene for taking time off work to be here to witness this extra special occasion.

Secondly, I extend my sincere appreciation to my close friends for also taking the time to attend. Living so far away from family and relatives at times can be a trying and lonely experience. New acquaintances and longtime friends are very important to me: friends from church, friends made through boot camp, sewing circles, social dance class. You all mean a lot to me. Thank you for being here.

It is an honour to be named the Chancellor of the Order of Nunavut. As stated earlier, it is by virtue of my position as

Commissioner of Nunavut that I gain this recognition and title.

It is a new duty for the Commissioner of Nunavut that will add weight and prominence to the role, bringing Commissioners in more parity to our provincial counterparts, the Lieutenant Governors; a new duty which I will carry out with respect and diligence as I perform my other duties.

Being the current Commissioner during this inaugural presentation of the Order of Nunavut adds tremendously to my role and experience as Commissioner.

It will give me the greatest honour and pleasure tomorrow to present the Order of Nunavut to the very first nominated recipient, to a dear and sweet Elder, Mr. Mike Gardner.

I invite you to return tomorrow to the public ceremony investing Mr. Gardner to the Order of Nunavut at 4:00 p.m. which will be followed by a reception. Once again, I receive this Order with great honour and the role of Chancellor with highest dignity.

Quana