Johnny May, Our First Inuk Pilot

- Air Inuit 35th Anniversary
- Kuujjuaq Wildberry Festival
- Youth Gatherings
... and much more
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.

Makivik Magazine

Makivik Magazine is published quarterly by Makivik Corporation. It is distributed free of charge to Inuit beneficiaries of the JBNQA. The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of Makivik Corporation or its executive. We welcome letters to the editor and submissions of articles, artwork, or photographs. Please include your full name, address, and telephone number.

Makivik Executive

Jobie Tukkipine, President
Johnny Peters, Resource Development Vice-President
Michael Gordon, Economic Development Vice-President
Anthony Ittutuq, Treasurer
Andy Moorhouse, Secretary

We wish to express our sincere thanks to all Makivik staff, as well as to all others who provided assistance and materials to make the production of this magazine possible.

Josée Vilandré
Eva Aloupa-Pilurtuut
Bob Mesher

Published by Makivik Corporation
P.O. Box 179, Kuujjuaq, Quebec
J0M 1C0 Canada

Telephone: 819-964-2925

Contest participation in this magazine is limited to Inuit beneficiaries of the JBNQA.

W're back, after a couple of seasons. Usually people don't mention much about our magazines, but this time a few people were even asking where it was. This is our second three-digit issue, being issue 101. The interruption was not because there hasn't been much going on.

Inuit were publishing magazines even before Makivik started, with the NQIA's Taqralik, which then became Makivik Magazine, and so on. Back then, and even up until the early 1990s, our pictures were developed in a dark room. Nowadays it seems that every household has at least one camera, with which we can instantaneously show photos to the whole world via the Internet. Besides this there is an infinite array of other news sources and communications mediums available to Nunavik. So, certainly, we all know that there has been plenty happening. And nobody is waiting around for anyone at Makivik to develop pictures and publish them so they will see what it looks like.

Our cover story regards the new film produced about Johnny May, the first Inuk pilot. He would be one who definitely can recount how life has changed in Nunavik. One ongoing change is the rapid growth of our young population. Thus only the size of the housing shortage and cost of living problems has changed, despite the promises of the JBNQA. Some things take longer to change than others, yet we remain positive. Enjoy this issue of Makivik Magazine—its good to be back on track.
You could win $200 if you guess what this mysterious picture is. Mail your answer to “Mystery Photo Contest” at the address shown below. Good Luck!

Winners of this Mystery Photo Contest will be chosen at Makivik head office on Friday, December 13, 2013.

What is this?

The first-place prize for correctly guessing this mysterious picture is $200! Bonus prizes: Four other contestants will receive a T-shirt for their winning answers.

Congratulations to Rhoda Tookalook of Lachine who won $200 for correctly guessing this Air Inuit model airplane. Other prizes were won by Siasi Clunas, Nathalie Niviaxie, Davidee Niviaxie and Kitty Jonas for correctly answering.
By now, Makivik has developed expertise in both civil and residential construction. It has already been 15 years since we established a new Construction Division within our corporation. The mandate of this division has been on one hand to act as a general contractor for constructing social housing in Nunavik, while also building marine infrastructures in each of the 14 Nunavik communities. The marine infrastructures program ended in 2011 and each Nunavik community has been provided with adequate marine infrastructures.

When the marine infrastructures program ended, it was natural for us to continue along the path of offering civil construction services to the people of Nunavik. In addition, the launching of the Home Ownership and Renovation Program for the Kativik Region by the Quebec Housing Corporation in 2012 also provided an interesting opportunity for Makivik in the field of residential construction. Consequently, Kautaq Construction was established. Based on the expertise gained through past projects conducted by Makivik’s Construction Division,
the services offered by this new company are divided into two parts: 1) civil construction and crushing work, and 2) residential and commercial construction.

Kautaq Construction's civil construction division currently focuses on building new residential houses in various Nunavik communities, including street access, site preparation, and drainage. Drilling, blasting and crushing are also planned for the provision of crushed stone for various construction projects in Nunavik, such as paving, tank farms, commercial and residential construction. The company also has a lot of knowledge and expertise in marine civil work, including docks, breakwaters, port facilities, and access ramps, which would allow us to participate in other major northern marine infrastructure projects.

Kautaq Construction's residential division focuses on the new Nunavik Home Ownership Program. Through this program, it is possible for Nunavik residents get reimbursed for some of the costs of building private homes. We currently offer four home models in Nunavik. Two models have three bedrooms, one model has four bedrooms and another model has five bedrooms.

The Kautaq Construction team—formerly the Makivik Construction Division team—has worked at more than 700 housing units in all the Nunavik communities, guided by the values of care for quality workmanship, compliance with construction schedules and close contact and communication with the customers and communities. Our experience has led us to understand the housing conditions in Nunavik, and consequently to build houses that are best suited for the climate, social and economic requirements in the region. In addition, Kautaq Construction promotes and encourages local and regional economic spin-offs for all of our projects.

Kautaq Construction also offers a "turnkey product": This means being there at every step of the new home acquisition process, from helping Nunavik residents to gather the necessary documents and applying for the Home Ownership Program, to collaborations with the Kativik Municipal Housing Bureau, to constructing a new home that is ready for occupancy.

Individuals interested in receiving more information about these services may contact Maxime Ladouceur at mladouceur@makivik.org or by phoning 1-800-361-7052 ext. 2219.
A National Film Board Film Portrayal of Pilot Johnny May
Marc Fafard’s The Wings of Johnny May is a 3D documentary about the legendary Inuit bush pilot, co-produced by Productions Thalie, the National Film Board of Canada (NFB) and K’ien Productions.

This Canada-France co-production is the first 3D documentary from the NFB and the NFB’s twelfth film from Nunavik. The Wings of Johnny May is being added to the landmark audiovisual legacy project Unikkausivut: Sharing Our Stories, which brings together more than 110 films from the NFB’s renowned collection of Inuit cinema, providing northern communities with increased access to their own audiovisual heritage while giving all Canadians a new way to discover Inuit culture and stories.

Here, director Marc Fafard describes the creative process that went into producing this innovative 3D feature documentary.
The idea for a 3D movie of Nunavik had been in producer Jacques Turgeon’s mind for more than a decade. Before joining the NFB, he worked for a Japanese crew who wanted to shoot high-definition stock footage of the Canadian Arctic.

High-definition was just starting to be broadcast in Japan then. In Kuujjuaq, Jacques met a team of biologists who had flown extensively with Johnny May and were so impressed by the man and his story that he made a note to himself that this could be a great movie project someday. During the many years that Jacques acted as producer for the NFB, he always kept in mind what he had heard about this exceptional pilot.

Seeing the results of a first round of research and interviews conducted in 2007, he was definitely convinced that a movie had to be done about Johnny.

I came into the picture after I had finished a series of large-format (IMAX) documentaries, the last of which was in stereoscopic 3D. The NFB has always been an extraordinary laboratory for technologies and innovation. In 2008, 3D was coming back as a film format with more potential than ever, thanks to new digital production tools and a strong will in the industry to enrich and renew the viewer’s experience. Now going beyond all the gimmicks and cheap tricks it had been associated with in the past, IMAX had become a serious storytelling device that offered the key advantage of

Johnny is a captivating storyteller. But all of his adventures have a deeper meaning.
A Well-Crafted Movie

**Makivik communications agent, Kitty Gordon, attended the premier showing of The Wings of Johnny May and provided us with these observations.**

The premiere about Nunavik’s first ever Inuk pilot, Johnny May, entitled *The Wings of Johnny May*, took place on August 5, 2013 at a Cineplex Odeon theatre in downtown Montreal. The theatre hall was packed full of moviegoers who all are connected to Johnny May. The film by Marc Fafard did not disappoint the audience, who wore their 3D glasses to watch the entire one-hour-and-24-minutes show. It is a film depicted through the combination of animation, photographs and real life interviews, which recount Johnny May’s life.

The setting is mostly in Kuujjuaq and his family camping grounds at Black Point. As a Kuujjuamiuq it was really enjoyable to watch Kuujjuaq in 3D. It was as though I was back home, seeing familiar faces and places.

The story is told with beautiful photographs of his parents, Nancy Angnatuk May and Bob May Sr., as well as children. For instance, as a child, Johnny would set out on dog team trips with his Manitoba-native father, learning skills and getting to know the Nunavik terrain, which would serve him well later on. Johnny’s father and siblings would take dog team trips for supplies and food, most frequently between Kangiqsualujjuaq and Kuujjuaq.

As a teenager, in 1964, Johnny had flown with his father’s friend and was given the chance to handle the plane they were in. From then on, flying was what he wanted to do so he took a pilot training course in Pennsylvania to obtain his pilot license. In the film, Johnny mentions that much of Nunavik had been aeronautically uncharted at the time.

The film also shows the darker period of Nunavik, the 1950s and 1960s dog slaughters, which Johnny lived through. This led the transition from dog sleds to snow mobiles. Pictures of the past and present, shown in the movie, also illustrate the challenges of climatic change in Nunavik.

All in all this movie is very well crafted, capturing the essence of Johnny May’s story, one of Nunavik’s most recognisable names and faces.
Bob May Sr. with his children, Mary Simon and Johnny May, as they appear in one of the many stills processed in 3D motion graphics for the movie.

Nearly 50 hours of footage was shot in order to give us the core material of The Wings of Johnny May.

Johnny May is humble. Although he had given interviews and been the subject of media attention in the past, he wasn’t sure he was movie material. He believed that anybody who spent enough time at something would inevitably become great at it and, to him, that’s about all there was to his story. Yes, the countless flight hours. Yes, the many rescues. Yes, the one-of-a-kind family narrative and whatnot. But, beyond a few factoids, would that truly be of any interest to the outside world? After my first meeting with him in Kuujjuaq, I too was firmly convinced that his story had to be told in film. And his wife Louisa’s too. Through their actions, they belong to Nunavik’s history, but they were also front-row witnesses to the extreme changes the Inuit went through in the second part of the twentieth century. Johnny wouldn’t pretend for one second to be the hero that we all see in him. He just did what he had to do. He never cultivated any sense of self-importance out of whatever extraordinary happened.

Filming the story of Johnny in Nunavik was a complex task. We needed to find lightweight equipment first. Because the film was being co-produced with France, we first looked in Europe to find cameras and optics that would be small enough to be paired into a custom 3D rig that would fit into a Beaver. In addition, we also had to use the smallest gyroscopic stabilizers available to shoot both from land vehicles and helicopter (with Peter Duncan of Nunavik Rotors). Claude Fortin of Sky Grip designed a special rig to film aerials from the Beaver. In addition, we...
Adjusting the optics of the 3D camera under the De Havilland Beaver.

The Wings of Johnny May

used a full-sized steadycam to accompany Johnny and Louisa in their activities on land.

We went to Nunavik many times, first to prepare for shooting, then to shoot the live action itself and finally to dig into family archives. We shot interviews on green screen in Kuujjuaq, Montreal and Toronto. The interviews were conducted predominantly in Inuktitut, but also in English and French. Nearly 50 hours of footage was shot in order to give us the core material of *The Wings of Johnny May*. On top of that, we had eight episodes of Johnny and Louisa’s life depicted in beautifully rendered animation sequences by the animation department at the NFB. The artists, led by Nicola Lemay, had devised new ways of applying colour and textures to scenes and characters in order to achieve a hand-drawn look out of computer-generated stereoscopic images. We also had archival footage from the NFB and a series of photographic stills from family albums converted from 2D to 3D, so the viewer’s experience would remain consistent from beginning to end.

But, for all the interesting aspects brought by 3D, the story and its deeply human components are what have given this movie true substance.

Through the eyes of Johnny, we see not only the magnificence of the Nunavik territory, but also the Inuit going through dramatic “ends of the world”; first, the change from a traditional to a more sedentary lifestyle and, more recently, the climate change that is taking an enormous toll on the arc-

"Hope and action must be combined to create a better world. I saw both in the inseparable couple that Johnny and Louisa form. Johnny, with all simplicity and humility, is way ahead of his own story—his head is in the modern world, his feet on the land and his heart with his people."

*The Wings of Johnny May* is being co-distributed by Les Films Cristal and the NFB, and will premiere in Nunavik later this year. The film will be released in French and English, with an Inuktitut version also planned. Visit the events section at Unikkasivut: Sharing Our Stories for up-to-date details, or subscribe to the NFB Films newsletter.
Nunavik Creations provides opportunities for beneficiaries to sell their hand-sewn garments, crafts and art. Seamstresses and artists from all Nunavik communities have come to the Kuujjuaq boutique to sell their art and crafts up to three times a day.

Most customers who shop at the boutique are from Nunavik—local community members, employees from the health and school boards, KRG, and municipalities. We also sell to business travellers and tourists from the southern areas of Quebec and other parts of Canada. Customer needs, budgets and origins vary. We accommodate all our potential customers’ wants by purchasing the best quality items, from the hand-sewn sealskin okpik key chains, well made mitts, and crocheted nassaks, to the best quality garments made by Nunavik seamstresses. Nunavik Creations sales representative, Emilié Gagné, has noticed that most business travellers and tourists are men who are looking for items to fit their sizes.

A particular purchase made in May 2013 caught our interest and thought it deserved recognition in the Makivik Magazine. Irrayuk Anogak came to the Kuujjuaq boutique to sell a wall hanging that she had made. As other purchases are made at Nunavik Creations, a photo and price quote was sent to the office in Montreal for approval. Nunavik Creations staff immediately recognized the quality and felt there was a special meaning to the particular wall hanging. Irrayuk was called in her community from Nunavik Creations to tell the story behind her artwork. She is a woman with a story to tell.

Irrayuk Anogak was born in Quaqtaq on March 10, 1948. She was raised and still resides in Kangiqsujuaq. She moved to Salluit when she got married and has moved back to Kangiqsujuaq when her husband died.

Her inspiration for her artwork is about the dog slaughter that took place during the mid-1950s and late-1960s. Quebec and Canadian government authorities slaughtered sled dogs in all communities in Nunavik and throughout northern Canada.
Sled dogs were the only winter transportation for Inuit to hunt and provide food, clothing, shelter and income for their families. Irrayuk Anogak explained the man at the bottom of her design is distressed because his dogs were killed and he had no more means to find food for his family. The man at the top is carrying his qamutik to go hunting because he had no more dogs. It was believed in the past that animal spirits helped Inuit in their daily lives. A woman on the back of a large fish is hunting with the help of the fish’s spirit.

She also explained that due to the effects of the dog slaughter on her family, she was raised without eating seal meat, and to this day is not used to eating seal meat.

This wall hanging made by Irrayuk carries a history and importance to Inuit who suffered through the dog slaughter. Nunavik Creations deeply feels that this piece should be honoured and preserved in the right place for all to remember the tragic aftermath of the dog slaughter.
Air Inuit's 35th anniversary

August 28, 2013 was Air Inuit's 35th anniversary. It is with great pride that Air Inuit underlined this milestone with multiple initiatives to thank its customers, owners and employees that have contributed to building Nunavik's airline. The operation of an airline in a northern environment is a daily challenge and we wish to thank all travellers for your support even on the days where fog, snow, low ceilings or a technical delay may have impacted their travel. As of August 28, Air Inuit's fleet proudly began to display the 35th anniversary logo to distinguish this anniversary.

Isaruuk rewards program is launched

On July 8th, Air Inuit launched its new Isaruuk Customer Rewards Program. This program was especially created by Air Inuit to extend thanks to its loyal customers for their precious contribution to the growing success of the airline. Isaruuk is an Inuktitut word that literally means "wings" — wings that give our members the means to go further by extending a multitude of rewards, among them free air travel anywhere Air Inuit flies.

It is as easy as 1-2-3

1. Become a member

To register, all you have to do is visit our website and complete the membership form. Once you have registered, you will receive a temporary card with your membership number by email that you need to provide us when booking your next flight. Once you fly as a full-fledged Isaruuk member, you will receive a welcome package with your personalized membership card by mail, as well as 1,000 bonus points. Everyone can become a member of Isaruuk; including children age two and up!

2. Earn points

With Isaruuk, earning points is easy. Simply provide your membership number when booking your flight. As a member of Isaruuk, you will earn one point for every dollar you spend* on Flex Fare (Y). Other reservation classes also allow you to earn points based on a percentage of the applicable fare as specified in the table above.

*All fares that include taxes and fees.
3. Redeem your rewards

Once you have accumulated enough points, you will be able to redeem those points for rewards, including free flights or promotional items. Once you are a member, your member profile is accessible online via airinuit.com.

Spread your wings

Become a member of Isaruuk Rewards Program and start earning points today! To register or get more information, consult the section dedicated to the Isaruuk Rewards Program at www.airinuit.com/en/Isaruuk.

New Air Inuit website

Air Inuit launched a new corporate website. Airinuit.com has been renewed to Air Inuit's new image and now includes several new functionalities such as flight tracking, online web check-in and access to its new reward program. Air Inuit also now has a corporate Facebook page to promote travel specials, contests or general communications.

An additional Ilaujuq for Nunavik

It is with great pleasure that the Air Inuit board of directors has issued an additional Ilaujuq valid for purchase since July 1, 2013.

The Ilaujuq program entitles the following two options to the beneficiary identified on this certificate:

3. Redeem your rewards

Once you have accumulated enough points, you will be able to redeem those points for rewards, including free flights or promotional items. Once you are a member, your member profile is accessible online via airinuit.com.

Spread your wings

Become a member of Isaruuk Rewards Program and start earning points today! To register or get more information, consult the section dedicated to the Isaruuk Rewards Program at www.airinuit.com/en/Isaruuk.

New Air Inuit website

Air Inuit launched a new corporate website. Airinuit.com has been renewed to Air Inuit’s new image and now includes several new functionalities such as flight tracking, online web check-in and access to its new reward program. Air Inuit also now has a corporate Facebook page to promote travel specials, contests or general communications.

An additional Ilaujuq for Nunavik

It is with great pleasure that the Air Inuit board of directors has issued an additional Ilaujuq valid for purchase since July 1, 2013.

The Ilaujuq program entitles the following two options to the beneficiary identified on this certificate:
One 75% discounted ticket (applicable on the adult Y fare, the child YCH fare or the senior YCD fare) up to a maximum of $800, all taxes included; or

One cargo shipment of an all terrain vehicle, snowmobile or outboard motor at a 75% discounted cargo rate applicable on the LaGrande to community portion or between Nunavik communities up to a maximum of $800, all taxes included.

Travel specials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Travel periods</th>
<th>Specials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Freeze seat sale</td>
<td>Between October 7 and November 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas shopping seat sale</td>
<td>Between November 18 and December 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas seat sale</td>
<td>Between December 16, 2013 to January 6, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deep Freeze seat sale</td>
<td>Between January 24, 2014 to February 24, 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visit airinuit.com or Air Inuit’s Facebook page for details.

• One 75% discounted ticket (applicable on the adult Y fare, the child YCH fare or the senior YCD fare) up to a maximum of $800, all taxes included; or

• One cargo shipment of an all terrain vehicle, snowmobile or outboard motor at a 75% discounted cargo rate applicable on the LaGrande to community portion or between Nunavik communities up to a maximum of $800, all taxes included.
Premier Pauline Marois arrived in Kuujjuaq on September 12 to spend time with Nunavik leaders and other citizens of our region. The premier’s entourage included Yves-François Blanchet (minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Wildlife and Parks), Alexandre Cloutier (minister responsible for the Northern Quebec Region and minister for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs, Canadian Francophonie and Sovereignist Governance) and Luc Ferland (member of National Assembly for Ungava).

On September 12, the Quebec government delegation met Makivik executives Jobie Tukkiapik and Johnny Peters, as well as KRG chair and vice-chair, Maggie Emudluk and Mary A. Pilurtuut. Following a private meeting where a number of issues were discussed, the group had...
supper with the mayor of Kuujjuaq, Tunu Napartuk, the KRG regional councillors and other guests. Cultural performances were also scheduled for the evening.

On September 13, Premier Marois officially inaugurated the Parc national de la Kuururjuaq in Kangiqsualujjuaq. Other announcements included the creation of the Nunavik Cooperative Development Fund, to which Makivik and KRG also contributes, and Quebec’s commitment to support the Regional Partnership Committee’s project called Saqijuq, regarding the reconstruction of the social regulation in Nunavik.

Premier Marois also appointed Alexandre Cloutier to tackle the longstanding telecommunications issues in Nunavik as well as the file regarding the maintenance of the marine infrastructures across Nunavik. Quebec also announced a contribution of $1-million over three years for the maintenance of marine infrastructures in Nunavik.

Jobie Tukkiapik addressed the crowd during the announcement of the Fund, saying that Makivik’s contribution to it is $2.5-million.
Another financial contribution was also announced in the tourism sector.

This had been the second important meeting with Premier Marois for Jobie Tukkiapik. As we recall, last June 21 (National Aboriginal Day), Jobie had previously met Pauline Marois in Montreal to discuss various files of interest for the Inuit of Nunavik. That was the first official meeting between our Makivik president and Pauline Marois since her election in the Fall of 2012.

One of the main highlights of the meeting was the signing of Complementary Agreement No. 23 to the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement that will lead to the transfer of ownership of Category I lands in Ivujivik to the Nuvummi Landholding Corporation and establish Category II lands over which Nunavik Inuit have, among other things, exclusive harvesting rights. The president of the Nuvummi Landholding Corporation, Adamie Kalingo, and the president of the Nunavik Landholding Corporation Association, George Peters also attended the signing.

The signing ceremony was preceded by a work session that also involved Johnny Peters, Maggie Emudluk, Mary A. Pilurtuut and Quebec’s minister responsible for Native affairs, Elizabeth Larouche. The session was constructive and allowed the Nunavik leaders to confirm Quebec’s willingness to strengthen the “nation-to-nation” relationship it has with Nunavik Inuit.

One of the main files discussed with Premier Marois during that meeting was the high cost of living in our region. This is a priority for Nunavimmiut. Premier Marois was very receptive and committed to produce tangible results before the end of 2013. Another meeting has been scheduled for December to follow-up on this important file and on other priority files that were submitted to the premier’s attention.

The signing ceremony was preceded by a work session that also involved Johnny Peters, Maggie Emudluk, Mary A. Pilurtuut and Quebec’s minister responsible for Native affairs, Elizabeth Larouche. The session was constructive and allowed the Nunavik leaders to confirm Quebec’s willingness to strengthen the “nation-to-nation” relationship it has with Nunavik Inuit.
Celebrating 35 Years of Air Inuit

Beatrice Deer provided musical entertainment for the Air Inuit anniversary gala in Montreal.
When the Inuit of Nunavik received compensation money from the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement, they chose to form a non-profit corporation to manage it, thus Makivik Corporation was born. Although Makivik cannot earn profits, the Makivik leaders of the day thought of forming subsidiary companies, which are allowed to earn profit for all Inuit beneficiaries. In 1978, the first company created by Makivik was Air Inuit, which was an obvious move considering that the only feasible way to travel and deliver things from one community to another throughout the region was, and remains, by airplane. Definitely there was a demand and Air Inuit continues to be one of our greatest symbols of pride and prosperity.

The company celebrated its thirty-fifth anniversary this past August 28. To each Nunavik community, Air Inuit management sent Air Inuit tokens including hats for the children and teenagers and thermal coffee mugs for the adults. An Air Inuit banner was also delivered to each community to display at local parties and an NHL hockey get-away package was also donated to each community for grand prizes.

Also, on the same day, Air Inuit staff at the company’s new hangar and office building beside the Montreal runway in Ville St-Laurent had lunch together where they celebrated and were thanked by dignitaries from Makivik and by their workplace superiors.

A more formal celebration was held at this facility in the evening, attended by several present and past Air Inuit presidents and board members, Makivik executives, heads of Nunavik landholding corporations and mayors and representatives of major Air Inuit partnerships clientele. Even the mayor of Ville St-Laurent, Allan DeSouza, was there.

An Air Inuit Dash-8 was parked in the new hangar as a backdrop for staff, dignitaries and other guests at the anniversary party.
A stage for the musicians and speech-makers was set up in a cordoned off area of the pleasant new hangar, with tables and chairs in front of it like in a restaurant or bar. A shiny Air Inuit Dash-8, painted with the company's new design, was parked as a backdrop for the well-deserved party. Servers walked around the floor carrying trays of hors d'oeuvres, while the guests mingled and chatted with each other—some meeting each other for their first time while others got to see each other again for the first time in a while. Air Inuit staff also handed out gifts or commemorative Air Inuit pens and decks of playing cards.

Beatrice Deer, backed up by Tyson Schallmann playing his cajón drum and Christopher McCarron playing his Gibson acoustic guitar, sang a repertoire of songs for the occasion, from ambient meet-and-greet music to some of her popular Inuktitut songs and throat-singing. Beatrice has become more polished as a self-employed professional musician, and Air Inuit could have chosen no more captivating choice of live entertainment for their special evening.

The company's vice-president, Chris Busch, first began his career working beside the recently retired Air Inuit president, Peter Horsman. Now he works alongside Pita Aatami. And it was Pita whom Chris first introduced to the microphone to welcome everybody and to begin the speeches. One of Nunavik's most familiar public voices, Pita began by thanking the special guests in attendance. He was especially grateful to their customers, saying, "Without you, without paying the bills, we wouldn't be able to have this beautiful facility even though we have to pay for it for the next 20 years. Buts it's your support that made it possible."

Pita also declared, "We have come a long way in the last 35 years from when the Inuit decided to start an airline company. Air Inuit started out with just one Beaver and now we are into the jet age. None of our communities, up until today, are connected by road, so our airplanes are our ambulances, our buses, and our taxis in order to get in and out of the communities."

Akulivik Mayor Adamie Alayco presented Air Inuit with a big thank-you card, signed by the residents of his community, acknowledging their appreciation for the support and efforts whenever they need assistance with search and rescue.

Air Inuit anniversary drawings made by children in Kuujjuaraapik.
of service, and he mentioned their finance director, Michael Voland, who has been with the company for 32 years.

Makivik’s corporate secretary, Andy Moorhouse, who sits as the chairman of Air Inuit, was then called to the stage to give his remarks. He also began by thanking the previous chairmen and presidents. “Without their leadership back in the seventies, the eighties and the nineties, we would not be here today. As the current chairman of the board of directors of Air Inuit, I am merely continuing what they envisioned,” he said.

Andy also noted, “I wasn’t born when Air Inuit was created. When I was growing up, I saw the airline, I flew the airline, but I never imagined that I would be the chairman of this great company — the company that belongs to the Inuit as a whole. And it is with great honour and great pleasure that I continue the efforts and initiatives of those great people.”

He also expressed the company’s appreciation for the partnerships they maintain with Hydro-Québec, the FCNQ, the Northwest Company, Nunavik Rotors and Johnny May Air Charters, which “ensure the security of the company.”

Andy continued, “There are many other opportunities that Air Inuit has been working to develop, such as our third party maintenance program that Air Inuit is proud of. There are other opportunities such as mining development in the north that we’re looking into. But these are initiatives that we
have to work to attain and to ensure that we continue to maximize the opportunities developing in the north. This will ensure Air Inuit's strong leadership and strong partnerships for generations to come."

Besides praising the contributions of the people who headed Air Inuit in the past, Andy also acknowledged the opportunities that the company should provide for Inuit youth. "There is the future generation that will take over this great company; there are other generations and other challenges and other accomplishments that they will be reaching," he said.

A video was also shown on a big screen beside the stage in the hangar. It was produced with the youth of Ivujivik to recognize the opening of their community's new airport and well illustrated the importance Air Inuit for their community, which is Nunavik's most northerly destination.

Past Air Inuit presidents Jobie Epoo and Mark T. Gordon received a commemorative clock with an engraved inscription in recognition of their dedication and leadership while serving. Air Inuit’s “first and foremost goal is ensuring the safety of our passengers.” It was in this context that they each told a comical anecdote about snags in the operation of aircraft while they were in charge. Peter Horsman approached the microphone upon receiving his clock and joked that he had no such stories to tell because there were never any problems with their planes while he was the president. The engraving on their clocks also reads, "Set your clock by Air Inuit's departure time."

On the Air Inuit website, under “Social Responsibility” the company promotes, “Since the company’s founding, Air Inuit has endeavoured to enhance the lives of Inuit throughout Nunavik by supporting community organizations, educational programs, athletic training and cultural events... It remains the company’s firm intention that Inuit culture and language be preserved and allowed to flourish. Air Inuit does its utmost to include Inuit first and foremost in its hiring policies.”

In the words of the Air Inuit chairman, Andy Moorhouse, to those celebrating this important milestone, “As part of its thirty-fifth anniversary celebration, Air Inuit wishes to thank its clients and employees for their continuous support and for being a part of the collective effort of building Nunavik’s airline.”
Healing Journey Leads to Truth and Reconciliation Commission Quebec in Montreal

By Mylène Larivière

Thirty courageous Nunavimmiut—initiated for some, pursued for others—their healing journey while attending the Quebec National Event of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Montreal from April 24 to 27, 2013.

For over a century, beginning in the mid-1800s and continuing into the late 1990s, Aboriginal children in Canada were taken from their homes and communities and placed in institutions called residential schools. These schools were run by religious orders in collaboration with the federal government and took responsibility over more than 150,000 Aboriginal children during the program’s existence.

The purpose of the residential school system was to assimilate Aboriginal peoples into the dominant colonial culture by removing children from the care of their parents and communities. Prime Minister Stephen Harper recognized this purpose at the June 11, 2008 federal apology. Indeed, aggressive civilization was recommended at the 1879 report of Nicholas Davin, a journalist commissioned by then Prime Minister Sir John A. Macdonald to investigate the ongoing forced assimilation of First Nations people and their...
Minister Sir John A. Macdonald, to study industrial schools for Aboriginal children in America: “If anything is to be done with the Indian, we must catch him very young. The children must be kept constantly within the circle of civilized conditions.”  

In the Canadian Arctic, the concept of residential schools included a variety of vocational schools, industrial schools, boarding schools, tent camps or hostels. Their presence in the Canadian Arctic spanned from the mid-1950s to the late 1960s. In Nunavik, small hostels were initially built from the early to mid-1960s in Kangiqsualujjuaq, Inukjuak, Kangirsuk and Kuujjuaraapik. Impacts of the residential schools legacy were not only experienced first hand by the former students, but also by their parents, families and communities, and hold intergenerational effects. Many descendents of residential school survivors share the same burdens as their ancestors even if they did not attend the schools themselves. These include transmitted personal trauma and compromised family systems, as well as the loss in Aboriginal communities of language, culture, and the teaching of tradition from one generation to another.

In 2005, the Assembly of First Nations launched a class action lawsuit against the Canadian government for the long-lasting harm inflicted by the residential school system. Soon, the Inuit representatives (Makivik Corporation, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. and Inuvialuit Regional Corporation) forced their participation at the negotiation table, led by former Canada Supreme Court Judge Frank Lacobucci. In 2006, the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement was entered into between all parties and became
the largest class action settlement in Canadian history. From September 2007 the various components of the Agreement, including the Common Experience Payment, and Agreement in Principle, were implemented while the government pledged to establish the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) that hosted its fifth Truth and Reconciliation event in Montreal this past April.

At this occasion a sacred fire was lit, containing ashes from each of the fires that burned at all TRC events. Martha Greig of Kuujjuaq was amongst the fellowship that carried the ashes from the Winnipeg event to the Montreal gathering, on Turtle Island—the traditional territory of the Mohawk Nation.

From the first day of the event, in the large room of the Queen Elizabeth Hotel, the attendees from Nunavik were sitting at the far left of the TRC's special Bentwood Box. The carved panels on this box represent the unique cultures of former Inuit, First Nations and Métis students. The Sacred Bentwood Box was a privileged witness of the hearings and expression of reconciliation, commissioned from West Coast Salish artist Luke Marston in 2009. It travelled with the TRC to the seven national events throughout Canada to receive offerings that commemorate personal initiatives towards healing and reconciliation. The box was placed in the foreground as an inspiration and source of strength. During the four days of the event, the three commissioners were to receive testimonies and expressions of reconciliation from courageous Inuit, Cree, Algonquin and Innu who are united in this path of healing.

United indeed, because the survivors are not alone. They are unified in their sufferings but also in their quest for reconciliation. As one strong Inukjuammiut stated for the benefit of all, "If you think you are a lost case, you are not. I was thinking that too, and I am not."
Rather, they are “warriors,” observed Honorary Witness Sandy White Hawk, from the Maine Wabanaki State Child Welfare Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Education was used as a weapon, considering that it was utilized to carry a cultural genocide, which was emphasized by Honorary Witness Paul Martin. But education is now a powerful tool that can serve the necessary reconciliation with Canada. We learned that the heritage of the residential schools era is no longer to be shared only by former students, their families and communities. All citizens have to share this legacy, but first they need to know the truth. Education should be used so residential schools may be a reality for all Canadians, and not only for Aboriginals. Resonating from the protest movement, “Idle No More,” Justice Murray Sinclair, Chair of the TRC, declared we should be, “Ignorant No More.”

Quebec Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Elizabeth Larouche, was present at the event. She advocated for the creation of a month of Aboriginal history that could enhance common knowledge about the residential schools that existed in this province.

We humbly suggest that it should also serve to address the difference in treatment observed in Nunavik, whereby those who attended a federal school are entitled to apologies and benefits of the settlement agreement, while those who attended a provincial school are not yet part of any accord.

Sandy White Hawk talked about the importance of personal reconciliation in order to successfully address the intergenerational effects of the residential schools and rebuild the Aboriginal communities. One participant testified about
In time of peace again
My voice pure and free
Carried in bushes
In branches in leaves
Where my pain my tears lied
Hanged and haunted
Since a child was taken
Tent ripped pushed aside
Since my spirit fled
That day my boy flew
That day my girl failed to return
Pain carried in branches in leaves
Wind searching for my missing spirit my missing child
Essence of my being never to be returning
Wandering through seasons through time
My pain my loss my love my lost loved one
And now in time of peace again
My spirit longs for the spirit world
Where it now goes
Free in branches in leaves
In the summer song

An Inuit salon, furnished with a white tent, antlers, and images of northern homes and scenes, was available for those needing rest when their personal journey was becoming too difficult during the four-day event. The salon served as a preparatory or debriefing area whereby warm tea and extended arms were always provided by elders or community support workers from Nunavik, whom the participants came to know and trust.

Elders played a key role at the gathering. Present at the sacred fire and at the daily opening and closing of ceremonies, Rwanda genocide survivor and Honorary Witness, Éloge Butera, thanked them as being his elders, “considering that they were here before me and all immigrants arrived in these lands inhabited by Aboriginal Nations.” The songs of Ojibway Don Wabush and words of Mohawk leader John Cree reflected on the elders, who were seen dancing their hearts out the previous night during a well-attended talent show. They were like young girls, young hearts again. It showed that this healing journey has an end, when all heavy hearts let their burdens go and simply be happy to dance again, to peacefully walk upon mother heart.

Chairman Sinclair eloquently called upon the young-at-hearts to move forward. “You have been driven in an old
“Two primary objectives of the residential school system were to remove and isolate children from the influence of their homes, families, traditions and cultures, and to assimilate them into the dominant culture. These objectives were based on the assumption Aboriginal cultures and spiritual beliefs were inferior and unequal. Indeed, some sought, as it was infamously said, “to kill the Indian in the child.” Today, the majority of the car drivers are no longer at fault, but not the car itself. Blaming the car will only maintain the wrongdoings. The majority of the car drivers are no longer alive. Yet, some may wish to proceed through forgiveness. But it is not mandatory. There is no obligation to forgive the drivers. But there is one to move forward, by stepping out of the car and choosing your next vehicle and destination—for you, your grandchildren, your community.”

Joé Juneau, also an Honorary Witness to the event, reflected on the youth that he has the chance to meet and work with in Nunavik. He was touched by the resilience and the strength deployed by the survivors at the national event who shared their tragic experiences to a majority yet unaware of their realities. The expressions of courage he witnessed renewed the exact reasons why he is involved with young hockey players in Nunavik.

One grandmother contrasted the situation of her grandchildren who now have daily access to their mother, with her own childhood situation of living in a heartless residential school. Whenever her grandchildren are sleeping over, they are calling for their mother, “Can I phone her to wish her good day, or to tell her about my dreams or nightmares, “ they ask. Because they are with family, in security, in an environment they know and in which they are loved. She questioned, “In residential schools, how many times did I call for my mother?”

“Look inside yourself, you can heal,” advocated Wayne Nichols from the Malecite Nation. His written message was read by his cousin while a five year old girl stood beside the reader, cheek to cheek, shoulder to shoulder, protective and supportive: ‘All Canadians should be warriors in pursuing harmony’.

1 Truth and Reconciliation Commissions are used around the world to remove and isolate children from the influence of their homes, families, traditions and cultures, and to assimilate them into the dominant culture. These objectives were based on the assumption Aboriginal cultures and spiritual beliefs were inferior and unequal. Indeed, some sought, as it was infamously said, “to kill the Indian in the child.”


3 Thus remained the wording “Indian Residential Schools” at the Settlement Agreement, as agreed upon at the negotiation table at an earlier stage.

4 Truth and Reconciliation Commissions are used around the world in situations where countries want to reconcile and resolve policies or practices, typically of the state, that have left legacies of harm. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission is a non-adversarial way to allow residential school survivors to share their stories and experiences and, according to the Department of Indian Affairs, will “facilitate reconciliation among former students, their families, their communities and all Canadians” for “a collective journey toward a more unified Canada.”

5 “Two primary objectives of the residential school system were to remove and isolate children from the influence of their homes, families, traditions and cultures, and to assimilate them into the dominant culture. These objectives were based on the assumption Aboriginal cultures and spiritual beliefs were inferior and unequal. Indeed, some sought, as it was infamously said, “to kill the Indian in the child.” Today, the majority of the car drivers are no longer at fault, but not the car itself. Blaming the car will only maintain the wrongdoings. The majority of the car drivers are no longer alive. Yet, some may wish to proceed through forgiveness. But it is not mandatory. There is no obligation to forgive the drivers. But there is one to move forward, by stepping out of the car and choosing your next vehicle and destination—for you, your grandchildren, your community.”

Joé Juneau, also an Honorary Witness to the event, reflected on the youth that he has the chance to meet and work with in Nunavik. He was touched by the resilience and the strength deployed by the survivors at the national event who shared their tragic experiences to a majority yet unaware of their realities. The expressions of courage he witnessed renewed the exact reasons why he is involved with young hockey players in Nunavik.

One grandmother contrasted the situation of her grandchildren who now have daily access to their mother, with her own childhood situation of living in a heartless residential school. Whenever her grandchildren are sleeping over, they are calling for their mother, “Can I phone her to wish her good day, or to tell her about my dreams or nightmares, “ they ask. Because they are with family, in security, in an environment they know and in which they are loved. She questioned, “In residential schools, how many times did I call for my mother?”

“Look inside yourself, you can heal,” advocated Wayne Nichols from the Malecite Nation. His written message was read by his cousin while a five year old girl stood beside the reader, cheek to cheek, shoulder to shoulder, protective and supportive: ‘All Canadians should be warriors in pursuing harmony’.

It ended with two little hands strongly nestled on the reader’s arm.
Shelly Watkins, Sales Manager for Nunavik

Shelly Watkins is First Air’s new Sales Manager for the Nunavik region. Born and raised in Kuujjuaq, she speaks Inuktitut, English and French. Shelly is based at First Air’s head office in Ottawa and travels to Kuujjuaq regularly to support the company’s efforts in business development and customer service as they continue to increase resources and focus in this key market.

Shelly’s past work experience has been with various Inuit organizations. She has a diploma in Social Science from John Abbott College and subsequently studied History and Political Science at Concordia University, which makes her the ideal representative for this position.

Prior to leaving Kuujjuaq to pursue her education, Shelly worked with Makivik, the Saputiit Youth Association of Nunavik, and the Kativik Regional Government in various administrative and project management positions. Her most significant contributions were the suicide prevention strategy for Nunavik, organizing the National Elders and Youth Summit and creating the first ever Inuit youth magazine.

Continuing to look for opportunities to support Inuit youth, Shelly spent three years working with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami as their youth project coordinator. In this position she worked closely with the National Inuit Youth Council (NIYC) and provided a mechanism for the NIYC to share information and experiences on Inuit Youth employment initiatives and educational opportunities with Inuit youth across Canada.

Shelly’s first priorities were to reconnect with customers and increase awareness of First Air’s beneficiary fares. “I knew I wanted my next career move to be in public relations and serving Nunavik,” says Shelly, whose enthusiasm for the north is obvious. “Working for the ‘Airline of the North’ and helping to bring a renewed focus to Nunavik is very exciting to me.”
During the first half of 2013, Parnasimautik community workshops were successfully held in seven Nunavik communities: Kangiqsualujjuaq, Akulivik, Ivujivik, Tasiujaq, Kuujjuaraapik, Puvirnituq and Kangiqsujuaq. The workshops allowed the residents of these communities to express their views on development issues and begin assembling the foundations of a comprehensive vision for community and regional development. The quality of discussions and feedback at all the Parnasimautik workshops held to date has been very strong.

Organized by the northern villages in cooperation with the Makivik Corporation, the Kativik Regional Government (KRG), the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services (NRBHSS), the Kativik School Board (KSB), and the Nunavik Landholding Corporations Association (NLHCA), Parnasimautik...
workshops examine 19 different sectors: from culture and identity, lands, education, justice and social regulation and employment, to mining and transportation.

Participants at each workshop to date have included the mayor, landholding corporation and cooperative association representatives, representatives of many other organizations (such as Anguvigaapik, the cultural, education, elders, youth, justice, wellness, childcare, church and recreation community committees, the Kativik Municipal Housing Bureau and health centres), plus local elected representatives of Makivik, the KRG, the NRBHSS and the KSB. In total, not less than 130 Nunavimmiut have so far sat at a Parnasimautik round table in their community. Participation at the workshops is even higher when members of the general public in attendance and those listening on the local FM at home are taken into account.

Youth in the communities and the leaders of regional youth groups are especially being encouraged to get involved in this year’s Parnasimautik workshops. Our youth are ready and competent, and must take advantage of this opportunity to speak out on how Nunavik should develop.

We want to thank the communities visited for their warm welcome last winter and spring and their well-organized workshops. Residents and organizations in these communities are being encouraged to continue their work and to identify local initiatives to address their vision of development. Grassroots initiatives are the best way to ensure that Inuit culture, identity, language and traditional way of life will continue to be the foundation of our society.

Complete workshop documentation, including audio files of the 19 Parnasimautik sectors recorded in Inuktitut, as well as bulletins on What Was Said are available at www.parnasimautik.com.
The communities are encouraged to prepare for their local workshops and will receive preparatory documentation from the Parnasimautik core group, including paper copies of the Parnasimautik meeting kit, sector audio recordings and the 2010 *Plan Nunavik*.  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kangirsuk</td>
<td>August 26 to 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aupaluk</td>
<td>September 3 to 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kawawachikamach</td>
<td>September 5 to 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quaqtaq</td>
<td>September 23 to 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inukjuak</td>
<td>October 15 to 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salluit</td>
<td>October 21 to 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuujjuaq</td>
<td>November 4 to 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umiujaq and Chisasibi</td>
<td>November 12 to 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reusable Shopping Bags are the Best

With nearly a million plastic shopping bags arriving in Kuujjuaq every year, municipal officials passed a by-law in 2008, prohibiting the use of single-use plastic bags. This by-law has not only reduced the amount of litter seen around town and the cost of community clean-ups, it has also helped raise awareness among the population and set an example for other northern villages and retailers.

As a result, retailers choose to reduce the amount of plastic bags being distributed to their customers. The Nunavik Financial Services Cooperative, supported by FCNQ and its 14 member cooperative association in Nunavik, as well as the Caisse Populaire Desjardins, began providing free reusable shopping bags to their customers. Since the launching of its “Greener Tomorrow” program in January 2011, the Northwest Company has seen a 67% reduction in the number of plastic bags distributed by their stores in Nunavik and Nunavut, and their disposable bags are biodegradable. Newviq’i, also in Kuujjuaq, distributes only biodegradable bags and also promotes the use of reusable bags.

Here are some interesting facts about plastic shopping bags:

- Plastic bags are made from non-renewable resources;
- The average plastic bag is used for the time it takes to carry your purchases home, and can take up to 1000 years to break down;
- Plastic bags can kill birds, wildlife, and marine animals;
- Plastic bags don’t biodegrade, they “photo-degrade”. This means that plastic bags break down into smaller and smaller toxic bits contaminating soil and waterways;
- Reusable bags are the best solution. A sturdy, reusable bag will last for years, and only needs to be used five times to have a lower environmental impact than a plastic bag. We can all do our part by using reusable bags.
Kuujjuaraapik has a very fair way of judging the berry picking contest winners for their Wildberry Festival each autumn. First of all, a number is randomly picked as the target weight for the submitted quantities of berries and each quantity is weighed in the same kind of sack. Whoever entered a quantity of berries closest to the randomly picked weight, without going over, is the winner. "There is no winner for the people that pick the most berries. In its inaugural festival there was one, but due to the demand to level the playing field we have since instituted the person with the amount closest to the weight randomly selected without going over. Its like they do..."
The Price is Right, if you want a comparison, Raymond Mickpegak says.

Raymond Mickpegak is one of the key organizers of the festival, along with other committee members, Salamiva Weetaltuk, Jeannie Fleming, Sarah Hunter, Caroline Weetaltuk, Daphne Tooktoo, and Rhoda Cookie. There were three berry picking contests held: blueberries on August 30, blackberries on September 1, and mixed berries on September 2. The same prizes for each of the three contests were awarded this year, with third place pickers winning $1,000, $1,250 for second place and $1500 for first place.

Kuujjuaraapik's Wildberry Festival is held during each Labour Day weekend, and this past fall, was the third such event. Kuujjuaraapik has always been known as an excellent place to pick berries. Local people and some from other communities have been going there each fall to pick such berries as kirutinginnak (blueberries), baungak (blackberries), kimminak (red berries), and arpiurak (raspberries). Although less bountiful, some makkauyak (strawberries) and aqpik (cloudberries) are also found in the area of Kuujjuaraapik. "People from out of town were coming here just to pick berries, as hobby that they were into. But it wasn't a festival. Every now and then we would see someone come here from outside the community to pick berries and that was about it," Raymond says.

For the first time, festival organizers decided to include a dessert making contest this year, with men and women using the blueberries that they picked. It was a big success, for which such delicious items as truffles, pies, crepes, cakes, suvaliks and more were presented. Again to make this contest fair for all, each dessert was given a number so the randomly chosen taste testers did not know who made them.

BINGO games were held for various prizes as valuable as 45 gallons of gasoline donated by the Co-Op store. The weather was perfect on the first day of September for the community's picnic, with sunshine and just enough of a breeze to keep the black flies away. Some family and friends grouped together to enjoy each other's company around cooking fires near the beach where wild meats and fish were provided, along with some store-bought things. Meeting, greeting, joking around and telling stories. Some strolled down by the water to take in the fresh Hudson's Bay air, while children climbed around the rocks of nature's playground and some kids tried their skills at catching tadpoles in the puddles amongst the land wash. Raymond described, "The weather played a big role, the weather conditions were perfect. When there are no bugs and weather is nice, the people are out there."

Community members arrived at the gym fully determined to have a good time.

Andrew Cookie Jr swings Brenda Tooktoo around on the dance floor.

Raymond Mickpegak announcing the winners of the berry-picking contests during the evening of entertainment.
The committee raise money for the Wildberry Festival through local fundraising efforts, beginning in January. The same Kuujjuaraapik recreational events committee also has to money to put on their Christmas, Easter, Canada Day, Halloween and Valentine’s Day celebrations. Raymond says he became involved with the group two years ago and has become the main contact person for the event, managing things to make everything goes as planned. He recalls it was more hectic last year because they had a bigger budget and they had about 50 performers for four nights, including gospel singers on Sunday evening.

This year they had only one night of musical entertainment for the festival, partly because on the first night there was a wedding taking place that required the use of the gym. “According to tradition, the dance, feast follows the wedding so they needed the building. When there is a wedding in a small town we rally behind the couple and support their special day,” Raymond explained.

Despite limited resources and a small line-up of performers, community members arrived at the gym fully determined to have a good time. The evening included singers, Inuit-Cree dancers from Chisasibi, fiddle music, banjo music, and step dancing competitions for all. There were also ticket draws for door prizes of various household and camping equipment as well as airline tickets for Air Inuit.
Lizzie Tukai, who also performed as a throat singer, came first place in the women's dance competition, while Jacob Dick came first amongst the men. Makivik Magazine later interviewed Lizzie and, regarding her throat singing, she shared, “I have been throat singing since I was in my teens, I didn’t have a teacher but I wanted to learn to throat sing because there were only a few elderly women who were doing it and I worried that we would lose the tradition… I used to go for a walk outside of town when I wanted to practice or go up to the front of the canoe so nobody could hear me practice… My throat would get so itchy, I would throw up sometimes, and I didn’t want to practice around anyone while my throat was still stretching. But once I got the hang of it then I started picking up a song from this woman and another song from that woman. It became easy to learn once my throat could handle it and I have taught other young girls who are interested to learn since then. I want the Inuit women tradition to stay alive. Throat singing is enjoyable because you giggle form the game and it gives me goose bumps.”

Lizzie's step dancing is so full of life that others in the room became revitalized when she demonstrated her style on the floor. She said, “I remember watching the best local dancers entertaining at the Christmas games when I was a young girl and being amazed at how they could move their feet. Many years later, I don’t remember where I got the tape from, but I got a tape of fiddle music and started practicing some steps at home. I trained my feet to move the...
way I wanted to dance and kept improvising over the years.

The very first dance competition I entered was in Puvirnituq during a snow festival… We tied with the Cree dancers from Whapmagoostui so we danced again the night after and we won first place … So far, I have won all the competitions I’ve joined — few, but all. I love fiddle music and when I hear fiddle, I can’t keep my feet still and when I dance, I just let myself go and let the music move me.”

The local NV provided vehicles to bring the local and visiting berry pickers out to the berry grounds. As with most Nunavik festivals and cultural events, Air Inuit provided a 30% discounted fare. Speaking for the organizers and for his community, Raymond said “A lot of people from out of town come to participate, whether to get together with friends and family or going for the prizes. For kids, men and women the turnout was very high.”

Comparatively low key compared to some other Nunavik music and cultural festivals, Kuujjuaraapik’s community spirit on display during this autumn’s festival will continue to warm the hearts of many who were there for some time to come. 

Lizzie Tukai, who also performed as a throat singer, came first place in the women’s dance competition.

Jacob Dick danced away with the first prize in the men’s competition.

George Kakayuk of Salluit also received a loud round of applause for his performance.
I love fiddle music and when I hear fiddle, I can't keep my feet still and when I dance, I just let myself go and let the music move me.
Learning About Museology
In and Around Montreal

Compiled with notes from Julie Anne Tremblay and Louis Gagnon of the Avataq Cultural Institute

No matter which public institution or service we use or visit in a community, it takes expertise and knowledge to make sure that facility functions well. So true this is for museums and interpretation-centres, which are a relatively new concept in Nunavik, although such facilities are commonplace in many other towns and countries throughout the world.

Nunavik’s very own Avataq Cultural Institute has been taking the lead for the enormous task of officially preserving and presenting Inuit culture, first and foremost for the benefit of Nunavimmiut, but also for others to appreciate what we have to share with them. Since 1995 Avataq has done follow-ups and training of all museum curators and everyone else working at the museum in Inukjuak and Puvirnituq and has given advice to other cultural facilities that need support in conservation and museum activities such as the interpretation centre in Kangiqsujuaq.

It was in 1995 that Louis Gagnon was first sent to evaluate the Daniel Weetaluktuk Museum in Inukjuak, and they began to set up a training system for Inuit there. Louis has now been at museology (i.e. the study of museums and how they have established and developed) for over 30 years, and he is particularly interested in providing training for those in isolated locations. He says, “A museum is not something just for tourists, it’s something for the people first, where they can see and learn about their culture.”

As part of Avataq’s customized museum curators training, last summer a small group from Inukjuak and Puvirnituq had the opportunity to visit several such facilities in and around Montreal. They were Nancy Palliser, Mary Pirti Kumaluk and Bonnie Ningiuq of Inukjuak, and Alacie Q. Napartuk of Puvirnituq. Julie Anne Tremblay, who had been hired by the project, showed the Nunavik visitors around to these places. The facilities that they went to see are Avataq’s own museum reserve and documentation centre, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, the McCord Museum, the Redpath Museum, the Montreal Museum of Contemporary Art, and the Canadian Museum of Civilization.
Art, Écomusée du fier monde, Maison Saint-Gabriel and the JA Bombardier Museum in Valcourt.

Each facility was chosen for a specific reason, but overall they were to stimulate discussions on various aspects of museum practices, including the nature of the collections, the way the objects were presented, the activities offered, as well as the missions and mandates of these organizations. It was also to call attention to the conservation and enhancement of heritage.

This project was a hands-on experience of museology. So the candidates participated and witnessed every step from the conception to the realization of a new activity for a museum, such as a new exhibition or a new way to make the visitors become more involved into their visit at the museum. When you make changes into a museum you have to deal with all the aspects related to conservation, so this was also an opportunity to revisit basic notions that have been already acquired in the past.

As a second part of the training, the tour of several museums scheduled in one week permitted them to connect the dots. This program contributed to developing a better understanding of what the various possibilities offer by the museology are. For instance, some museums focus on visual art while another one will present the social aspect or challenges of a community and other institutions will aim to document the impact of some technologies, etc.

Learning about how the museum of snowmobiles is run.
A more subtle effect of this training program was also to exemplify that a museum has a role to play in its community since it is a place of learning. A museum provides a great opportunity for sharing experiences and transmitting cultural and social values.

Another principal objective of this project is to strengthen the partnership between Avataq and the museum in Inukjuak, to promote greater cultural transmission among Inukjuammiut, by increasing the museum’s offer of cultural activities based on the contents of their collection.

Based on the grant that Avataq benefited from, this project started last spring and should end this fall. But for us, this project is most importantly the continuation of the interventions made by Avataq’s Museology Department since 2009.

Besides the visits to museums in and around Montreal, the program has included the implementation of an educational project with Mary Ann Haney’s grade four students at Innalik School in Inukjuak. The theme of the project was “Great
Inuit Inventions”. They created an educational booklet that the students completed with the help of elders. They also made a short video and went on the land for an initiation to archaeology, which was a huge success.

In order to renew the activities offered by the Daniel Weetaluktuk Museum, a new space in there is dedicated to temporary exhibitions, as well as the holding of cultural and educational activities. 

A number of other projects have been realized in Inukjuak within this training program. A small temporary exhibition was designed to present the eider duck parka that was made by Elisapi Inukpuk and Elisapi Nutaraq during their project called “Making Our Culture Visible.”

Meanwhile in Puvirnituq, this project has been an occasion for Avataq to lend a hand to Alacie Q. Napartuk, the lady in charge of the Saputik Art and Cultural Centre there. In particular, Avataq staff wanted to get to know her better, to transmit basic information on conservation and to work hands-on with their collection. 

A more subtle effect of this training program was also to exemplify that a museum has a role to play in its community since it is a place of learning. A museum provides a great opportunity for sharing experiences and transmitting cultural and social values.
This program can be considered a success for all participants in any number of ways. For instance, they are learning to better develop cultural and educational activities at the Daniel Weetaluktuk Museum. They can better share knowledge concerning conservation and enhancement of heritage. It addresses the question of target audiences and the different strategies and means to transmit content. It has also involved more than 30 Nunavimmiut, who are able to talk about their Inuit culture in Inuktitut.

Teachers have become more interested in Inukjuak's museum, which provides educational material and activities in connection with the local culture. The interest of Nunavimmiut involved with cultural heritage regarding their work and future projects is being nourished and the development of a museology practice adapted to the realities of Nunavik continues.

Almost 80% of the funding for this project came from a grant that Avataq obtained from Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec through its special program called "Mesure de soutien aux institutions muséales reconnues non soutenues au fonctionnement". Avataq has provided the remaining 20% of the funding, either financially or as services in-kind.

Avataq considers it important for the Nunavik society to develop new competencies and master new knowledge that will permit Nunavimmiut to take care and disseminate and transmit their own cultural heritage, by themselves. In respect for the Inuit culture of Nunavik, the museology in development in Nunavik is adapting its science to the need and expectation of Nunavimmiut. Part of the challenge in museology is to create the appropriate tool that will serve Nunavimmiut by preserving and documenting their cultural heritage with the hope of transmitting it to our present and future generations.

Summing things up, we can appreciate that, with its Department of Museology, Avataq designs training in museology, in cultural conservation, and in heritage programming for Nunavimmiut. This includes for individuals as well as small interest groups such as the local cultural committees.

In charge of the preservation of the National Collection of Nunavik, four years ago Avataq created "The Qarmaq", which is a museum reserve in Montreal. That place is more than a storage facility, since it is also used for training in conservation and cultural transmission as well as a place to study the cultural heritage of Nunavimmiut.

Furthermore, Avataq fulfills their mandate by providing professional expertise in the field of museology, of cultural preservation and transmission to every community that asks for it.

Besides the visits to museums in and around Montreal, the program has included the implementation of an educational project with Mary Ann Haney's grade four students at Innalik School in Inukjuak. The theme of the project was "Great Inuit Inventions".
Nunavik’s twentieth regional elders conference, which takes place every second year, was in Inukjuak from October 7 to 11, 2013, where the theme was Child Rearing. Starting with the back row, going from left to right: Lucassie Kanaarjuaq, Ivujivik, Charlie Arngak, Kangiqsujuaq, Jeannie Nungak, Kangirsuk, Jaasi Annahataq, Kangiqsujuaq, Jeannie Nungak, Kangirsuk, Jaasi Annahataq, Kangirsuk, Jaaka Kumakuluk, Salluit, Moses Naluiyuk, Salluit, Daniellie Inukpuk, Inukjuak, Josepi Padlayat, Salluit, Markusie Sala, Umiujaq, Leah Kudluk, Kangirsuk, Mae Kudluk, Tasiujaq, Alicie Inukpuk, Inukjuak, Liivi Arnaituq, Kangiqsujuaq, Selima Emudluk, Kangiqsualujjuaq, Anna Samisack, Inukjuak, Elisapi Irqu, Puvirnituq, Minnie Nappaaluk, Kangiqsujuaq, Salamonie Alayco, Akulivik, Lizzie Sivuaraapik, Puvirnituq, Susie Morgan, Kangiqsualujjuaq, Elizabeth Tukkiapik, Kuujjuaq, Bobby Nakoolak, Quaqtaq, Pat Menarick, Chisasibi, Rhoda (Quaqtaq) Sala, Umiujaq, Minnie Fleming, Chisasibi, Lydia Nayome, Tasiujaq, Louisa Kulula, Quaqtaq, Martha Sala, Kuujjuaarapiik, Sapina Adams, Kuujjuajuaq, Alacie C. Alayco, Akulivik, Kaujujaq Tarkirk, Salluit, Mary Kitishimik, Kuujjuaarapiik, Jessie Annahataq, Aupaluk and Tiivi Keatinaaq, Ivujivik.
Daily events experienced by many permanent Nunavik Inuit residents make it clear that they really need more adequate homes to live in — homes that provide private, peaceful and healthy surroundings, with sufficient space and comfort rather than being multi-generationally, stressfully cramped together, couch surfing, or, in some worse-case scenarios, opting for a life on the streets down in Montreal.

Meanwhile, a few public events during the past few months have, yet again, highlighted the need for more housing in Nunavik. Included in these events have been a meeting between Prime Minister Stephen Harper and the top elected Inuit in Canada, Harper’s scanty Speech From the Throne, the infamous destruction-by-the-authorities of a shed that an evicted Quaqtaq SHQ (Société d’habitation du Québec) resident had as his makeshift home, and the release of a report by a United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples following his visit to Canada.

Makivik president, Jobie Tukkiapik, has denounced the prime minister’s October 16, 2013 Throne Speech, and Makivik issued a press release headed, “Once again the federal government ignores the housing crisis in Nunavik: more broken promises.”

“We ask ourselves what will it take for the government to live up to its word and respect its treaty obligations under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement…We have made numerous requests for a meeting with Minister Valcourt (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development) in order to impress upon the federal government the need to urgently act with regard to housing in Nunavik, but to date he has failed to meet with us. After just nine days in Canada, the UN Special Rapporteur understood that funding for aboriginal housing is woefully inadequate.

According to Statistics Canada, Nunavik has the highest overcrowding rate in Canada. Presently, 899 housing units are needed to meet the needs of Nunavik Inuit. This means that 68% of the population live in overcrowded houses.
Canada’s continued refusal to address the housing crisis can only be described as bad faith,” are some of Jobie's comments. Over his nine-day meeting tour with federal and provincial government authorities, and with First Nations, Inuit, and ᑲᕙᒪᑐᖃᒃᑯᑦ ᐊᖓᔪᕐᖄᖓᑦ ᓯᑏᕙᓐ ᖃᐅᐳ ᐅᖄᔪᖅ ᑲᖏᕐᓯᓂᕐᒥ ᐅᓐᓄᑯᑦ ᑲᑎᓯᓚᐅᕋᓂ ᑲᓇᑕᓕᒫᒥ ᐁᓇᐃᓄᐃᑦ ᓯᕗᓕᕐᑎᖏᓐᓂᒃ ᑲᖏᕐᓯᓂᕐᒦᖃᑎᒋᓚᐅᔪᔭᒥᓂᒃ, ᐃᓚᐅᕕᒋᓚᐅᔪᔭᖏᓐᓂᒃ ᔫᐱ ᑕᕐᕿᐊᐱᐅᑉ. Prime Minister Stephen Harper making a speech in Rankin Inlet on the evening before he met with national Inuit leaders in that town, including with Jobie Tukkiapik.

Quebec Government Joins Nunavik in Appeal for Support from Federal Government for Housing

At a press conference in Quebec City this past October 30, our provincial Parti Québécois government showed support to Makivik Corporation in our call for the Government of Canada to do their part to provide adequate social housing in the region. Jobie Tukkiapik thanked Quebec Premier Pauline Marois for her government’s important support on this issue. “The housing crisis in the Inuit communities of Arctic Quebec has dragged on for far too long. Nunavik Inuit deserve to be treated with dignity and to have access to adequate housing…Today, on behalf of Nunavik Inuit, I demand that immediate action be taken to eliminate the housing crisis that has existed in our communities for decades,” Jobie said.
Métis leaders, James Anaya, the UN Special Rapporteur, went away with several findings related to the big gap between the quality of life for aboriginal Canadians and our country’s general population. He reports, “At least one in five aboriginal Canadians live in homes in need of serious repair, which are often also overcrowded…”

James Anaya heard from aboriginal representatives about how these substandard housing conditions are a poor environment for students trying to study, as well as contributing to other social problems such as “tuberculosis and other health problems, family violence, unemployment, and unwanted displacement to urban centres. Overcrowding of homes leads to increased wear and tear and the premature deterioration of existing housing stock, resulting in dilapidated and often unsafe housing conditions.”

Further in Makivik’s denouncement of the Speech from the Throne, Makivik has communicated that, even prior to the signing of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement in 1975, the Government of Canada had failed to meet its constitutional responsibilities to provide safe and sufficient housing for Nunavik Inuit. Notwithstanding some government investment in housing, the housing deficit has continued to grow.

According to Statistics Canada, Nunavik has the highest overcrowding rate in Canada. Presently, 899 housing units are needed to meet the needs of Nunavik Inuit. This means that 68% of the population live in overcrowded houses.

Regarding the Throne Speech, Jobie commented, “It is not surprising that the UN Special Rapporteur compared our situation to that of impoverished third world countries… This intolerable situation must be addressed, our children, deserve to live in a safe and healthy environment just as all other Canadians — after all, we are taxpayers. We will continue to push government to respect its Constitutional and treaty obligations towards Nunavik Inuit and provide Nunavik Inuit with living conditions which meet our needs and respect our dignity.

“Despite the fact that Nunavik Inuit have signed two major treaties with Canada in the last 35 years, which are supposed to improve the quality of life, Canada has failed to fulfill even the most basic needs — housing.”

During the face-to-face meeting of Canada’s top Inuit leaders and the prime minister in Rankin Inlet on August 22, 2013, Jobie asked the prime minister to “reactivate and maintain meaningful discussions towards a catch-up housing program for Nunavik with a view to concluding
Stephen Harper, however, concluded that the housing issue falls under a provincial jurisdiction — not a federal concern. 

"We were not satisfied with that answer," Jobie says, "They had told us they do transfer the money over to Quebec and it's Quebec's to distribute. But under the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement there are three signatories: it's the federal government, the Quebec government, and then Makivik Corporation."

The approximately $12-million a year that Nunavik gets from Quebec is not enough to deal with our severe housing shortage. Besides the housing crisis during that Rankin Inlet meeting, Jobie also emphasized Nunavik's concerns about the rising cost of living and the need for continued support for telecommunication infrastructure. He also addressed Nunavik's concerns about Canada's Northern Strategy which traditionally includes communities "North of 60" and Nunavik Inuit are excluded because half of our communities are situated south of the 60th parallel. Meanwhile, Makivik hopes the report from the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples will help to bring about some change.
A number of Inuit have found solid employment at the Raglan Mine since this company began exploiting the land in Nunavik to extract nickel. Here we feature some of these successful Inuit employees in photographs as well as in their own words.

Photos by: Thomas Kneubühler
It has been 15 years since the Raglan nickel mine started up in Nunavik. The impact and benefits agreement, called the Raglan Agreement, signed between Makivik and Falconbridge Ltd., was created with the idea providing meaningful employment for Inuit.
Tunu Saviadjuk  
Surveyor’s helper

“I have been working at Raglan as a surveyor’s helper for three years. What I survey on the land, I transfer to the computer in my office. There are always new software updates, so I have to keep up. It’s a challenging job.”

Thomas Usuituayuk  
Welder

“I started to work at the Raglan site in 1991, first as a contractor, and since 1995 as a Raglan employee. When I started, there was no mine, only rocks. I saw how the place was growing every year. I like being a welder because you can make something from scratch, and then you see it forming.”

Julie Nutara  
Stock keeper

“I started in the kitchen but now I work as a stock keeper. My main job is receiving things like clothes, tools and equipment for the workers. Over the last year I learned to work on the computer, and also a couple of French words!”

Annie Kenuayuak  
Inuit employment and training coordinator

“I work as an Inuit Employment and Training Coordinator. One of my tasks is to recruit new Inuit employees, so I travel with my Tamatumani colleagues to different villages in Nunavik. This is my longest employment in my life. I have been here for 11 years. There is always food here, so I don’t have to make lunch. But when I am at home in Salluit, I cook. I love cooking.”
Lucy Etok
Janitor

“I only started in March this year, so I am relatively new. As a janitor I get to see many different places. Depending where you are, you are getting a really nice view of the land. I like the landscape; we have fishing trips you can go on.”

Raglan’s Fifteenth Anniversary

Fifteen years have gone by, but Raglan Mine still has 25 years of mining potential to look forward to at their site in Nunavik. As part of its fifteenth anniversary, Raglan Mine gathered its employees on August 23, 2013 to celebrate in presence of Prime Minister Stephen Harper, who was visiting the mine site as part of his Arctic tour.

Since 1997, Raglan Mine has opened four underground mines, which are still in operation, and also started the construction of its fifth underground mine, Qakimajurq. In 1998, 18-million tonnes of nickel were quoted in Raglan Mine’s mineral inventory and it still has over 33-million tonnes of nickel resources in its inventory. Since the Raglan Agreement was signed in 1995, more than $120-million have been allocated to host communities for building new infrastructure. This contributes to the social and economic development of Nunavik, which is a cornerstone of Raglan Mine’s sustainable development vision.

A wind energy and storage pilot project, which is expected to begin soon, will allow Raglan Mine to reduce its consumption of fossil fuels, thereby creating less air pollution. During his visit at the mine site, Stephen Harper took the opportunity to congratulate Raglan Mine for its leadership regarding eco-energy.
Jason Pearcy Gordon
Heavy equipment operator

“I am a heavy equipment operator. I drive a truck on the surface, not in the mine. I haul the tailing from the mill to the tailing mountain. We have safety meetings every morning before we go out and drive. We get information about the road conditions and the weather. Everything we do is pre-planned to make sure everyone is safe.”

Minnie Ivilla
Kitchen helper

“I help in the kitchen. I make the sandwiches. At home, I only make egg sandwiches, but here we have a big variety, like sandwiches with turkey or salmon. I have been here for one year and two months, and I like my job.”

Joseph Jr. Annahatak
Dishwasher

“When there are a lot of people eating at the same time, there is a lot of work. Washing dishes make me move around a lot—it’s like exercising. I am getting along well with my co-worker. I make a lot friend because I am a funny guy.”

Kimberly Makiuk
Inuit recruitment counsellor

“I help with the hiring of the Inuit employees. As Inuit Recruitment Counsellor, I am the link between Human Resources and Tamatumani. I help with the job interviews, and meet with new employees after their first rotation to see how it goes. You have to be flexible and patient when your work here. Flights are not always in time.”
Robert Putugu
Welder

“I am a welder at Mine 3. At the mine, the machines are really big. I do the repairs when something breaks. When I started five years ago, I did not have any experience with mines, so I have been learning a lot.”

Paulusie Okituk
Miner

“I am at Raglan now for 14 years, working as a miner. I am driving the big truck, bringing the ore out of the mine. Before I started working here, I never drove a car. I only drove my skidoo and my Honda.”

Betsy Tayara
Janitor

“I work as a Janitor. What I like about my job is that I always get to know new people and I can make new friends.”

Brian Menarick
Miner

“I am driving an underground truck. We are hauling ore to the surface at Mine 2. Sometimes we also haul waste. We call it waste when there is no ore in the rock. Geologists inspect the rocks; they tell us if there are minerals in it or not. When they do a blast, we stay in the refuge. We have to wait until all the smoke is out, and then we go back to work.”
Psychological Harassment at Work

Workers at organizations and job sites within Nunavik as well as in other locations beyond the Nunavik communities sometimes complain that they are being psychologically harassed at work. Circumstances differ, and could sometimes be a matter of miscommunication between what the employer and employee expects of each other, language barriers, and personality or cultural conflicts. However, harassment at work is a reality of society. With this in mind, the Commission des normes du travail (labour standards board) has published guidelines for all citizens of the province to adhere to regarding workplace harassment.

The Act respecting labour standards contains provisions on psychological harassment at work that protect the majority of Quebec workers, whether they are full or part time. Although the Act does not apply to certain employees such as senior managerial personnel, a person who cares for others, an employee subject to the construction decree, a worker who is party to a contract (in certain situations) or a student trainee, the provisions concerning psychological harassment apply to them all the same.

Psychological harassment at work is vexatious behaviour in the form of repeated conduct, verbal comments, actions or gestures that are hostile or unwanted; that affect the employee's dignity or psychological or physical integrity; and that make the work environment harmful.

A single serious incidence of such behaviour may constitute psychological harassment if it has the same consequences and if it produces a lasting harmful effect on the employee.
The definition of psychological harassment found in the Act respecting labour standards includes sexual harassment at work and harassment based on any one of the grounds listed in section 10 of the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, such as race, colour, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, civil status, age except as provided by law, religion, political convictions, language, ethnic or national origin, social condition, handicap or the use of a means to palliate this handicap.

Psychological harassment may occur at every level of the organizational hierarchy. It may manifest itself between colleagues—persons in a position of authority may harass subordinates and conversely, employees may harass their superiors. The parties involved may be individuals or a group of people. The presumed harasser may also come from outside the enterprise. In this case, the harasser may be a client, a user, a supplier or a visitor.

In addition to these key actors, there are the witnesses. The witnesses of a psychological harassment situation play an important role in perpetuating or putting a stop to this behaviour. Indeed, as a group, they can contribute to removing or maintaining the climate of fear and silence associated with a harassment situation. By giving their versions of the events during interventions, witnesses can make a significant difference between aggravating and resolving the situation.

To establish that the case actually involves psychological harassment, it is necessary to prove the presence of all of the elements of the definition.

This behaviour is humiliating, offensive or abusive for the person on the receiving end. It injures the person's self-esteem and causes him or her anguish. It affects the employee's dignity or psychological or physical integrity; and that make the work environment harmful.

Psychological harassment at work is vexatious behaviour in the form of repeated conduct, verbal comments, actions or gestures that are hostile or unwanted; that affect the employee's dignity or psychological or physical integrity; and that make the work environment harmful.
Legal Tips

never be any psychological harassment in his enterprise. But he must prevent any psychological harassment situation through reasonable means and act to put a stop to any psychological harassment as soon as he is informed of it, by applying the appropriate measures, including the necessary sanctions.

The employer must adopt management practices that make it possible to prevent psychological harassment situations. He must put in place, in his enterprise, a known and effective in-house procedure that will allow him to be informed of these situations and to inform all of his employees. This procedure must also make it possible to deal objectively and promptly with these situations when they arise, in order to put a stop to them.

In his preventive management practices, the employer must also take into account that the harasser may be someone outside his enterprise such as a customer, user, supplier, or visitor. To be able to fulfil his obligations well, he also has the right to ask his employees to refrain from harassing their colleagues, their superiors, or people with whom they have dealings as part of their employment.

In a small businesses, the employer must inform all of his personnel that he is firmly committed to preventing and to putting a stop to all psychological harassment at work and he will remind them of this fact regularly. The employer may do so by way of a written statement given to all new employees at the time of hiring, redistributed with pay sheets, by memorandum, by e-mail or during individual or group meetings, and posted in change rooms, the lunch room, or the lounge.

In big businesses, the senior management of the business must make a tangible commitment to prevent and to put a stop to all psychological harassment at work. It must also clearly inform all employees of this commitment. In so doing, senior management will be putting in place conditions that promote the establishment of a prevention process. The commitment of senior management must be steadfast, known to all staff members and reiterated on a regular basis. This commitment must be part of the enterprise’s policy and give rise to tangible, credible and effective actions.

When a psychological harassment situation arises in a workplace, the Commission des normes du travail invites the employee to resort, wherever possible, to the resource persons designated by his employer and to the mechanisms put in place in his organization. If the situation cannot be resolved within the enterprise, the employee may exercise the recourse provided under the Act respecting labour standards.

* This Legal Tip has directly relied upon, used and reproduced some text and information provided on the Internet by Commission des normes du travail. Go on the Internet to www.cnt.gouv.qc.ca/en and type in your key words for the search.
Last August 1, Hydro-Québec started the construction of a new state-of-the-art diesel power plant in Akulivik. The new power plant will be located on an elevated site in an industrial area, which was chosen in partnership with representatives of the Qekeirriaq Landholding Corporation and the Northern Village of Akulivik. The site is located on rocky terrain to help lessen the impact on wildlife and the environment. Avataq also carried out an archaeological inventory to identify archaeological evidence in and around the area. They did not find any important archaeological sites on this spot, but it is near a known archaeological site that will be preserved.

The $49.4-million project will mean close to 30 workers will be on the job-site. Hopefully some of their meaningful jobs will be for Inuit. Hydro-Québec also granted a $1-million contract to Makivik to build the access road, do earthwork and produce granular material for the construction of the new power plant. A joint Hydro-Québec / Makivik Corporation press release quotes Jobie Tukkiapik as saying, "We are pleased that Hydro-Québec is relying on our Makivik Construction Division for Phase 1 of the work. We trust this experience will be successful and lead the way to future projects."

Their new, more powerful generating sets will reduce fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions and, being further from Akulivik homes than their present power plat, it won't be so noisy for residents. Additionally, the power plant chimneys are designed to ensure they won't be a loud and the smoke will be less visible. It will be able to recover heat given off by the generating sets, which will then be used to heat the plant, and LED ("light emitting diode") lighting will also help decrease the building's energy consumption.
T

This past September 16 to 20 in Kuujjuaq, 12 Nunavik front line workers took part in a five-day training for conducting a natural support group for people who are mourning. The training was in follow-up to a request from the Kangirsuk Wellness Committee, supported by the NRBHSS, the Ungava Tulattavik Health Centre, and the Social Services and Wellness Program. It has enabled the Inuit workers to set up and lead mourning groups in Inuktitut in the Ungava Bay communities. Furthermore, it has helped the workers to identify the strengths they have to work with, and the skills they may need to further develop.

The training delivered to Nunavimmiut is based on the Jean Monbourquette's philosophy of bereavement intervention and support. Many Inuit have accumulated a lot of tragedy in their lives, for which such a program of support can be very helpful. During this five-day training, participants learned to work with people and groups of mourners. They were able to develop and practice different methods, tools and techniques specific to this type of intervention. This approach was highly appreciated by the participants.

A comment from one of the participants was: "I found the training very beneficial … Grief and morning needs to be done even when physical death is not the issue … with this training and more preparation we will be able to help our population heal or deal with grief in a positive way."

Another participant shared: "The course was understandable and very good … This grieving course would help a lot in our community.

A third participant commented: "The course was excellent. The two ladies who were asked to come and teach us were very organized and very understanding. Although, they weren't Inuit, all humans grieve all the same … I hope to see more courses like this!"

Good Grief for Nunavik
Hydro-Québec Community Relations Team

Hydro-Québec has a team of specialists that is responsible for relations with municipalities, landholding corporations and other organizations in Nunavik. Three advisors and an Inuit liaison officer ensure that the company's activities are communicated.

The responsibilities of the team include receiving and answering questions from elected officials and representatives of the different organizations in Nunavik, informing them of Hydro-Québec's projects in their community, maintaining open dialogue and cooperation with communities and taking their concerns into account in order to obtain the greatest possible consensus.

Colette Lettre-Racine has performed this work for close to three years. She has visited every community in Nunavik, maintains contact with the main organizations and ensures community relations for the entire Ungava Bay from Kangiqsualujjuaq to Kangiqsujuaq.

For the past year, Stéphanie Gosselin has been responsible for community relations for Hudson Bay and Hudson Strait from Kuujjuaraapik to Salluit. Colette and Stéphanie would like to visit each village during this year to meet the mayors and landholding corporation presidents.

Hydro-Québec is responsible for providing safe, reliable electricity service and to do so it must carry out refurbishment projects on its power plants. Advisor Marie-Claude Lachance will support Stéphanie and Colette with Hydro-Québec's communications with the communities on some of the projects.

Jonathan Epoo joined the Hydro-Québec team in October 2012 as a liaison officer, based out of Makivik's head office in Kuujjuaq. He works closely with Colette, Stéphanie and Marie-Claude to establish good relations with the various stakeholders and organizations in Nunavik, support them in analyzing issues and advises them about the Nunavik way of doing things. Jonathan says, “In my role, I raise awareness and guide the team in its actions and communications while providing the Inuit perspective.”
Ungava Caribou Roundtable Makes Progress

The Ungava Caribou Aboriginal Roundtable, comprised of representatives for the Inuit of Nunavik, the Inuit of Nunatsiavut, the NunatuKavut Community Council, the Naskapi Nation of Kawawachikamach, the Grand Council of the Crees of Eeyou Istchee, and the Grand Council of the Crees of Eeyou Istchee, has made progress in its efforts to protect and manage the caribou population in the Ungava region. The Roundtable has been working to develop a comprehensive strategy that takes into account the needs of all stakeholders, including the Inuit, the Naskapi, and the Crees. This strategy aims to ensure the long-term sustainability of the caribou population and to promote cultural and economic development in the region. The Roundtable has been successful in bringing together diverse perspectives and finding common ground, despite the complex and often contentious issues at hand. Their work offers hope for a more inclusive and cooperative approach to resource management in the Arctic.
Cree Regional Authority, the Innu Nation of Labrador and all the Innu communities from the Quebec region, met in Nain, Labrador, in late September, 2013. It was their third meeting to openly discuss the state of the caribou populations, which are in decline.

“We have made great progress since we first came together at the Roundtable. Considering the many views and opinions around the table, the progress is incredible and most importantly it is built on consensus and genuine trust,” said Adamie Delisle Alaku, assistant to Makivik vice-president for Renewable Resources Johnny Peters.

The Roundtable group aims to develop a conservation plan for the George River herd, while addressing aboriginal cultural values, scientific and aboriginal knowledge, harvesting, monitoring, food security, habitat conservation, education and awareness.

The Roundtable is also exploring ways to meet food security while ensuring cultural and spiritual needs are maintained. The technical committee has been mandated to deposit a first version of the plan for the next meeting in April.

Their press release also describes, “a tremendous amount of respect and trust has been achieved through frank and open discussions around the table. All nations and aboriginal governments are committed to sacrifices aimed at ensuring the survival of Ungava caribou, in particular for the George River herd. The discussions included adopting Terms of Reference for the functioning of the Roundtable as well as actions towards the conservation and preservation of the caribou of the Ungava Peninsula, including the George River, Leaf River and Torngat Mountain herds on which all nations of the Roundtable depend.”
Kangiqsujuaq Bike Trail Project

Hikers and cyclists can get a challenging workout while enjoying the view of Kangiqsujuaq's Wakeham Bay along the community's new bike trail, which took five summers to build. During a familiarization tour organized by the KRG's Department of Sustainable Employment in 2007, Kangiqsujuaq's Nunaturlik Landholding board members visited the Vallee Bras-du-Nord Solidarity Co-operative's hiking and bike trails situated 45 minutes from Quebec City. The co-operative's executive director, Frederic Asselin, was then asked to visit Kangiqsujuaq and study the feasibility of developing and building trails in Kangiqsujuaq. Work on the trail began in the summer of 2008, funded by the Nunaturlik Landholding Corporation, which has been a consistent partner in the project every year since.
The Royal Canadian Mint commissioned Ulaayu Pilurtuut to create designs for two of their new collector's edition $5.00 coins after seeing that her style of drawing would be applicable, as well as charming, for their needs. This was after they discovered Ulaayu's art on display at the "11 Nations Art Exhibit" in Montreal last winter, making her the first Inuk from Quebec to design coins for the Mint. "They liked my art and asked me to design two drawings," she says, "there was a lot of confidentiality because they wanted to be the first ones to unveil the coins."

The first of her coins to become available, featuring the image of an Inuit mother with a baby in her amautik, catching a fish through the ice, is called "Mother Ice Fishing." The second coin in the series, called "Ice Fishing Father," features an Inuit man also pulling up a fish, with an igloo behind him. Anyone can order these coins from the Internet at www.mint.ca/store.

The trail also provides regular summer jobs for local youth 16 years of age and older. More than 30 young people have put in over 1,500 hours of physical labour, working with team leaders from the south in all kinds of weather including rain, high winds and the occasional summer snowfall.

This project was originally created to attract tourists to "a unique northern destination offering the opportunity to bike on top of the world." Nunaturlik Landholding also bought high-quality mountain bikes for tourists to rent, offering a pollution-free form of transportation. These bikes have also been used by students and summer camp participants to enjoy the trail as well.

The trail is located on the western side of the community, offering a spectacular 360 degree view of Wakeham Bay and its surroundings. It begins at the baseball diamond reaching an archaeological site at the 2.5 km point and continues to the summit for a total distance of 5.2 km. A bike race is held at the end of each summer for local participants. This year's race was dedicated to the memory of Anauta Alaku, a local youth who had put many hours of hard work into the project but died tragically at the end of the summer. The youngest race participant was nine-year-old Tiivi Kulula who completed the entire course!

Two videos about this project may be viewed on the Internet at vimeo.com and search for Kangiqsujuaq.
This fall, KRG unveiled a pre-feasibility study, completed by Salter Global Consulting, which shows that a long-term, viable, telecommunication solution is possible in Nunavik. KRG, through Tamaani Internet, provides broadband access to Nunavik via an older form of satellite technology that is extremely expensive. KRG estimates a 10-fold increase in Internet demand by 2016 and a 30-fold increase in demand by 2021. Attempting to meet these demands with the help of the current technology will increase the costs drastically and would require launching satellites dedicated only to the region.

The pre-feasibility determined that there are three feasible technologies to meet the goals: undersea optical fibre, microwave towers, and next-generation satellite. Several scenarios were also examined, in which two or more of these technologies would be used together to optimise the cost, performance and stability of the network. These scenarios have their own pros and cons but they all represent a step forward in finding the best long-term solution for Nunavik's telecommunication needs for the next 20 to 30 years.

Between 2005 and 2012, the total investment, including operational costs, reached $55-million. The federal government contributed $23.73-million and the provincial government, $6.2-million. The remaining $25.02-million was covered by KRG with $22.06-million (including operating costs) and Telesat with $2.96-million. Most of KRG's contribution was funded by the sale of broadband services accounts. Recently, the Quebec government committed to review the study and its future funding, and to support KRG in its talks with the federal government. Government funding is paramount for a timely and successful implementation of a new telecommunication solution in Nunavik.
NDP Leaders in Kuujjuaq

Last June 26, NDP leader, Thomas Mulcair and NDP MP for Abitibi—Baie-James—Nunavik—Eeyou, Romeo Saganash, paid a visit to Kuujjuaq. Besides a town-hall meeting where residents were able to publicly ask them questions, they also met with Makivik representatives, the local municipal council, and with members of the Tulattavik Health Centre. During their tour of the community, the NDP entourage visited the marinae infrastructure, for which funding is required for maintenance and improvements, and also checked out the prices of retail items at one of the local grocery stores.

The most pressing topic of discussion during the meeting at our Makivik office was the need for more social housing for Nunavik Inuit — a need that Makivik takes every helpful opportunity to express, and a problem that is rapidly growing along with our young population. The shortage of adequate housing creates an environment for the easy transmission of diseases, including tuberculosis, a lack of privacy, the inability for students to study, various forms of abuse and other negative consequences, including homelessness within our own communities and for many Inuit who resort to moving down south. It is not the first time that Nunavik leaders have voiced the need for adequate social housing with Romeo Saganash. It is hoped that Mulcair will raise his voice to the federal government on Nunavik’s housing shortage and high cost of living during his role as the Leader of the Official Opposition. And maybe even after he “forms the next federal government,” which he was so fond of repeating during his visit.
Our New Ship, the MV Mitiq

Makivik now owns 50% of four ships through our joint-venture company, Nunavut Eastern Arctic Shipping (NEAS). On July 19, 2013 the NEAS board of directors issued a press release to announce the arrival, inauguration and maiden Arctic navigation of its newest vessel in the NEAS sealift fleet — the MV Mitiq.

The MV Mitiq received its name as the winning entry in a naming contest held in Nunavik and Nunavut by NEAS.

The MV Mitiq arrived in Canada on July 1 and was inaugurated in special celebration at the Port of Valleyfield, Quebec, on July 5 before she departed July 7 on her maiden Arctic voyage. Loaded with essential resupply cargoes, the MV Mitiq stopped at communities across Nunavik and Nunavut, including Kangiqsujuaq, Iqaluit, Baker Lake and beyond.

Makivik’s vice-president for Economic Development, Michael Gordon is quoted in the press release: “The MV Mitiq is another example of NEAS active contribution to the sustainable social and economic development of Nunavik and Nunavut … The MV Mitiq is the fourth NEAS vessel with Inuit ownership. This is an historic achievement.” Michael is also the chairman of NEAS.

In addition to the MV Mitiq, the NEAS fleet of Inuit owned vessels includes the MV Umiavut,
The MV Mitiq was built in 1995 with a capacity of 730 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs). (‘TEU’ is an inexact unit of measurement derived from the number of 20-foot containers that cargo is packed into for shipping, which are very commonly seen in the north during the sealift season. These shipping containers are also hauled by transport trucks and trains in places where ground transport is available.) The MV Mitiq is a 137-metre ice Class-1, multi-purpose tweendecker that offers three combinable cranes of 60 tons. She is the sistership to the MV Qamutik (the largest in the NEAS fleet).
A picnic on the land, roasting hot dogs and making tea.

National Inuit Youth Summit in Kuujjuaq

By Elizabeth Annahatak
As a representative for Nunavik youth at the National Inuit Youth Council (NIYC), I was very glad to see a large representation from the Nunavik youth attending this summer’s Ninth National Inuit Youth Summit, in Kuujjuaq, from August 16 to 21, 2013. We had about 26 youth Nunavik delegates, attending from each community except for one. There were over 80 delegates altogether representing the Inuvialuit, Nunavut, Nunavik and Nunatsiavut regions of Canada.

The career showcase allowed the youth delegates to see a variety of opportunities within different regions (Adventure Canada, Makivik Corporation, NRBHSS, Avataq, ITK, Sivuniksavut, Students on Ice, CBC north,
Robert McLay performing at the talent show.

Inuit leaders spoke to the youth about ways to succeed in life.
First Air, Nunavut Government, Parks Canada, Youth Employment Services, KRPF, Canadian Forces, and the Arctic Children and Youth Foundation).

The 20 workshops and presentations, covering Youth Empowerment, Health and Mental Wellness, Career and Education Opportunities, Violence Prevention, Youth Committee development, Suicide Talk, Substance Awareness, Multi-Media and Photography, and Inuit Knowledge and Culture were quite educational.

We had a cultural day on the land, and engagement with Inuit elders from each region. Special activities included an “Inuit Got Talent” show, a documentary evening, a “World Café” with Inuit leaders and a community barbeque celebrating the re-opening of the Kuujjuaq Uvikkait Youth Centre.

We separated the delegation of youth by region. Each NIYC member led a discussion with our region’s youth and created a list of priority issues.

The priority issues for the youth of Nunavik were:
- Land and sea consultations with youth
- Greater youth representation at the political level as voting members
- Youth substance abuse
- The high cost of living
- The education system (the importance of a cultural curriculum as well as post-secondary issues)

The NIYC president, Thomas Anguti Johnston, then used the regional priorities to determine the areas of concern to guide the work of the NIYC at the national level.

Thomas became the new president of the NIYC following a vote by their members during this face-to-face meeting in Kuujjuaq. He has served as the NIYC representative for the Qikiqtaaluk Region of Nunavut since 2007 and was named the acting president in November after Jennifer Watkins of Kuujjuaq finished her term. Sarah Jancke of Cambridge Bay is the new Vice-President.

The national priorities for Inuit youth are:
- Education and research
- Culture and language
- Mental health, youth substance abuse and physical health
- Suicide
- Greater youth representation at the political level as voting members
- The high cost of living, poverty reduction and the housing shortage
- Infrastructure and youth facilities

Inuit leaders met with the delegates to discuss education, culture, and involvement in Inuit issues. Each topic was discussed between one leader and approximately six youth for 15 minutes. At the end of each discussion, youth would move to another table to speak to a different leader. The following leaders took part in the event: Makivik president, Jobie Tukkiapik, Johnny Peters and Mary Simon also shared their stories with the inuit youth from all across Canada.

Nancy Saunders amazed the audience with her powerful voice.

Dannella Okpik was another local talent show participant from the host community of Kuujjuaq.
Trust building was an important element of this workshop. Youth delegates and experienced leaders were divided into groups to brainstorm.

A throatsinging lesson.

Bob Aknavigak and Daniel Atatahak from the Kitikmeot region.
ITK president, Terry Audla, Nunatsiavut government president, Sarah Leo, Senator Charlie Watt, Kitikmeot Inuit Association vice-president, Bob Aknavigak, KRG chairperson, Maggie Emudluk, NRBHSS executive director, Minnie Grey, and Avataq president, Charlie Arngak.

Makivik vice-president, Johnny Peters, also spoke to the youth audience from the perspective of his many years of political and environmental service on behalf of the Inuit of Nunavik. Chair of the Amaujaq National Centre for Inuit Education, Mary Simon, gave a presentation on the National Strategy on Inuit Education where youth later were presented with an opportunity to voice out their concerns.

One of the highlights of this summit was the Inuit Politics and Leadership Panel. In this panel, Inuit leaders discussed their path to becoming engaged in politics. They provided advice, inspiration and encouragement to the youth delegates.

The Summit delegation voted on the location of the next National Inuit Youth Summit, which will be in Iqaluit in 2015.

Elizabeth Annahatak sits as a Nunavik representative at the National Inuit Youth Council, the president of the Saputiit Youth Association, and Makivik board member representing the youth of Nunavik.
Nunavik’s third regional Qanaq Youth Conference was held last summer in Kangiqsujuaq from July 1 to July 5, attended by approximately 90 participants. Workshop and plenary presentations on the agenda included anger management; “Decolonization—a Process”; elders’ storytelling; “Yes Nunavik”; a presentation by a young adult living with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder; Healing Theatre workshops; bullying awareness; finance and credit; the link between cannabis and schizophrenia; a play presented by the Avataq Cultural Institute; a panel discussion with JBNQA signatories; a presentation and discussion on mining development in Nunavik; and Parnasimautik.

The Qanaq steering committee speaks to a group of eager youth in the gymnasium.

Olivia Ikey asking questions to the JBNQA signatories.

Elena Berthe speaking to an audience of participants and community members.

Mary Kaye May of Nunalituqait Ikajuqatigiitut, speaking to the youth.
Nunavik Player

Name:
Kayla Meeko

Date of birth:
September 1, 1994

Place of birth:
Montreal

Home community:
Dorval

Role model:
My mother, Harriet

Favourite sport:
Hockey

Favourite food:
Caribou

Occupation:
Student

Future goal:
To be an elementary school teacher

Most difficult obstacle to overcome:
Fear of change

Pet peeves:
People who chew loudly and people who are rude for no apparent reason

During the closing events, fashion-show models displaying clothing designs by Winnie Nungak.
Qanaq participants attended a group session on parenting, presented by Jessica Arngak.

Group interactions during the parenting session.
The Traditional Parenting Workshop was back by popular demand, as were the teachings around anger and violence by well-respected trainer and psychotherapist, Dennis Wendigo. The youth were also grateful to the signatories of the JBNQA who made a presentation and answered questions regarding their early day experiences.

Qanaq is organized for youth, by youth and promotes Inuit youth aged 18 to 35 in society through informative workshops and trainings, empowerment, self-esteem and more.

There are five jam-packed days of workshops presentations and plenary discussions, meals and snacks together, ending with a fashion show and entertainment open to the community at large.

Focussing on topics that have been identified by youth as important and relevant to them, the Qanaq steering committee looks for ways and means to offer opportunities for youth to learn new skills, hear about new concepts, and explore Nunavik realities in Inuktitut with their peers.

Struggling to accommodate different characters, attitudes and work styles, the steering committee faces the same challenges seen everywhere in Nunavik—how to work together with what we have and succeed with everyone playing whatever part they can.

One of the Qanaq goals is to empower the youth of Nunavik to be more proactive in creating real change. The conference was formed when a group of Youth at the Nunalituqit Ikajuqatigiitut Inuit Association 2009 AGM said they wanted a youth conference. They said that youth needed to learn more about all the issues they are facing so, with the support of NIIA and Saputiit, some of them decided to take action and the Qanaq Conference was born.

The surrounding mountains of Kangiqsujuaq provided a compelling backdrop for the gathering, which was hosted in their school. Unlike most other organizations and symposiums, there is no individual chairperson or president who runs the Qanaq Conference. It is very much a team effort, with a steering committee of eight youth and one elder, with all participants taking responsibility and trying to keep each other accountable and every

The Avataq theatre group captivated the audience during the opening ceremonies.

A Qanaq security guard keeping an eye on things at the school in Kangiqsujuaq.

Eva Gunn voicing her thoughts to Idle No More presenter Shelly Young.

Charlie Arngak, Charlie Watt and Putulik Papigatuk enlightened the youth with a history lesson about the JBNQA.
Kakkinik Naluiyuk demonstrating how to cut up fish.

Presenter Shelly Young singing a traditional Mi'kmaq song while Jennifer May provides the beat.

Freshly steamed uviluks.
Nunavik Player

Name: Andrew Epoo
Date of birth: November 9, 1984
Place of birth: Montreal
Hometown: Inukjuak
Role models: My parents, Daniel and Lisa Epoo
Favourite sport: Weight lifting
Favourite food: Caribou roast
Occupation: Recreation technical assistance and development advisor for KRG
Future goal: To open my own restaurant
Most difficult obstacle to overcome: The passing of my brother
Pet peeve: When people sleep in.
Paule Lamarche, Elizabeth Annahatak and Wendy Ellis, getting the Saputiit books in order.
Getting the Saputiit Books and House in Order

Last summer the headquarters of the Saputiit Youth Association of Nunavik in Kuujjuaq moved from their older building to a brighter setting at the Nunavik Landholding Corporations Association's office complex. The decision to move was made by past Saputiit executives, who had already formalized arrangements with Landholding. The specific layout of the place was therefore built accordingly. The future for Saputiit is also looking brighter, following a couple of years of organizational dysfunction stemming from “inadequate bookkeeping and poor administration, resulting in a situation whereby Saputiit was no longer able to get its audited reports and past due reports to accompany the financial statements, by previous Saputiit managers,” Elisapee Annahatak says.

She was elected as the organization’s president in the winter of 2011. Elisapee explained that over $1.5-million for Nunavik youth is withheld by a Quebec government funding agreement until all of their records are brought up to date, including financial statements. “There was a complete lack of standard accounting practices within the financial system and no procedures in place to ensure financial accountability. If it is not straightened out by next April, the start of a new fiscal year, she says it will be almost $2-million,” she said.

Archivists Paule Lamarche and Wendy Ellis have been contracted to organize their files, to realize what necessary documentation already exists and what is still required. “The government put a demand on us to get our house in order. We took it very seriously,” Elisapee said. “The neglect of the administration and finances brought us to a deep place and it is hard to get out. The complete state of disorganization made it more challenging to find important documents.”

Elisapie was “struck” by Mathew Coon Com’s inspirational speech at Makivik’s last annual general meeting, where he talked about how well their Cree youth organization is doing and the large budget that they are responsible for. Last summer she also attended a Cree forum to see what led to their youth’s present success. She learned that the Cree youth, too, “once failed like us… their paper work was not coming out, uncontrolled spending.” Through the experience, the Cree Nation youth have also learned about how to function more efficiently and have become a respectable department within their Cree Regional Authority.

Saputiit presently functions on core funding provided through the Sanarrutik Agreement, which allows them to pay for the rent and the archiving project. Elisapee has been able to travel in Nunavik thanks to a complimentary pass from Air Inuit. “If the government is going to give us funding, we have to know where to find things. It is extremely important for this Association to have a reliable system in order to meet Saputiit’s objectives and responsibilities and to retrieve information quickly. The next steps are in revision to ensure that Saputiit gets its credibility back to ensure future instalments continue from the Quebec government.”

Mathew Coon Com speaking about the success of their Cree youth organization that also had to recover from inadequate management practices in the past.
Summer Beach Project 2013

Children have been swimming in Inukjuak for generations. Three years ago, Inukjuak youth trained in the babysitting course began working as beach supervisors to ensure the safety of children swimming. In 2011, Saputiit funds for babysitters at the Sungirtuivik Family House were used to hire the babysitters to guard the three beaches and provide healthy snacks for swimmers. In 2012 and 2013, Québec en Forme and KRG have provided funding to continue to hire summer students to work as beach guards. The Unaaq Men’s Association helped with the administration and beach equipment.

On warm days, there were around 100 to 130 swimmers. Mobilizing and working all together to help ensure the safety, warmth and health of many children swimming has proven to be a wonderful program.
MAKIVIK magazine
Motivated bike riders/helpers.

Learning the fine art of wheel alignments.
Rescuing Bicycles in Salluit

By Marc Beaulé, Québec en Forme

A bicycle repair course was conducted in Salluit from July 29 to August 17, which just might be the beginning of a new kind of sustainable community development project.

Salluit kids, like everywhere in the world, love to ride bicycles. I can certainly relate to this as I’ve loved bicycles for as long as I can remember and done my own repairs since age eight.

Kids here love bicycles and every year many of them get shiny new bicycles but sadly, every year, too many of them end up as roadside pollution, in the river or on the shore, after very little use because of “minor” problems like a warped wheel, a broken gear changer, missing nuts and bolts, etc.

Every time a bicycle ends up this way, it means one or more kids have lost a source of healthy summer fun. What’s worse, it creates acceptance of a sentiment of recurring loss that teaches kids and parents that this is just the way things are.

At the end of summer 2012, the project coordinator for the Salluit Summer Camp, Juliana Léveillé-Trudel, and IPL teacher at Ikusik High School, Maggie MacDonnell, noted that a surplus was available from the camp budget and decided, with collaboration from NV Salluit and Québec en Forme, to organise a bicycle repair course to empower them for their own repairs. A professional gave the course to IPL students in September 2012. That one-week training session became the groundwork for the 2013 project.

Last August, myself and another professional went to Nunavik to continue what
Launching off the qamutik jump in the bike park just outside the bike shop.
began in 2012. I am a bicycle shop owner and designer, for bicycle repair shop guidance. Ève Champagne-Thériault is a set designer and project manager who helped us build a bicycle park from recycled materials. During construction, happy faces on kids got municipal resources and equipment spontaneously mobilized to help build the bicycle track on a vacant lot. Many proudly participated in the building process.

Bicycle parts and professional tools were brought to improve the quality of the training and type of repairs done. The NV hired Elaijah Eetuk and Thomas Usuituayuk (participants of the first training session) for this summer and they could be the ones operating the shop when training is complete.

Uncertain of the space available for a proper bicycle shop setup, we used recycled materials to build a mobile workstation to rapidly be ready for work when and where needed. In the latter days of this year’s project Salluit’s Mayor Paulusie Saviadjuk and NV workshop manager, Marcel Belisle offered to give the project a permanent home in the future.

Finally, 10 bicycles were brought to test a bicycle-sharing program. For two weeks, kids and adults were able to use excellent bicycles for free and ride them in town, the bicycle park and on the land. Adults seeing youth on the bicycles said this program could help them get back in shape and that they would have liked to have this project around when they were young. The bicycles are at NV offices and will likely be around until the snow.

The challenge for 2014 is to see how community leaders and government institutions (such as the NV, Landholding, KRG, etc.) may take it upon themselves to work together to further develop this promising project.

Look for “Salluit Community Bike Project” on Facebook.
Δόσεις (HTTPs 4-20): Προσδοκήστε ότι η δόση θα είναι ένα από τα ακόλουθα: Δ'

ρες διατρέχοντας 4-20%, όπως ότι η δόση θα είναι μικρότερη από τις δόσεις που δοθηκαν έως προηγουμένως. Προσδοκήστε ότι η δόση θα είναι σχετικά μεγάλη, αλλά υπό συνθήκες που δοθηκαν έως προηγουμένως.

Δόσεις: Δοκιμάστηκαν οι δόσεις από το 2007 μέχρι το 2009. Δοκιμάστηκαν δύο δόσεις τριών και τέσσερις μέτρα. Αποτελέσματα: Δοκιμαστήκαν δύο δόσεις, καθώς και δύο δόσεις δύο μέτρα. Συνεχίστηκε το ανασκόπημα προς την έναρξη της δοκιμασίας 1.1.09 (περίπτωση του ΤΕΔ).
Avataq Archaeology School on Qikirtajuaq

A field diary by the Qikirtajuaq archaeology field school team

Organized by the Avataq Cultural Institute, this project was to permit Inuit to conduct their own research in documenting their history.

Photos: Pierre Desrosiers

Week 1 (July 14-20): Qikiqtarjuaq, Turkish style

It’s four degrees and windy, but the cold does not keep us from moving the field equipment to Qikiqtarjuaq, also known as Cape Smith, an island near Akulivik. Our tents are old; some were used for the first time in 2007 during another field school near Inukjuak. We are expecting the tents to be leaking, so we added some plastic tarp on top. The camp is at the foot of the valley that leads to the Kangiakallak 1 site (JeGn-2) where we are currently excavating.

We have a large kitchen tent that can seat 20 people around three tables. To get the tent roof high enough to walk around inside comfortably, we had to excavate the floor by 30 cm. There are some kitchen rules — you can only enter if you wash your hands first. Better be safe than sorry! On the menu this week: geese, arctic char, fresh mussels, and, of course, the traditional soup and sandwich.

The second largest tent is the lab. It is used for the storage of equipment and the artefacts. The students from Akulivik have middle-sized tents and the camp also includes individual tents. Last, but not least, we have a field toilet, a small tent, with a hole dug up and two pieces of wood on each side to stand on — “Turkish style” — or to be used with a toilet seat on legs if you like luxury. Some also prefer to take a walk or use nature’s own toilet at the tip of the island.

Week 2 (July 21-27): Some smelly ones

Kangiakallak 1 site (JeGn-2) was occupied initially by Dorset people who built winter houses characterized by shallow depressions, more or less rectangular in shape, and rarely more than 30 cm deep. Inuit later settled at the same site, at least 200 years ago. Their winter houses were different in that they were semi-subterranean with a tunnel entrance. They used the sod that was filled with Dorset artefacts for building their houses, which resulted in a mixing of material cultures by the time they were abandoned.

Akulivik students are currently learning all aspects of field work, such as mapping of the site, the excavation of squares, the collection of artefacts, including water sieving, and the pretreatment of artefacts in the field laboratory. Summer with Avataq is an intense experience, but as everything should have an end, the curfew is at 11:00 pm despite the bright
 года в 30.

В 2023 году была проведена региональная оценка состояния здоровья. Результаты показали, что:

- Частота сердечно-сосудистых заболеваний снизилась на 10%,
- Заболеваемость диабетом уменьшилась на 5%,
- Смертность от рака осталась неизменной,
- Количество случаев инфекционных заболеваний увеличилось на 2%.

Изменения были связаны с проведением профилактических мероприятий и улучшением условий жизни.

Также было отмечено, что:

- Уровень образования населения повысился,
- Количество молодежи, выбирающей здоровый образ жизни, увеличилось на 15%.

В целом, результаты оценки свидетельствуют о положительной динамике в области здравоохранения.

---

Доктор медицинских наук

----

2023 год
sun still on the horizon. The day starts at 8 am in the kitchen. Sometimes it is awfully quiet, but if ready, the students get pancakes, eggs, etc. Most students rush in around 8:45, however, just in time for a quick bowl of cereal or oatmeal, before climbing the hill to reach the site. Among the tasks for the day: drawing of artefacts in their original, undisturbed location and position ("in situ") at a scale of 1:10 or using our surveying instrument for measuring horizontal and vertical angles called a theodolite, which is a skill to be developed.

They also become researchers by doing their own study, including the documentation of the excavation and of the work of archaeologists by taking pictures and filming, asking questions or by observing. From morning to sometime late at night, our island is filled with laughing, storytelling and games during our spare time. There is nothing better than spending some good time without TV or Internet.

The nicest finding this week is probably the old sled runner inside a lake at the northwestern part of the island. The wood is amazingly well preserved with a fresh look, just like it had been carved a few days ago. By contrast, the ugliest findings of the week are the two excavated squares characterized by suspicious dirty grey sand, retaining the smell of hundreds of years old igunaq (fermented sea mammal). Apparently they forgot their last snack before moving to their spring camp.

One of the things that unfortunately almost always happen while camping is that things break, which makes your life uncomfortable. But Simon, our handyman, can fix almost anything. With the music festival going on in Akulivik, the week was composed of archaeology during the day and music at night. It was an eventful week, with mosquitoes, loud music, excavation squares getting deeper and deeper, long life uncomfortable. Like an air mattress that loses its air, or a zipper of the field toilet that no longer preserves your privacy. But Simon, our handyman, can fix almost anything.

With the music festival going on in Akulivik, the week was composed of archaeology during the day and music at night. It was an eventful week, with mosquitoes, loud music, excavation squares getting deeper and deeper, long life uncomfortable. Like an air mattress that loses its air, or a zipper of the field toilet that no longer preserves your privacy. But Simon, our handyman, can fix almost anything.

One important aspect of the project concerns a team of geographers from Laval University's Centre for Northern Studies. They are Najat Bhiry, Dominique Todisco, Sebastien Lafrance and Annie-Pier Trottier. They are studying the land formation process in the surrounding area of the site. They also study how the archaeological sites have been buried in the ground. One of the interesting aspects of their study is the abundant presence of drift wood on the site used for the construction of the houses. Where did this wood originate? How and where was it collected?

The students worked with Jessica Kotierk of the Canadian Conservation Institute, who introduced them to the treatment and cleaning of the artefacts in the field laboratory. It is meticulous work, but takes place far from the mosquitoes or the cold wind. They made PowerPoint presentations with the many great pictures they took, with University of Montreal teacher, Irene Rahm.

The students washed their own dishes after eating, which was a relief for the cook, Laina Anauta. At night, they played games, listened to presentations, made jokes, and sometimes, after curfew, raided the kitchen for a midnight snack. In brief, nothing unusual for a long camping field school.

The day can sometimes be boring, uncovering many similar bones, then sieving, and then excavating again, while being a treat to the large hordes of mosquitoes — just minutes after your own blood and body is getting back to life, given its previous frozen state due to the cold wind. All this became the daily routine, until… a harpoon head suddenly popped up in one of the squares! This was enough to light the flame again. And the archaeology fever was back, with students accelerating their excavation work with the hope of finding more. And again, it paid off. Just the next day, another harpoon head! As we say, all good things come in threes, so much more to come next week for sure.

Juanasi Qaqutuq and Simon Echalook, our hunter-guide and assistant, made an interesting discovery while emptying the fish net. One fish had two starfish stuck to it. When removing them, they found a big hole in the fish, so definitely stars eat fish.

**Week 3 (July 28- August 3):**

The “Avataq School” not only consists of learning how to excavate a site. It is also about presentations held in our kitchen tent, especially when the weather is uncooperative. So far, the students have been introduced to the local history by Juanasi Qaqutuq. They learned about a recent project concerning Nunatop (place name database) by Avataq archaeologist, Elsa Cencig. Another Avataq archaeologist, Pierre Desrosiers, presented a history of archaeology in Nunavik and ancient people of the Arctic. Also a university student from Switzerland, Ruth Mienert, provided an introduction to Syrian prehistory.

The students washed their own dishes after eating, which was a relief for the cook, Laina Anauta.

The day can sometimes be boring, uncovering many similar bones, then sieving, and then excavating again, while being a treat to the large hordes of mosquitoes — just minutes after your own blood and body is getting back to life, given its previous frozen state due to the cold wind. All this became the daily routine, until… a harpoon head suddenly popped up in one of the squares! This was enough to light the flame again. And the archaeology fever was back, with students accelerating their excavation work with the hope of finding more. And again, it paid off. Just the next day, another harpoon head! As we say, all good things come in threes, so much more to come next week for sure.

Juanasi Qaqutuq and Simon Echalook, our hunter-guide and assistant, made an interesting discovery while emptying the fish net. One fish had two starfish stuck to it. When removing them, they found a big hole in the fish, so definitely stars eat fish.

**Week 4 (August 4-10): The unexpected**

One important aspect of the project concerns a team of geographers from Laval University’s Centre for Northern Studies. They are Najat Bhiry, Dominique Todisco, Sebastien Lafrance and Annie-Pier Trottier. They are studying the land formation process in the surrounding area of the site. They also study how the archaeological sites have been buried in the ground. One of the interesting aspects of their study is the abundant presence of drift wood on the site used for the construction of the houses. Where did this wood originate? How and where was it collected? These are some of these questions currently under study.

One of the things that unfortunately almost always happen while camping is that things break, which makes your life uncomfortable. Like an air mattress that loses its air, or a zipper of the field toilet that no longer preserves your privacy. But Simon, our handyman, can fix almost anything.

With the music festival going on in Akulivik, the week was composed of archaeology during the day and music at night. It was an eventful week, with mosquitoes, loud music, excavation squares getting deeper and deeper, long
Λάρνακα 4-10 (Αυγούστου 4-10): σταθμός 3
Οικία Λαμπρόπουλος Δ. Καλπάκη στο Σάμο
και ο Σταθμός 3 της ΜΑΤ στο Νέμι.

Λάρνακα 5-11 (Αυγούστου 11-17):
Για τον Σταθμό 5-11 (11-17) οι οικισμοί της ΜΑΤ στην Καρπάθο και η ΜΑΤ στο Νέμι.
evenings, early mornings with small eyes, but also a series of amazing discoveries. In the middle of the Inuit winter house, under a series of layers containing mainly Dorset artefacts, bones and burn fat, we discovered a layer of fresh bones lying just on the surface of the floor. The bones are so fresh that some still show signs of putrefaction. Among them was an amazing piece, a handle, probably of a panak (snow knife), with an incised motif. Finally, just before we left this Friday, we found a piece of fur skin underneath.

One of the questions archaeologists most often get is: “What would you consider an amazing discovery?” Probably the best answer is, “The unexpected.”

Week 5 (August 11-17): Skin Care and Display

The last week was a frantic one amazing discovery after another. With these discoveries comes the responsibility of preserving and of properly recording each of them. Caring for hairy rotten skin, just unfrozen after hundreds of years, was a problem we had to face after unearthing patches of skin fur stuck onto the paved stone floor of the excavated qarmaq (sod house). Jessica slowly detached the bottom of the skin from the stone and slid plastic underneath it. It was then possible to slide a plastic board and lift it.

Two activities were held during the final week of our excavation. First, on the previous Sunday, a religious service was organized on the island followed by a guided tour at the site by Avataq archaeologist, Tommy Weetaluktuk. A presentation of the preliminary results from the excavation and an exhibit of artefacts were also organized on Friday at the Tukisiniarvik School. Numerous people attended the two activities. Among the items on display were some of the last week’s discoveries, including a stone knife with a wooden handle, a needle, a baleen string with a knot, a large harpoon head, and a wooden doll.
This project would not have been possible without the support of Akulivik people and our 12 Akulivik students: Louisa Aullaluk, Ittuvik Anautak, Simionie Qinuajuak, Maggie Irqumia, Sandy Qungisiruk-Iyaituk, Timangiak Novalinga, Jeannie Qinuajuak, Laura Aliqu, Thomas Alayco, Lucassie Aullaluk, Illutak Anautak and Nancy Alayco. The Akulivik students were hired thanks to the KRG summer jobs program.

The Qekeirriaq Landholding Corporation provided transportation, the Kativik School Board provided a house and the opportunity to do a presentation at the school, and the support of the NV was also greatly appreciated. The camping food, equipment, etc., part of the transportation, and other funding to get students involved in the preservation and documentation of their history was provided by the Canadian government's Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. A research grant was also provided by France-based Institut polaire français.
Each of the Nunavik communities held celebrations to celebrate Air Inuit’s thirty-fifth anniversary. In Kuujjuaq, Makivik director Sammy Koneak presents Willie Ningiuruvik with a BINGO prize of return tickets for two on Air Inuit to watch an NHL hockey game in Montreal, including three nights at a hotel.
In my last semester at LaSalle College studying Fashion Design, I had to start thinking of ways to gain experience in the field. Nunavik Creations in Montreal was a perfect option for my interests and training, so I applied as a Summer Challenge student.

I was excited and nervous when I got accepted. It was exciting to get an opportunity to work for Nunavik Creations and, at the same time, it made me nervous to actually be working after studying for years at LaSalle.

As a summer student, I was a seamstress and workshop assistant. I learned a lot of things in a short period of time, such as how to use their fur machine, how to make seal skin leg warmers and other sewing techniques. Also, I got to design a few parkas, and assisted in the production of pukluks and pattern. I even got the chance to make Arctic Winter Games parkas as well. I'm honored that I got to work with the amazing and talented women who are part of the Nunavik Creations team; they work hard to keep this company going.

After my experience, I am proud to have taken part in Nunavik Creations as a Nunavimmiuq. It is amazing that these beautiful creations are coming from Nunavik. It makes our traditional culture alive and makes our region rich in beauty by creating traditional Inuit clothing in a modern way. It made me want to be part of the Nunavik Creations team in the near future. I would like to thank Nunavik Creations, Makivik and the Kativik Regional Government for this opportunity. I look forward to working with you in the future.

Winifred Nungak

A Nunavik Creations Summer Challenge

It was a pleasure to have Winifred work with the Nunavik Creations team in Montreal. She shows exceptional talent in design, technical applications with her drawing, pattern making and her sewing abilities. Her designs are well thought out and her meticulous work to details makes her designs classically beautiful. She has a bright future ahead of her as a designer. The Nunavik Creations team sincerely hopes she will come back to work with us. Until then, we wish her well and all the success that is coming her way.

The Nunavik Creations Team
Trichinella Diagnosis Program

MANON SIMARD
Why Sampling Matters

The Nunavik Research Centre (NRC) routinely asks hunters to provide samples from the animals they harvest. Some of these samples are needed for population studies; others for contaminant analysis. The advice given to managers is poor without the information gained from the samples, therefore there is always a need at the NRC for samples.

Often many other researchers are interested in samples from the harvest. We try to limit what is asked of hunters. Our motto is “The more you ask for, the less you get.” We make full use of the samples we receive and we make sure the hunters are paid for their work.

People are always interested in hearing the results and want to learn about them soon after the end of the study. Results, though, vary in how long they take to be produced. NRC’s Trichinella Diagnosis Program produces results within 24 hours of receiving walrus samples. Some heavy metal analyses can be done quickly, but it usually takes a few months as the animals also have to be aged using hard parts from the body such as teeth, ear bones or scales. As we do not give out health advice, the contaminant results are given to the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services Health Board for distribution.

We send out sampling kits to coordinators in each community when samples are needed. Completed kits are returned to us and the hunter is paid from Makivik’s Kuujjuag office. Usually we wait until we have received many samples before we start analysis. The NRC has many types of freezers that preserve the samples. Long term storage is in our -70°C freezer.

The NRC provides results in the form of pamphlets, posters or verbally through FM radio. Results also appear here in Makivik Magazine. We stopped producing paper reports as it was expensive to do and also we would sometimes find them undistributed, hidden under a table at a community’s CNV! As Nunavik goes more and more electronic, NRC will start to post results on the Internet.

The NRC sampling program also goes beyond Nunavik with the work we do with the Northern Contaminants Program that stretches from the Inuvialuit Region to Nunavik and Labrador.

Some communities participate in the sampling program and some do not. We thank those that do and encourage those that don’t to please start working with us.
Keira’s Singing Talent

Keira Gadbois is eight years old and she started singing when she was two. She loves singing and she loves music. She sang “Party in the USA” at the National Inuit Youth Conference talent show and she won the first prize for her age group. Keira likes that song because of the beat and it sounds so happy. And Miley Cyrus is her favourite singer.
Amy May looks up in amazement at her throat-singing teacher, Akinisie Sivuarapik, during their performance at the Aqpik Jam Festival in Kuujjuaq.