

TARRALIK

SERVING NUNAVIK INUIT SINCE 1974



Ivakkak 2023
The Inuit Perspective at COPs
Atanniuvik: Self-Determination in Research



Makivik Corporation

Makivik is the ethnic organization mandated to represent and promote the interests of Nunavik. Its membership is composed of the Inuit beneficiaries of the *James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA)*. Makivik's responsibility is to ensure the proper implementation of the political, social, and cultural benefits of the Agreement, and to manage and invest the monetary compensation so as to enable the Inuit to become an integral part of the Northern economy.

Tarralik

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Cover Photo: Willie Cain and Itsaja Arnatuk from Tasiujaq win the 2023 Ivakkak Dog Sled Race after travelling from Kangiqsujaq on March 15 to Aupaluk on March 26 with a total time of 38:38:20.

Read more about the race on page 16.

Photo by Lucasie Kiatainaq/Makivik



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The mini-hydro dam shown here under construction in Inukjuak will provide clean renewable energy to the community, and easily permit the use of electric vehicles and snowmobiles. Every little bit helps, according to Makiwik's Adamie Delisle Alaku. Read more about how Nunavik Inuit are bringing their perspective to international forums on page 4.

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TARRALIK

Bringing the Nunavik Inuit Perspective to Major International Forums Tackling Global Issues

By Stephen Hendrie

Three major international meetings held by the United Nations were attended by Nunavik Inuit in the fall of 2022. They were the COP27 Climate Change Conference in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, the COP15 Conference on Biodiversity in Montreal, and the COP19 Conference on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) in Panama.



Boat near Kuujjuaq with small wind turbine.

Adamie Delisle Alaku, Makivik's Vice President responsible for the Department of Environment, Wildlife, and Research (DEWR), attended parts of COP27 in Egypt, and COP15 in Montreal. In Egypt he was part of a large Inuit delegation led by the Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC). He brought the Nunavik perspective to that huge meeting, attended by more than 190 countries, in the small Egyptian town on the shores of the Red Sea, surrounded by desert. Sharm El-Sheikh means "bay of the wise," and is also called the "city of peace."

"In Nunavik, a lot of permafrost is melting. We've had mudslides. Our hunting trails are not freezing up, so we're not able to access our hunting grounds. In the fall and the spring, they thaw very quickly. The ice is our highway, and the snow is our highway, and we're losing that ability to get to our hunting grounds. It's impacting our food security," said Adamie, adding that some members of the audience in Egypt had never seen snow. "You know when you explain there's polar bears, they're amazed, so it's a wide range of people over there."

The ICC delegation included the international Chair Sara Olsvig from Greenland, and ICC Canada President Lisa Koperqualuk, from Puvirnituq. The President of the Qarjuit Youth Council, Janice Parsons, also attended. Nunavut Elder and cultural advisor Piita Irniq was also an important part of the delegation.

In a press release ICC described the outcome of COP27 as "One Step Forward, Two Steps Backwards." They said it took nearly two extra days, but the meeting was saved by a landmark agreement to establish a Loss and Damage fund that will see the world's most vulnerable peoples compensated for their losses due to climate change.

"The Loss and Damage fund is a first step to ensuring climate justice. In the further development of the fund, we will work hard to ensure that Inuit, who have been on the front lines of climate changes for decades, will have equitable access to the fund," said Sara Olsvig. "Despite the severe urgency of climate change and the increased extreme weather events, parties failed to agree on adding strong language to phase out fossil fuels."

"Other concerns for Inuit in the Sharm El-Sheikh final agreement include the fact that there are fewer references to Indigenous Peoples and human rights than in the 2021 COP26 statement in Glasgow," she said, "or the kinds of emissions reduction commitments needed to keep the target of holding global average temperature increases to 1.5°C or less."

"The lack of human rights language is also a major concern," said Lisa Koperqualuk, President of ICC Canada. "Language on human rights was on and off the table during the COP27, and the end result is a step back as the language included last year in the Glasgow



Adamie Delisle Alaku speaks at a panel discussion at COP27.



ICC Canada President Lisa Koperqualuk and ICC Chair Sara Olsvig.



Meeting at the Indigenous Pavilion at COP27 (L-R): Chief Bill Erasmus, Lisa Koperqualuk, Adamie Delisle Alaku.



Members of the ICC Delegation at COP27 inside a Bedouin tent. (L-R): Caroline Martel, Janice Parsons, Elisapie Lamoureux, Lisa Koperqualuk, Piita Irniq, Adamie Delisle Alaku, John Crump.



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A modern four-stroke snowmobile.



Cabin near Kuujuaq with solar panels.

Pact is now gone, which shows that human rights are not seen as fundamental principles by states, unfortunately."

"It's one step forward, two steps back," Koperqualuk added. "But we don't give up."

For COP27, Inuit produced a strong position paper with five clear recommendations that highlighted Inuit requests to international leaders, the science community, private industry and others.

Delisle Alaku described the experience in Egypt as wide open. After two years of pandemic, people were packed together like sardines, with no testing, no masks, and no restrictions whatsoever. "I'm surprised I survived the heat. It was 29-30 degrees every day. But it was a dry heat. There was air conditioning everywhere."

An estimated 35,000 delegates attended COP27. Venues were huge and held 15,000 people. Inuit spent a lot of time in the Indigenous Pavilion, which was open concept. "It was very loud," says Adamie. "I really went into my motivational speaking style, 'HOW'S EVERYBODY DOING?' to get people's attention. You have to be louder than everybody else."

He was philosophical about the fact that despite major efforts in the past, notably the Kyoto Protocol in 1997, the Paris Agreement in 2015, and the progress made in Glasgow at COP26, there are major countries not at COP27, and Russia is at war with Ukraine. "It's hard for the entire world to come together on a unified approach."

With that in mind, he notes that at the local and regional level, back in Nunavik, every little step helps. "There are small initiatives, and the message I was giving at the COP is, 'we're trying to be sold on the big wind turbines, and big approaches, but what if we did small scale?' Everybody has hunting cabins. If they had a little wind

turbine and a small solar panel with an inverter, that would charge their batteries. That little displacement of not having to use gas for generators, every little bit helps."

He listed other examples, such as upgrading to more fuel efficient four-stroke snowmobiles, and cited the Inukjuak mini-hydro dam as a great way to get off diesel in one community, and allow for electric vehicles and snowmobiles in town, because the grid would be based on renewable energy.

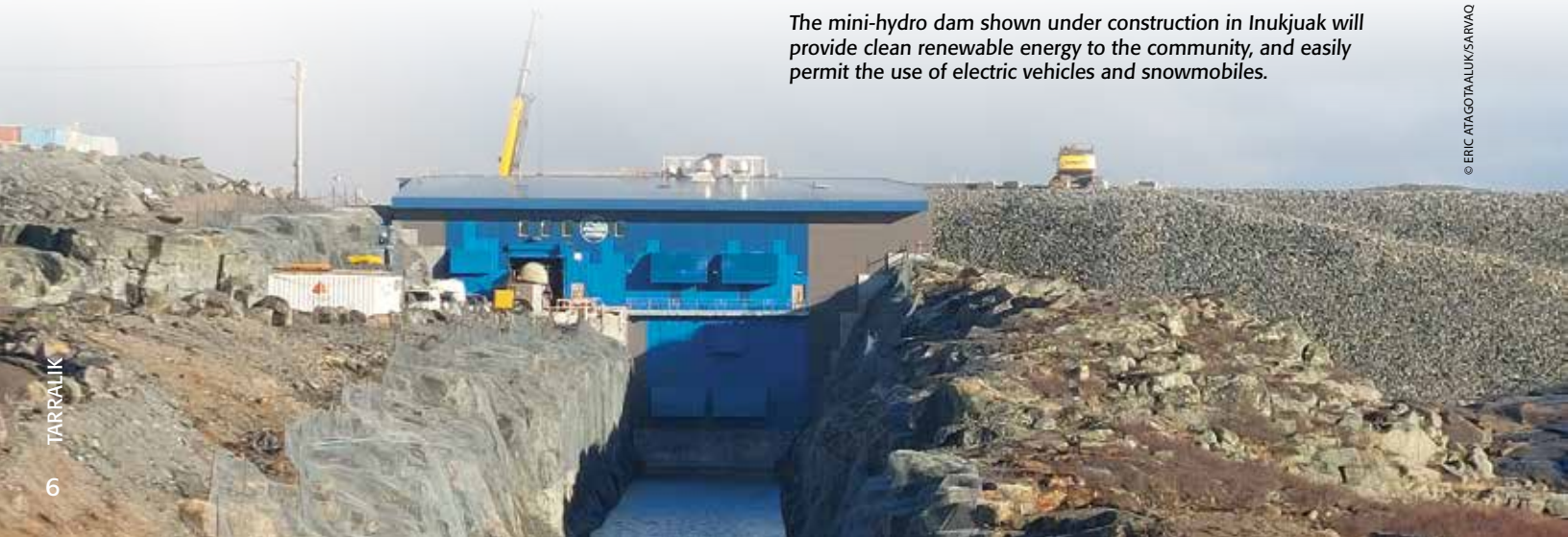
The next month in Montreal, Adamie and senior staff were at the Convention on Biodiversity COP15 meeting. It was held under tight security at the Palais des Congrès. Despite this, protestors from Canada's West Coast, Brazil, and Indonesia managed to infiltrate the convention and disrupt major presentations, including the Prime Minister of Canada's opening speech.

The two-week conference was presided over by China – a task assigned to the Minister of the Environment Huang Runqiu. Meanwhile Canada's Environment Minister Steven Guilbeault – a former environmentalist – stickhandled numerous meetings and disagreements to finally arrive at an agreement at the end.

On the first day of the conference, Trudeau set the tone towards this final agreement by announcing that in Canada 30 per cent of our land and 30 per cent of our waters would become protected by 3030.

Calls to protect 30 per cent of the planet by 3030, nicknamed "30-by-30", eventually became "30-by-30-by-30-by-30". It would mean 30 per cent protection plus 30 per cent restoration of the planet at a cost of \$30-billion, by 3030.

The mini-hydro dam shown under construction in Inukjuak will provide clean renewable energy to the community, and easily permit the use of electric vehicles and snowmobiles.



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Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaking at the opening of COP15 in Montreal.



Indigenous protest banner at COP15 in Montreal.

Gregor Gilbert, Director of Makivik's Department of Environment, Wildlife, and Research (DEWR), had this to say: "I do have a lot of worries about these 30 by 30 announcements and so on with very little detail on how it's actually going to be achieved and implemented. Canada is really going to have a hard time doing that in the South. There's no way they're going to be able to meet those commitments if they're not looking North. For someone living in Akulivik, for example, what does it mean? I think there's a lot of work to do there from the federal perspective."

Adamie Delisle Alaku also has a lot to say about the creation of protected areas in the Arctic. "I'm of a different opinion that we should be protecting everything, not just a little corner, or a little spot." He described the land areas of Nunavik as being dotted by mining claims, which he says take precedence over protected areas.

In terms of marine protected areas he described in very colourful language how excited the Department of Fisheries and Oceans gets to create them. "Everything's interconnected. If there's a spill in Ivujivik, the flow is going to go to Salluit, Quaqtaq, and Kangisujuaq. I feel it's not a true protection because it's protecting only one small area. I know they're trying to draw a balance between development and protected areas."

Someone who has been striving to find an environmental balance between development and protecting the environment for decades is David Suzuki, host of CBC TV's "The Nature of Things" since 1979. Adamie described it as the highlight of his experience at COP15 to meet the famous environmentalist, and immediately invited him to Nunavik.

"I really want him to come to Kuujuaq to see our research centre. He said, 'you use elders, and traditional knowledge, right?' I said, we use both! We use traditional knowledge and western science, and end up with a better science!"

At the COP19 conference in Panama, Inuit were represented by leaders from ICC, and officials such as Gregor Gilbert, and fellow senior officials from Nunatsiavut and Nunavut. Collectively Gilbert says they have been to 10 of these meetings over the years and

stresses the importance of building ongoing relationships. Inuit have successfully protected polar bear trade at CITES in the past.

This time around Gilbert says, "there were various discussions surrounding ivory which could have impact on narwhal and walrus harvesting, or at least the economic spinoffs from that – the ability to trade narwhal or walrus tusks or handicrafts made from them. A lot of the time what happens at these international forums is that these species become proxies for the global anxiety around climate change."

Adamie is aware how privileged he is as an Inuit leader to be able to criticize government policy in Canada. At all of the major COP meetings he has been to he has witnessed the extreme struggle impoverished Indigenous groups in South America, and remote African tribes have to live with on a day to day basis. "When I go to these conferences and I hear the struggle, it's disheartening because we have so much in Nunavik. We have the Research Centre, our Hunting Fishing and Trapping Committees, our land claims agreements, our airlines, our subsidiaries. It's disheartening to hear these stories of massacre and murder because a mining company is coming in, and all the politicians are corrupt and bought off by the mining companies, you know. We're so fortunate in Nunavik, compared to the rest of the world."

With this in mind, in the gargantuan COP meetings involving hundreds of nations, and struggling Indigenous Peoples, it is good to see that ways have been found to give groups not recognized by their own governments a voice in the process. This is via the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP).

Climate change is the challenge of all humanity. The issues at these three COP meetings are intertwined, as they all relate to our diminishing planet, threatening the survival of species, eco-systems, and the guarantee of more and more extreme weather events in the decades to come. It is literally a race against time to transform existing ways of living, with our dependence on fossil fuels, into ways that we can continue living, with new forms of energy less toxic to mother earth. ✨

Further Reading

- The UNFCCC COP27 Climate Change Meeting was held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt from November 6-20, 2022
United Nations website: <https://unfccc.int/cop27>
- The United Nations Conference on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) COP19 conference took place in Panama City, Panama from November 14-25, 2022
CITES website: <https://cites.org/eng/cop19>
- The UN Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) COP15 conference took place in Montreal, Canada from December 7-19, 2022
United Nations website: <https://www.cbd.int/conferences/2021-2022>

AUPALUK PROJECT MORE THAN JUST A FILM



**Movie documents life
in Nunavik's smallest
community but also raises
important political issues**

Makivik President Pita Aatami sits on a raised chair in front of a green screen in a hotel near the Makivik office in Montreal. He is dressed all in black and four filmmakers move around him. There is a sound person wearing headphones and holding a boom mike, as Director Ole Gjerstad stands behind a film camera and counts down from three, two, one... "and to you, Pita."

William Tagoona, the executive producer of the documentary, listens as the film crew record.



This film shoot is possibly the last of a project that has been in the works since a Makiivik board meeting in 2021. *Aupaluk: Red Earth*, its working title, was conceived at the meeting after board member Maggie Akpahatak requested a film be made in support of residents, documenting life in her community as it faces pressure from mining companies and government. The request was approved and William Tagoona, along with Ole and his colleagues, who William

had worked with previously on the 2015 film, *So That you Can Stand, Napagunaqullusi*, and the “Building the Inuit Homeland” series, headed to Aupaluk.

“It’s been great working with that team. We’ve been together since about 2014,” William says. “We developed really good chemistry amongst ourselves.” Makiivik has been working for years



William Tagoona speaks with Aupaluk elder, Johnny Akpahattak.



The film crew at the waterfall near Aupaluk.

to document Nunavik Inuit history in various ways, creating an archive of sorts for future generations.

On their first trip to Aupaluk, they visited the Landholding office where five maps hung. The first depicted areas that Aupaluk had wanted in their Category I and II land selections. The fifth map showed what they were granted, only 15 per cent of what they requested. What they wanted most they were refused, and the Category I lands were divided into four tiny pieces. "They're scattered," Ole says, "It's like waste." They decided this was a big part of the story that needed to be told.

The second thing they discovered in Aupaluk was that there were different opinions about how to face the existential threat the mining companies were posing. Ole says the initial apprehensions and tensions people had about participating in the film project were eventually let go. The conclusion in the film is that everybody in

Aupaluk agrees that the land was stolen, and something must be done. On that everybody agrees.

The project became not only one of documenting the beauty of the land under threat, but a political story. The film opens with the Akpahattak family fishing on a spring weekend and shows the majesty of the Nunavik landscape.

"It's people in their relationship with nature, which is almost sacred to them," Ole explains, "and what can be done to protect it. This film is not pro-mining, it's not anti-mining, it's pro-Inuit rights and in the end it's not only about Aupaluk. It's about all the communities. What happened to Aupaluk is the extreme case, but to some extent with the land selection, it happened to every community in Nunavik. And it happened to every Indigenous community in Canada."

William agrees. He says the importance of making this documentary goes back to the 1960s when Inuit were discriminated



The Makivik executive team flew to Aupaluk to observe the filming last fall and were joined by some Inuittitut High School students.



Director Ole Gjerstad, centre, also worked on Makivvik's seven-film series "Building the Inuit Homeland," and *Napagunnaqullusi: So That You Can Stand*. Here he is shown with cinematographer Philippe Lavalette, left, and sound person Martyne Morin. On the right are Makivvik President Pita Aatami and the film's Coordinating Producer Jean-Marie Comeau.

against, whether in schools, or hospitals. They were seen as dispensable, he says.

"We're working toward fixing what was done wrong in the past, and with what we're doing in the Aupaluk documentary I think we're surfacing that. It's all part of the injustices that were done in the past and Aupaluk is one of them with the land selections."

The injustices regarding land selections were explored in the "Building the Inuit Homeland" series, and Ole says that because Nunavik had its land claim negotiated first, other Inuit regions, like Nunavut and Nunatsiavut, were able to see what mistakes were made before negotiating their own agreements decades later.

"(Nunavik) paid the price for being the first. That's basically what it amounts to," he says. "But things are being dealt with. What happened in the past, the theft of the land, the ignoring of Indigenous rights and treaties, are gradually being challenged in courts."

While the film is a portrait of the people of Aupaluk and their relationship to the land, it is also an instrument for Nunavimmiut to pitch their case for recognition of their rights. "I'd say it's a weapon, when it comes to dealing with the government," Ole says. The film will be narrated in English (by William), Inuktitut, as well as French. "This film has to be shown in Quebec. When Makivvik goes to (Premier) François Legault they can say, 'Here is the situation, this is what happened, now can we talk about it?'"

On their last day shooting in Aupaluk last fall, the Makivvik executive team flew into the community to observe. William says it was an important visit because the corporation is part of the solution.

"You'll see in the documentary where the governments and the industry, when they negotiated the *JBNQA*, they had absolutely no regard for the Inuit. They just did whatever they wanted to. So, it was very important for the Makivvik executives to go there and go meet with the leadership of the tiniest community in Nunavik and show their support, and it really did a lot for our documentary. And the people of Aupaluk were being listened to by Makivvik, the only real Inuk body in the James Bay Agreement."

Back in the Montreal hotel, Pita Aatami has completed 11 takes. Ole will show them to William to decide on which one to use, not only because the clips are in Inuktitut, but to make sure the messaging is correct. More than on previous films he has worked, he says, this one is presenting a scenario and solution close to what Makivvik wants to achieve.

"So, it's important we get it right. Here, Makivvik, and Pita, is my client." •

Makivvik President Pita Aatami in Aupaluk.



NUNAVIK ON SHOW AND OPEN FOR BUSINESS



Multidisciplinary artist Hannah Tooktoo.

From February 8-11, Ottawa's Shaw Centre played host to the Northern Lights Business and Cultural Showcase, and both Nunavik and Makivik were well represented at the event with about 29 staff from all departments, including Construction, and about 20 Nunavik artists able to showcase their talents in the nation's capital. The goal of the conference is to share the best of Canada's Eastern Arctic and North, whether it be industry, tourism, arts and culture, or the many other areas where progress and opportunities are happening.

But showcasing is only part of the event. It also promotes stronger relationships between northern regions and organizations

and allows the opportunity to establish new relationships with southern businesses. The conference had an arts and cultural pavilion where participants and the public could shop, and a trade show floor, featuring a variety of northern organizations and businesses. Workshops and sessions were offered throughout the event, on many topics including Indigenous tourism and economic development, international shipping, mining, and sustainable fisheries. Makivik staff and other Nunavimuit were involved in many of the events, including the social networking opportunities, like Nunavik Night. •



Makivik Treasurer George Berthe, who is also a board member for the Nunavik Tourism Association, participated in the panel session, *Indigenous Tourism Development in Canada*, alongside representatives from Travel Nunavut and Newfoundland & Labrador's Indigenous Tourism Association.



Makivik's Executive VP for Economic Development Andy Moorhouse joined a panel discussion in his role as Board Director of Inuit Development Corp Association. The panel, *Northern Workforce and Skilled Trades Development*, acknowledged the critical demand for skilled trade workers throughout the country and the opportunity that presents for Indigenous people.



Makivik President Pita Aatami, Makivik VP Department of Environment, Wildlife and Research Adamie Delisle Alaku, and federal Minister of Northern Affairs Dan Vandal.



Makivik VP Department of Environment, Wildlife and Research Adamie Delisle Alaku, joined ICC Canada President Lisa Koperqualuk and (not pictured) Oceans North Field Technician Alex Ootoowak for a roundtable discussion on Inuit and their voice in international shipping.



Peta Tayara at her booth in the arts and cultural pavilion.



Janice Parsons with some of her creations in the arts and cultural pavilion.



Joanna Katrena Cooper with some of her beadwork.



Sylvia Cloutier was at the event to offer guidance and assistance to the Nunavik artists who attended.



Makiivik President Pita Aatami delivered a luncheon keynote address to a packed hall at the Northern Lights Business and Cultural Showcase in Ottawa in February.

Pita spoke passionately about the fight for Inuit self-determination, highlighting the successes of Makivik and its subsidiaries. He offered thanks to the Government of Canada for recent funding announcements, and described Inuit as a welcoming and helpful people, but reminded the crowd that while Nunavik's doors are open to business, business and developers coming into the region must first work first with Inuit, as it is their land. He said he's a big supporter of education and there is now a much-needed focus on regaining culture and language. Here is an excerpt from his speech:

*"We all know the technological age has also touched us. People are on **Tik Tok**, it's all in English most of the time so a lot of our youth are losing their languages. We want to keep that language strong, so we've started focusing on language and culture as one of our mandates. Unfortunately, we didn't start to focus on this until it's almost too late. We will focus on this through Makivik and through the Government of Canada, through Heritage Canada. That's a challenge that we'll be fighting for. Like the French, we don't want to lose our language. We respect French people wanting to keep their language."*

We're the same as you. If you don't want to lose your language, we're the same. Respect us for who we are. There are two official languages in Canada, French and English, as we all know. Why not make Inuktitut an official language? If I do get my own government one day, that will be our official language."

(Crowd applauds)

"On the self-determination front, I spoke a little bit about this, we haven't even started negotiating yet because I must deal with the Quebec government. They haven't named anyone onto this table yet, even though we have a team that's ready to start negotiations. Quebec wants to know, 'what do you want in self-determination?' The wording itself explains it right away: self-determination. That's all we're asking for. Don't tell me how I should live and what we should do in my area, like I said earlier, because it'll never work now. This is colonialism that people are talking about and we're starting to get away from, it is going away, but it's very slow. It's still there up to today, anything that the government might decide to do they do consult with us, but they are the ones that are making the decision, so we want to get away from this." ●

IVAKKAK 2023

Six dedicated teams showcase the importance of preserving traditional Inuit practices

Willie Cain and Itsaja Arnatuk from Tasiujaq topped the podium in Aupaluk after winning the 2023 Ivakkak Dog sled race, with a total time of 38:38:20.

Six teams competed this year after the event was cancelled in 2022 due to COVID concerns. The race began in Kangiqsujuaq on March 15, and after racing a total distance of more than 427 kms, all teams finished in Aupaluk on March 26.

Cain and Arnatuk were joined on the podium by Purvirnituq team Carlos Surusila and Paul Amarualik, who had a total time of 39:00:20, and Kuujuaq's Aloupa Kauki and Sheldon Whiteley who clocked a total time of 44:18:19. Fourth place this year went to Ken Labbe and Andrew Gordon of Tasiujaq, fifth to Charlie Angnatuk and Johnny Kritik also from Tasiujaq, and sixth place to Saanti Jaaka and Paulie Kiatainak from Kangiqsujuaq.

Makivik President Pita Aatami praised the efforts of the mushers and their teams, saying, "Ivakkak was created over 20 years ago, and the first race was held in 2001, marking the start of Makivik's Inuit Sled Dog revitalization initiative. We are proud of the work that has gone into bringing the Inuit Sled Dog back to Nunavik, despite the



Team 4, Charlie Angnatuk and Johnny Kritik from Tasiujaq, on the trail between Quataq and Uqaujaaluk.







© LUCASIE KIATINIAQ/MAKIVIK X3

Willie Cain and Itsaja Arnatuk from Tasiujaq topped the podium in Aupaluk, while second place was awarded to Purvirnituk team Carlos Surusila and Paul Amarualik, and third went to Kuujuaq's Aloupa Kauki and Sheldon Whiteley.

Team 3, Ken Labbe and Andrew Gordon from Tasiujaq, on the trail to Iqalukjuaq.





Dogs rest near a camp set up on the stretch between Quaqtak and Uqaujaaluk.

tragic dog slaughters carried out by past governments from the mid-1950s until the late 1960s."

In a press release, Makivvik acknowledged the determination and dedication of the mushers and their teams who showcased the importance of preserving traditional Inuit practices. The mushers participating in Ivakkak today are following in the footsteps of the early teams that participated more than 20 years ago, and even more importantly, they are following and travelling the trails of their ancestors, using the same method of transportation that they would have used. The hard work and commitment required to raise Inuit dog sled teams are a testament to the deep-rooted cultural significance of the event.

The Ivakkak 2023 race was not just a test of the mushers' physical and mental endurance. It was also an affirmation of the importance of preserving traditional Inuit practices, including the art of raising and caring for dog sled teams.

All teams were awarded cash prizes ranging from a total purse value of \$47,500 to \$11,700, and special prizes were given to Charlie Angnatuk and Johnny Kritik for Rookie of the Year, Saanti Jaaka and Paulie Kiatainak for the Sportsmanship Award, and the Traditional Showcase Award, for the team that is most traditionally dressed, was also given to Charlie Angnatuk and Johnny Kritik.

Details of the final standings and prizes can be found on the Ivakkak website at Ivakkak.com. ♦



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Food Boxes Delivered

To offset the cost of living this past winter, Makivik supplied all Nunavik beneficiary homes with food boxes, both in Nunavik and the Montreal area.

Based on numbers provided by KMHB, 4,500 beneficiary households in Nunavik received food boxes in January, purchased from Nunavik Food Service with the transportation cost paid in partnership between Nutrition North Canada and Nunavik Food Service. Air Inuit shipped the boxes, and local firefighters distributed them in each community. Each box contained vacuum sealed meat, which included: 2.8 kg of pork chops, 1.7 kg of ground beef, 1 kg each of roast beef and roast pork, six chicken legs and drumsticks, and two whole chickens. Local firefighters and first responders distributed the boxes in the communities, and Makivik donated \$10,000 to be used for any equipment seen fit for the recognition of sustained Volunteer Fire Fighter efforts.

According to Makivik's VP of Economic Development Andy Moorhouse, the country food bought in late December for southern distribution included nine full caribou, more than 750 ptarmigan, and 1,000 lbs of Arctic char.



Lizzie Crow helping package country food for distribution in the Montreal area.

© KITTY GORDON



Kitty Gordon holding char destined for Nunavik beneficiaries in the Montreal area.

© JEANNIE NAYOUMEALUK



Women at Saturviit Inuit Women's Association. From left: Pasha Partridge, Eva Saunders, Stacey Kasudluak Moreau, and Jeannie Nayoumealuk.



From left, Besty Etidloie, Laina Grey, and Annie Baron preparing food for distribution.

were harvested by Buckley Flemming and Jonah Flemming of Kuujuaaraapik, and Adamie Cain of Kuujuaq.

Once in Montreal, the huge job of dividing the meat took two days and was executed by Kitty Gordon, Laina Grey, Annie Baron, Betsy Itidloie and Lizzie Crow. Brian Pomerleau and Chris Murovic delivered the meat over about five days to Saturviit Women's Association and had a pickup location for distribution to surrounding beneficiary families in Vaudreuil.

Meat was also dropped off for Inuit staff at FCNQ Baie D'Urfe, TNI, Student Services at KI, and SQIA. The Inuit staff at Makiwvik and KI were invited to pick up their share in the Makiwvik parking lot and any Inuit living in the Montreal area could also collect meat at the Makiwvik St-Laurent office. The food was also given to Tasiutigiti, Ulluriaq Boys and Girls, and to shelters that serve homeless Inuit, including Projets Autochtones du Quebec, Resilience, Chez Doris, Open Door, and the Native Friendship Centre. ♦

The caribou were harvested by Andy Manuk, Pauloosie Kasudluak, Allie Kasudluak, Aisa Mina, Davidee Naluktuk, Nick Watt, Simeonie Inukpuk, Max Moorhouse, and Bobby Echalook, all from Inukjuak. The char came from Jaaji Etok from Aupaluk, and the ptarmigan

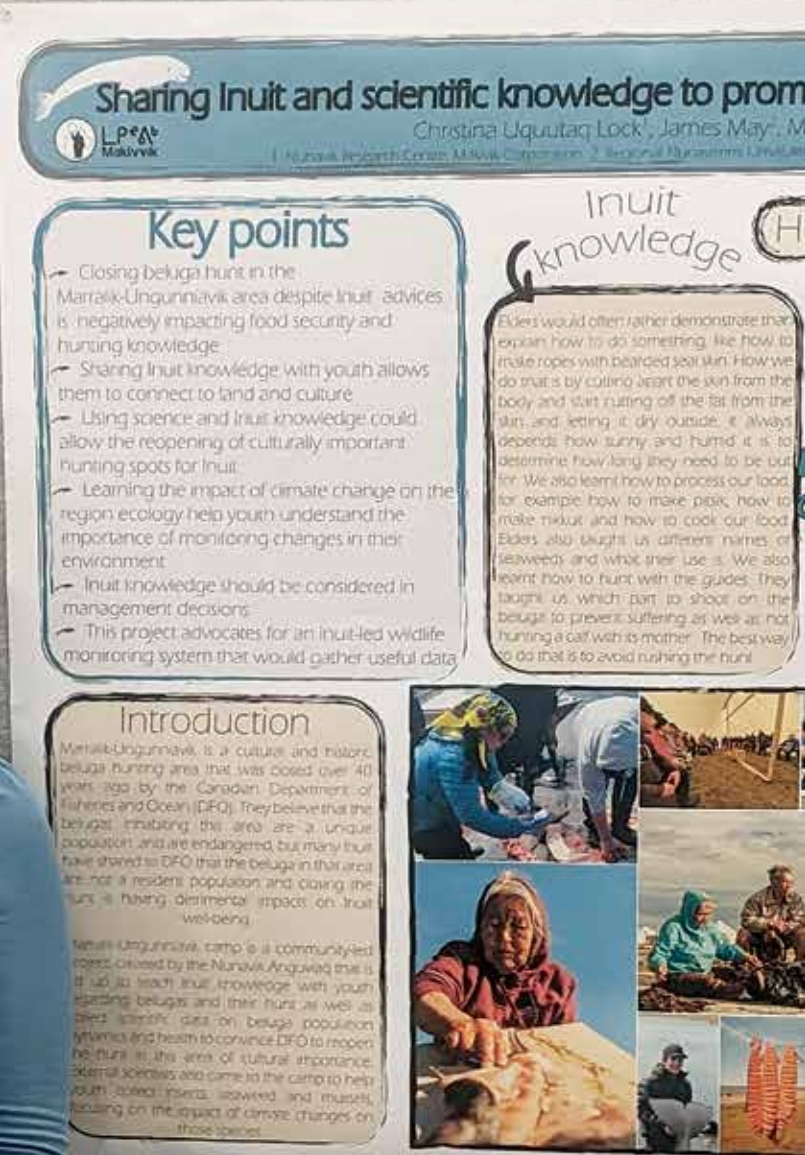
High Schooler Wins Inuit Poster Award

Nunavik Research Centre summer student Christina Uquutaq Lock competed alongside university students last December and came out on top, winning the first ever Inuit Poster Award at the international ArcticNet annual scientific meeting in Toronto. There were 450 scientific posters entered.

Now 16 years old and in Grade 10 in Kuujuaq, Christina has worked as an NRC summer student for the past two years. In 2022 she went to the Marralik-Ungunniavik camp, an initiative led by the Nunavik Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Association. She decided to share her learnings through the winning poster that she worked on with James May and Mikhaela Neelin.

The camp, according to the abstract that accompanies the poster, is a cultural and historic beluga hunting spot that was closed over 40 years ago by the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Officials believed that the belugas inhabiting this area were a unique

population and were endangered, but many Inuit reported that this beluga population is not a resident population and that closing the hunt is having detrimental impacts on Inuit well-being. A study was conducted, and the project is meant to illustrate the importance for



Inuit to monitor their wildlife and environment to be able to collect data to advocate for change.

Christina says she became interested in the summer project after her father told her about it and really enjoyed the work sampling beluga for the NRC. She was then thrilled to be invited to attend ArcticNet and even more excited to learn her poster won an award.

"Going to Arcticnet was an amazing and interesting experience," she says, "I couldn't believe that I won! It was very exciting and gave me a heart-warming feeling. I was overwhelmed with excitement."

The NRC's G  raldine Gouin describes Christina as a dedicated, hardworking, and very autonomous student.

"She has done way more than I expected of her. She did the tasks I asked of her quickly and flawlessly, honestly an amazing student. We were lucky to have her at the NRC! The award she got at Arcticnet 2022 is proof of this," she says. "While she is a high school student, she was able to compete with university students. Quite an achievement!"

Christina received a cash award which she is putting away for future studies and an ulu. She says she plans to continue in the sciences in some way in university but isn't yet sure what path she will take. ◆



   ARCTICNET / TROY CURTIS

On the evening of the award presentation, Christina was not able to attend, so the award was collected by James May, shown here on the left, with, ITK's Eric Loring and Grace Salamonie.

Sharing Inuit and scientific knowledge to promote changes in wildlife health and management

Christina Uquataq Lock, James May, Mich  le Neel, G  raldine Gouin

Maritak Ungunniavik Camp, Nunavut, Canada

Key points

- Closing beluga hunt in the Maritak Ungunniavik area despite Inuit advice is negatively impacting food security and hunting knowledge
- Sharing Inuit knowledge with youth allows them to connect to land and culture
- Using science and Inuit knowledge could allow the reopening of culturally important hunting spots for Inuit
- Learning the impact of climate change on the region ecology help youth understand the importance of monitoring changes in their environment
- Inuit knowledge should be considered in management decisions
- This project advocates for an Inuit-led wildlife monitoring system that would gather useful data

Inuit knowledge

Elders would often rather demonstrate than explain how to do something, like how to make ropes with bearded seal skin. How we do that is by cutting apart the skin from the body and start cutting off the fat from the skin and letting it dry outside. It always depends how sunny and humid it is, so determine how long they need to be out for. We also learnt how to process our food, for example how to make pisik, how to make nikuik and how to cook our food. Elders also taught us different names of belweeds and what their use is. We also learnt how to hunt with the guides. They taught us which part to shoot on the beluga to prevent suffering as well as not hunting a calf with its mother. The best way to do that is to avoid hurting the hunt.

How?

Two methods were used to verify if the beluga seen in the Maritak Ungunniavik are a resident population: direct observation and genetic analysis.

The direct observation of belugas was done during two hours at high tide by 3 observers during the camp period. In 2021, 37 belugas were seen while in 2022, 3 belugas were seen.

For the genetic analysis, conduct by DFO, two different types of samples were taken: belugas magaq (skin and fat) and environmental DNA. Samples were also taken to the Nunavut Research Centre to check for the general health of belugas. All those samples are still being analyzed.

Conclusion

The variation in the number of beluga observed at the camp in 2021 and 2022, seems to indicate that the belugas seen are not a resident population of the area. More samples are needed to confirm using genetic analyses.

Maritak camp has also fostered young people's interest in traditional activities as well as science, improving their connections to the land and their culture. Closing the hunt to Inuit has complicated belugas hunting for communities of Ungava Bay, impacting food security as well as the transfer of knowledge to youth.

Using Inuit knowledge, hunters were able to advocate for the reopening of hunting in the Maritak Ungunniavik region for a few weeks in the summer. This project clearly demonstrates that Inuit knowledge combined with science is a powerful tool for gathering data that can change management decisions, often made at the government level. Creating an Inuit-led wildlife monitoring system that would collect systematic data on animal health and population would allow Inuit to manage their (sua) and advocate for changes in current laws.

Introduction

Maritak Ungunniavik is a cultural and historic beluga hunting area that was closed over 40 years ago by the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Ocean (DFO). They believe that the belugas inhabiting this area are a unique population and are endangered, but many Inuit have shared to DFO that the belugas in that area are not a resident population and closing the hunt is having detrimental impacts on Inuit wellbeing.

Maritak Ungunniavik Camp is a community-led project, created by the Nunavut Inuit Qajaqs, that is set up to teach Inuit knowledge with youth regarding belugas and their hunt as well as collect scientific data on beluga population dynamics and health to convince DFO to reopen the hunt in this area of cultural importance. External scientists also came to the camp to help youth collect insects, seaweed and mussels, focusing on the impact of climate changes on those species.

Acknowledgements

We want to acknowledge the 139 local people involved in the Maritak Ungunniavik Camp: elders, cooks and guides.

We also want to acknowledge the following funding agencies: Polar Knowledge Canada, Fonds de recherche du Qu  bec - Nunavut, ICR, Maritak Indigenous Guardian.

Christina Uquataq Lock won the new ITK Inuit Poster Award at the ArcticNet scientific conference in Toronto in December.

AIR INUIT

AIR INUIT AT THE GRAND DÉFI PIERRE LAVOIE 2023



Air Inuit team members are once again cycling to benefit the students of Nunavik. As part of the Grand défi Pierre Lavoie's (GDPL) *Coup de cœur* contest, Air Inuit has been selected to participate in the next edition of the **1000 KM** event this summer. The GDPL selection committee evaluates each application and awards the spots to teams with a particularly inspiring story.

The six participating Air Inuit 2023 team members – Mathieu Demers, Yves Pelletier, Félix Liboiron, Rachel Payette, Nicolas Leblanc and Patrice Charlebois – will be cycling 1,000 kilometers from Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean to Montreal from June 8 to 11.

Each year, millions of dollars are raised by the **1000 KM** teams to finance projects promoting physical activity and the adoption



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of healthy lifestyle habits in Quebec elementary schools. The Air Inuit team is sponsoring an elementary school in Nunavik, and the donations collected will be used, among other things, to purchase sports equipment or to organize events for the students of the North. At the time of writing this article in early March, the Air Inuit team is approaching \$15,000 in donations of the \$20,000 they hope to raise.

All about the youth, year after year

Air Inuit has long been participating in the yearly GDPL fundraisers. On June 11, 2022, 25 Air Inuit employees joined



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TARRALIK



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hundreds of other participants in the GDPL's 1,000-kilometre cycling marathon. The group began training with the goal of raising \$5,000 and ended up raising nearly \$10,000 that was given to the Tukisiniarvik School in Akulivik to establish activities that encourage the students to have fun, get active, and eat well. "We will definitely ask the students. This program is for them, and I know that it will make a huge difference. When they can have input, they participate," said teacher Abby Corcoran upon reception of the funds.

737 Pilot Nicolas Leblanc, who is no newcomer to the marathon, has a love of physical activity throughout the year and speaks to the

goal behind the yearly cycling event. "I want to communicate to all young people that being physically active and maintaining a healthy lifestyle makes a big difference! If you take those two things seriously, you'll avoid problems in the future," said Leblanc. Given that he's completed a half-Ironman and several marathons in the past, Leblanc knows what he's talking about and makes a great ambassador for Air Inuit's drive to help get kids moving.

For more details and to support the Air Inuit team, please visit: <https://legdpl.com/team-244> ♦



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CANADIAN NORTH



With the promise of new growth that comes with spring, Canadian North is also excited to see new growth in our organization. We are pleased to introduce Joelle Roy, our new Manager, Sales & Community Investments – Nunavik.

Joelle is based in Montreal and joined us in December of 2022 from Air Inuit, where she worked for the last 15 years in numerous roles including Coordinator Safety Management System/Information Management System, Assistant Base Manager, Operation Agent and Ticket Counter Supervisor. As part of her experience, she worked at the Air Inuit ticket counter in Kuujuaq in parallel with Canadian North, so she is very familiar with our organization.

Joelle missed the contact with the North after she moved from Kuujuaq to Montreal. She saw the opportunity to work for Canadian North in a position that would allow her to reconnect with what she had been missing.

"I always saw Canadian North as a great company to work for and I knew the company well, so it was an easy decision," said Joelle.

As Manager, Sales & Community Investment, Joelle helps to ensure Canadian North customers enjoy top-notch service and have a good experience flying and shipping with us. She directly supports the communities we serve and assists businesses and organizations that also provide essential services to Nunavimmiut. One of the things she loves about her job is getting to meet so many different people.

Joelle knows firsthand that aviation is amazing and rewarding, and being positive and customer-focused is important for her new role. The planes may follow schedules, but there is no routine for a Sales Manager. Every day there is something different and she never knows what might happen when she comes in to work. She also needs to be ready to act quickly when customers need extra support. Joelle recalled an experience when flights were cancelled and passengers had nowhere in town to go. She and her team made calls to accommodate them and even cooked for them, bringing them food because the stores were all closed. "This is just one example of how we need to always ensure our customers are comfortable and taken care of," she remembers. "Doing those little extra things for passengers and making a difference in their travel experience is rewarding for me."

Welcome to the Canadian North team Joelle – we are certain you will help and inspire many people with your positivity and kindness. ♦

Canadian North welcomes Joelle Roy, its new Manager, Sales & Community Investments – Nunavik.





PROTECTION FOR RARE NUNAVIK PLANT SPECIES

In 2010, a new plant species was discovered in Nunavik - the Puvirnituq Mountain Draba (*Draba puvirnituqii*). At first glance you probably would not think much of this small white flowered plant, or even notice it, but this variety of Mountain Draba is only found in Nunavik and nowhere else on the planet. To be more precise there are only an estimated 25 plants in the world, and it is only found in one area measuring 13 km² near the Deception River, 16 kilometres east of Purtuniq (Asbestos Hill).

The main reason why it's so rare is due to where it grows. Puvirnituq Mountain Draba occurs only on oxidized peridotite rubble. Peridotite itself is a particularly rare mineral on the earth's surface



but is found mainly in the upper part of its mantle. It is a mineral with very high iron and magnesium content which is why oxidized peridotite has a bright orange color. Oxidized peridotite is also very alkaline which makes it toxic and inhospitable to most plant species but not Puvirnituk Mountain Draba which is specially adapted to grow on it.

Following its discovery, the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) determined that Puvirnituk Mountain Draba would receive the status "special concern" in 2019 due to its uniqueness and extreme rarity. However, this designation does not ensure its conservation, which is why the Quebec Ministry of the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change (MELCC) recently made the decision to add it to the newly tabled list of plant species protected under the Act Respecting Threatened or Vulnerable Species.

At present, it is estimated that only around 25 individual plants exist. More might be discovered in the future but until then, protecting this exceptionally rare plant is a priority. This is why the Kativik Environmental Advisory Committee would like to bring the MELCC's recent initiative to protect the Puvirnituk Mountain Draba to your attention. ♦



Dried specimen of Puvirnituk Mountain Draba.



Puvirnituk Mountain Draba habitat: the bright orange patches are made of oxidized peridotites.

© BENOIT TREMBLAY/MELCC X3



Dried flowers of Puvirnituk Mountain Draba.

LEGAL TIPS

In the religion of the insecure, I must be myself, respect my youth (...)

I'm on the right track, baby, I was born this way.

"Born this Way" – Lady Gaga (2018)

REVERTING TO YOUR INUIT NAME, WITHOUT FEES!

As we all know too well, the residential school era created an aftermath deeply felt in an array of fields. The 2006 Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement was acknowledging this profound legacy while, as much as possible, offering mitigation, or attempts thereof, here and there. Now, some impacts were left unanswered, which in some cases were evidenced by the experience of survivors who were surprised by the various application processes. Indeed, we all know fellow Inuit who, while sending their claims, realized that their names, their identity, were misspelled or included, still, "variations" dating from the residential schools' years. Then, Jusipi was registered as "Joseph"; Maata as Martha; etc. And yet, going by your own Indigenous name is more than a symbolic issue. It is a question of identity and belonging.

In Quebec, names reference your civil status. Modifying such is highly regulated, through a process that requires positive action, steps and time, and payment of fees. In a nutshell, individuals 14 years of age and older that are domiciled in Quebec for at least one year can apply for a change of name to the Quebec Civil Status Registrar. Father, mother, or tutor would be able to act for a minor domiciled in Quebec for at least one year. Upon a step-by-step approach described at the Quebec Civil code and its related regulation, the *Regulation respecting change of name and of other particulars of civil status* (CCQ, r. 4) - which will include publication of notices in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* - the name of a person could be changed, but he/she shall end up short of approximately \$150.

Since the summer of 2022, these fees are not levied for individuals who may require that their name, changed while they

were in a residential school, revert to their Indigenous name again. This exemption is applicable to former students, but also to their descendants. This measure also applies for the delivery of new civil status documents to be *at par* with the name following changes. These exemptions are to be in application for 10 years or until June 8, 2032.

Indeed, on June 8, 2022, the National Assembly of Quebec adopted its Bill 2: *An Act respecting family law reform with regard to filiation and amending the Civil code in relation to personality rights and civil status*. A new section was therein introduced, for allowing persons whose names were changed because of attending a residential school and their descendants to revert to a traditional Indigenous name without fees. It modified the regulation on the *Tariff of duties respecting the acts of civil status and change of name or of designation of sex* (CCQ, r. 10):

DIVISION III.2

EXEMPTIONS

10.3. Persons whose name was changed in the context of their stay in an Aboriginal residential school or their descendants who wish to change their name to a traditional Aboriginal name are exempt from paying the duties payable for an application for a change of name until 8 June 2032.

For that period, those persons are also exempt from paying the duties payable for the issuing of copies of acts, certificates and attestations.

This measure comes as a long-awaited policy, in response to the 2015 Call to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which demanded that governments allow survivors and their families to restore names changed under the residential school system:

CALL TO ACTION 17:

We call upon all levels of government to enable residential school Survivors and their families to reclaim names changed by the residential school system by waiving administrative costs for a period of five years for the name-change process and the revision of official

identity documents, such as birth certificates, passports, driver's licenses, health cards, status cards, and social insurance numbers.

Insofar, similar responses have been given by Alberta, Nova Scotia, Ontario, NWT, and bills to this effect have also been introduced in a few other provinces.

These were moving forward to allow Indigenous people to use their traditional names free of charge after Ottawa's own initiative. In 2021, the Government of Canada announced a policy to the same effect in respect to federally issued documents. All fees were to be waived for the name-changing process on passports, citizenship certificates and permanent resident cards.

SUMMARY OF THE NAME CHANGE PROCEDURE:

1. FILING AN APPLICATION WITH THE QUEBEC CIVIL STATUS REGISTRAR (DIRECTEUR DE L'ÉTAT CIVIL)

The Registrar handles all applications for a change of name that are not under the jurisdiction of the court. The reasons invoked and the documents submitted to support the application are of great importance, as they enable the Registrar to accurately assess the application. An "Application for a Change of Name" is made available by the Registrar.

2. NOTIFYING AFFECTED INDIVIDUALS

The relatives of the applicants will have to be notified of the application. They can object to it; in which case it may lead to complications with the successful processing of the name change. The persons to be notified can confirm acknowledgement and acceptance on the Application for a Change of Name Form.

3. PROVING NOTIFICATION

The Registrar will have to be served with proof that the person notified received a copy of the application, being by registered mail or by a bailiff.

4. PUBLISHING THE CHANGE

In accordance with the Civil Code of Quebec and barring exemption, a public notice of the intention to change names must

mandatorily be issued, allowing interested persons to become aware of the application. Comments may be served to the Registrar following publication, and this may lead to complications with the successful processing of the application.

5. RENDERING A DECISION

After examining an application for a change of name, the Registrar renders a written decision explaining the reasons for accepting or rejecting it. That decision is given to the applicant and, if applicable, to persons who submitted an objection or comments regarding the application.

When a person's change of name takes effect, it is the responsibility of that person or the person's father, mother, or tutor to have the name changed in files held by government departments or agencies. This entails providing a change of name certificate and a new birth certificate as proof.

THROUGHOUT THIS PROCEDURE, FEES ARE NOT TO BE LEVIED FOR RESTORING NAMES CHANGED UNDER THE RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL SYSTEM, OR TO OBTAIN NEW BIRTH CERTIFICATE, UP UNTIL JUNE 2032.

Please contact the Quebec Civil Status Registrar for obtaining all details and information on the procedure applicable to your case specifics. See: <https://www.etatcivil.gouv.qc.ca/en/change-name.html>

Further assistance will be liaised through our Makivvik Nunavik Community Justice Center. Please contact: notary@makivvik.ca

Legal Tips is provided by Makivvik's legal team and aims to explain to the Nunavik Inuit clientele in a general and broad manner some elements of the law applicable in Quebec and are not legal opinions nor legal advice which can be obtained by contacting private practitioners (lawyer or notary). ♦



Executives Win by Acclamation

Two Makivik executives continue in their roles after winning by acclamation this past January. That means that no other candidates applied to run in the election.

Following the notice published by the Chief Returning Officer on January 10, Makivik announced the acclamation of Adamie Delisle Alaku for the Makivik Executive position of Vice President Environment, Wildlife and Research and George Berthe for the Makivik Executive position of Treasurer.

Adamie Delisle Alaku was first elected as Vice President in 2014 and is now serving his fourth term following three previous acclamations as the Vice President of the Department of Environment, Wildlife and Research.

George Berthe returned as Treasurer after first being elected to the position in January 2020. Berthe has a long history with the corporation and previously held the Executive role of Corporate Secretary between 1998 and 2010.

Both executives resumed their roles immediately and will serve another three-year term. ♦



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Adamie Delisle Alaku and George Berthe continue in their respective executive roles following their wins by acclamation last January.

New Negotiators Chosen

Well-known community leaders Anthony Ittoshat and Tunu Napartuk have been selected by Makivik Corporation to assume the role of Self-Determination negotiators, leading Nunavik's discussions with both the Canadian and Quebec governments.

The two were chosen for the shared role from a slate of highly qualified candidates following an extensive interview process and began work at the end of April.

Makivik President Pita Aatami expressed his satisfaction with the selection.

"I am confident that Anthony Ittoshat and Tunu Napartuk are the right people to represent Nunavik's interests in these negotiations," he said. "Makivik is pleased to have selected two exceptional leaders whose combined professional and negotiating experience can only benefit our efforts. I am confident that their expertise, dedication, and passion for Inuit rights will help us achieve meaningful progress in our pursuit of self-determination."

Anthony Ittoshat, the mayor of Kuujjuarapik, has been actively involved for many years in initiatives to promote the rights and well-being of Nunavik Inuit. He has significant experience as a negotiator including on the Great Whale River Project, the Sanarrutik Agreement as well as the Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement (NILCA). Ittoshat was previously an elected member of the Makivik executive team and served as the organization's treasurer for nearly 15 years.

Tunu Napartuk is a respected community leader and negotiator. The former mayor of Kuujuaq has a strong track record of advocating for Inuit rights and has been involved in several initiatives aimed at promoting economic development and self-sufficiency in the region. He is fluent in Inuktitut, English, and French and has experience negotiating as a member of the union at the Kativik Regional Government (KRG), as well as with the union as a member of KRG's executive.

Interviews with candidates were held through the end of last January. Each was asked questions related to the Self-Determination mandate, including their experience interacting with various levels of government, understanding of *the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement* and the NILCA, as well as their negotiating and professional experience.

Moving negotiations forward on self-determination is of the utmost importance to Makivik. The corporation has stated it will continue to work closely with Anthony Ittoshat, Tunu Napartuk, and other actual advisors and stakeholders to ensure that the rights and interests of Inuit are fully represented in the negotiation process. ♦

Atanniuvik

ARCTIC
INSPIRATION PRIZE

PRIX INSPIRATION
ARCTIQUE

*...Atanniuvik will allow Nunavik to better develop, share and manage northern research in a way that respects the values and priorities of the people, the communities, and the regional organizations' mandates.
(-Hilda Snowball)*



Atanniuvik team winning the Arctic Inspiration Prize, February 2023



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After years of planning, it is currently in the process of being created and benefits from the support of many Nunavik organizations – Makivik, the Kativik Regional Government, the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services, Kativik Ilisamiliriniq, the Kativik Municipal Housing Bureau, the Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board, Avataq Cultural Institute, the Anguvigaaq, the Nunavik Marine Region Planning Commission, the Nunavik Marine Region Impact Review Board, the Nunavik Land Holding Corporations Association, and Qarjuut. There is a strong regional consensus that Nunavik needs an organization like

Atanniuviq. There is a lot of research happening in Nunavik, and we have heard many times from Nunavimmiut that they do not feel that they have a say about this research happening on our land.

There's a need. The way research has been conducted hasn't had much consideration for Inuit priorities. Inuit need to regain that authority over research that's being conducted in Nunavik. (–Adamie Delisle Alaku)



Monitoring ice and snow in Umiujaq

TARRALIK

34

© AGATA DURKALEC



Quitsak Tarriasuk watching for beluga

© KAITLIN BRETON-HONEYMAN



Nunavik Inuit have long understood that there is power in knowledge, and that knowledge is key to Nunavik Inuit self-determination.

There are many ways to be poor but in today's world, not having the right kind of information represents a certain kind of poverty. As long as outsiders decide what is important and are in a position to ask all of the questions, we will never be able to solve our own problems. Without information we are

nothing at all and have no power to understand things or to change our life. If Inuit society is to develop we must be able to collect and use information according to our own terms...
(–Mark R. Gordon, 1976)

The purpose of Atanniuvik will be to make sure that research is truly serving Nunavimmiut well-being, and that Nunavimmiut are the decision-makers on research that is about us and our homeland. Through reviewing and approving research, Atanniuvik will be able to help make sure that research is better informed by our Inuit culture and values, and that our traditional knowledge will be more recognized and used. Through supporting communities to take on their own research, we also hope that Atanniuvik will be able to inspire more Inuit to become researchers.

Inuit have never collected data on paper and documented knowledge, and I would like to see the Inuit do that and document knowledge that would be recognized by government...If Inuit do it ourselves, then we don't need translators. I can put it this way – I would like to see Inuit scientists.
(–Johnny Oovaut)



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© MIRIAM DEWAR/MAKIVIK

Makivik President Pita Aatami and Hilda Snowball, Kativik Regional Government Chairperson, awarding an Arctic Inspiration Prize to Aleashia Echlook, Atanniuvik Start-up Director, and the rest of the Atanniuvik team.

To ensure that Atanniuvik is run by and for Inuit, the award from the Arctic Inspiration Prize will be used for hiring and training staff; establishing and training community and regional committees for research review; engaging Nunavik communities and organizations in identifying research priorities and needs; and communicating about Atanniuvik within Nunavik and beyond.

Atanniuvik's operations are expected to be launched in 2025. Until then, the Atanniuvik team will be working on these and other important pieces to bring the vision of Atanniuvik into reality. To stay up to date on Atanniuvik developments and learn about opportunities to get involved, follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/atanniuvik, check out our website at www.atanniuvik.ca, or email us at info@atanniuvik.ca. ♦



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Full name:	Janice Parsons
Birthday:	March 29, 1992
Place of birth:	Montreal
Home community:	Kuujuaq
Role model:	My dad, Paul Parsons, and Mary Aitchison
Favourite food:	Boiled seal meat with mustard pickles
Occupation:	President of Qarjuit Youth Council
Proudest moment:	I'm most proud of myself for stepping out of my comfort zone and putting my name on the ballot for the Ungava Board of Director's position for the Qarjuit Youth Council, where I got elected. Two months later, I got acclaimed by the board to the president's seat in the same organization.
Future goal:	I have plenty of goals that I have yet to accomplish especially being a president now. I get mixed up with three different languages regarding public speaking. My goal is to one day speak fluently in my language and others without getting so nervous.
Best advice you can offer youth:	Don't settle for less. You have a whole life ahead of you that you need to explore and discover! It's ok to be scared. I'm always afraid of trying new things, but one thing that keeps me going is questioning myself, "what if I like it? And what if I'm good at it?" I will only know if I try.



JANICE PARSONS

MYSTERY PHOTO CONTEST

Congratulations to Megan Epoo, the winner of the issue 130 Mystery Photo Contest! You could win \$100 if you correctly guess what this mystery photo is. Mail your answer to the address below, or you can email your answer to mdewar@makivvik.ca

Mystery Photo Contest
Makivvik Corporation
P.O. Box 179
Kuujuaq, QC
J0M 1C0

WHAT IS THIS? ►



Beneficiary Rebate Program

When a **JBNQA** beneficiary is exploring how to ship a vehicle, canoe, or anything by sealift, there is an important rebate program to consider when using NEAS.

NEAS is a true Nunavik-Inuit-owned company, as Makivik owns the assets of the company, such as ships, containers, etc. All dividends paid to Makivik directly benefit all **JBNQA** beneficiaries. NEAS has significant experience in handling a wide range of cargo types and is equipped to accommodate and service every site and community in all regions across the Eastern and Western Arctic. Because it is a subsidiary of Makivik Corporation, there is a rebate program offered for **JBNQA** beneficiaries. The rebates vary from \$250 to \$1,000, depending on the invoice amount.

For example, to ship a Ford F-150, which has a volume of about 25 cubic metres, from Montreal to any Nunavik community, using 2023 rates would cost approximately \$5,790 plus tax, if using NEAS.

It would ship from the new NEAS terminal in the Port of Bécancour, which is about 160 km from downtown Montreal. The price includes the reception of the truck at the terminal, storage, loading, marine transportation and offloading at the landing beach in any of the 14 communities of Nunavik. For an invoice between \$2,500 and \$9,999, as in this example, a beneficiary would be eligible for a \$500 rebate. To access the rebate, NEAS provides the list of Nunavik customers to Makivik where eligibility for the cargo beneficiary shipping rebate and amounts are determined. Once the Makivik list of customers and rebates is complete, NEAS Group executes the refunds.

For information on how to have items dropped off cargo at the terminal and other details, please visit NEAS' website at <https://neas.ca/how-to-sealift-and-package/>.

The Makivik executive team and some senior staff visited NEAS' port facilities in 2022. They are joined here by, third from left, NEAS Group President and CEO Suzanne Paquin. NEAS and Makivik offer beneficiaries a rebate program to help offset the cost of shipping cargo to Nunavik.

