

# NEWS RELEASE



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## **NTI President Mourns Lucassie Ivalu**

*(December 15, 2015 – Iqaluit, Nunavut)* Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI) President Cathy Towtongie today expressed her sincere condolences to Lucassie Ivalu's family following his passing over the weekend.

Ivalu was a respected Elder from Iglulik and served as president of the Baffin Regional Inuit Association in the 1980s. During that time, he played a pivotal role in political movement that led to the signing of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement and the eventual formation of Nunavut. Ivalu also served as mayor of the hamlet of Iglulik as well as a member of the local search and rescue committee.

"I will miss his extensive traditional knowledge and cultural wisdom. Lucassie was a friend and mentor to me, and paved the way for Inuit in so many different areas. I wish to express my sincere condolences to his wife Leah, his family and his extended family on behalf of the NTI Board of Directors," said Towtongie.

Ivalu was laid to rest in Iglulik this week.

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### ***For further information:***

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