

## SUSAN AGLUKARK

Singer / songwriter

I feel very strongly that Scott's plan will create healthier dialogue around suicide, especially with those left behind by suicide. This dialogue is a missing piece and critical element in the process of "healthy" grieving and in healthy closure.

Singer / songwriter Susan Aglukark is one of Canada's most unique artists and a leading voice in Canadian music. She blends the Inuktitut and English languages with contemporary pop music arrangements to tell the stories of her people, the Inuit of Arctic Canada. The emotional depth and honesty of her lyrics; her pure, clear voice and themes of hope, spirit and encouragement have captivated and inspired listeners from all walks of life.

Susan's genuine concern for others combined with her political & social awareness lead many to view her as a role model. She is also rapidly becoming known as an uplifting motivational speaker, able to reach both youth and adult audiences alike. Susan had held command performances for HRH Queen Elizabeth (twice), Canadian Prime Ministers Jean Chretien and Brian Mulroney and the President of France, Jacques Chirac. She has performed for Nelson Mandela and Governor General of Canada Adrienne Clarkson as well as several other dignitaries. Equally important to her are the many, many villages across Canada and the Arctic. Most recently, Susan was invited into the Order Canada and was presented her Officer of the Order of Canada award in September of 2005 for her contribution both musically and as a workshop facilitator and mentor in the aboriginal community.





Awards include: Juno Awards (3) and several Juno nominations presented by C.A.R.A.S. (Canadian Association of Recording Arts & Sciences); the first-ever Aboriginal Achievement Award in Arts & Entertainment, and the Canadian Country Music Association's (CCMA) Vista Rising Star Award, along with several other CCMA nominations. Susan's albums Arctic Rose, Christmas, This Child, Unsung Heroes and Big Feeling have sold over 400,000 copies in Canada to date. Susan has her sights set on touring her upcoming new album (due out March 2006) and the continuation of her activist work. Susan says she never strays far from her roots or the people of Arctic Canada where she grew up; her ultimate message, "to learn to be yourself and believe in that person" reaches much further and touches all people everywhere.

