



Statement

Premier Savikataaq comments on Nutrition North announcement

December 10, 2018
Iqaluit, NU

Premier Joe Savikataaq today released the following statement:

“Increased funds and access to the Nutrition North Canada Program are vital to the health and well-being of Nunavummiut. I was happy to hear that today’s federal announcement on the Program included a subsidy on more household necessities like diapers and infant food. However, it is not clear that the proposed changes will provide a significant increase in the availability and accessibility of healthy, nutritious foods to Nunavut families.

I am pleased to see the Program recognizes that country food has excellent nutritional value, and contributes to sustainable and self-reliant communities. I sincerely hope the Harvesters Support Grant will take into consideration the delicate balance required to maintain sustainable harvests for generations to come. We would like to see more direct benefit and subsidy to Nunavummiut, to encourage increased selection and foster our own decision-making capabilities. The Government of Nunavut will actively look for guarantees that further changes to the program will bring secure, equitable access to nutritional food and vital goods.

I once again ask that Nunavut have a dedicated presence on the Nutrition North Canada Advisory Board. I look forward to continued dialogue with Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. and Intergovernmental and Northern Affairs Minister LeBlanc on how Nutrition North can be further improved to ensure direct, significant advantage for all Nunavummiut. We need on-going improvements to benefit all Northerners, and finally find solutions to food insecurity within our territory.”

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