



NJÁLU REFILL

The Njál's Saga Tapestry Exhibition

Letter of support from the Minister of Culture and Business Affairs



Reykjavik, November 5th 2024

Dear Friends in North America,

I am always so happy to see the appreciation that the Icelandic descendants in Canada and the United States have towards the culture of their ancestors. And I am especially happy to share the news of this wonderful Njál's Saga Tapestry Project, developed by the community of Hvolsvöllur, Iceland.

Is it typical for a town of 1,000 people to embark upon a ten-year-long project of sewing a 90-meter-long tapestry, ask one woman to draw all the images, dye thousands of meters of pure Icelandic wool by hand with local plants, invite the world to help create it by asking them to come and sew, and complete the whole tapestry 2 ½ years earlier than planned? In so many ways this project speaks to the tenacity of Icelanders and their nature to always dream big, dare to try, and get the job done!

I am so pleased to support this project. The Icelandic government has done much to promote this project, and we seek now to build bridges with descendants in other countries who love our culture.

Please join me in supporting this project with your donations and your visits to the tapestry. I look forward to the bonds we can create so that, just like the Bayeux Tapestry in France from which the Njál's Saga tapestry took its inspiration (Vikings seem to inspire tapestry sewing!), in one thousand years, guests to Iceland will still come to see this world class treasure.

With my gratitude for our friendship,

Lilja D. Alfredsdóttir
Minister of Culture and Business Affairs