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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

DATE ISSUED: March 1, 2017 EVENT: Winners of QIA's song/poem contest

The Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA) is excited to announce the winners of our Inuktitut song/poem contest.

The contest, which was part of our Inuktitut Language month activities, solicited entries from all over Qikiqtani.

The contest winners are:

- First prize, \$400 winner
 - o 18-year-old Leetia Kalluk from Arctic Bay
 - o She is currently in Ottawa studying at Nunavut Sivuniksavut
 - Her sweet song about love and longing made a huge impression on our selection committee.
 - o Leetia submitted an MP3 of her song
- Second prize, \$300 winner
 - 21-year-old Jerry Laisa originally from Pangnirtung
 - o Jerry works as a security guard at the Mary River mine
 - o His song of heartbreak was an instant hit among our selection committee members
 - o Jerry submitted a Facebook video of his song
- Third prize, \$200 winner
 - o 14-year-old Ben Qaqqasiq from Pangnirtung
 - o Ben who is still in high school is an accomplished accordion and piano player
 - o He performed at last year's Alianait Arts Festival
 - o Ben submitted a poem via Twitter

Copies of the winning submissions are available on the QIA Facebook (www.facebook.com/Qikiqtanilnuit/) and Twitter (@Qikiqtani_Inuit) pages.

For more information, please contact:

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