

1986 Annual



Report 1987



PAUKTUUTIT

Inuit Women's Association

CORRECTION

P.15 English Version

Under Northern Quebec concerns, 2nd Paragraph
should read...representative of the Ungava Bay
region...

Contributors

The Inuit Women's Association would like to thank the
following for their generous contributions towards our
Annual General Meeting.

Air Inuit Ltd.
Calm Air International Ltd.
Bradley Air Services Ltd.
Hamlet Council — Spence Bay
Health and Welfare Canada
Indian & Inuit Nurses of Canada
Inuit Tapirisat of Canada
Jetset Travels
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Drug Abuse Program (NNADAP)
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Thank-You

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President's Message

I thank the voters for the confidence they have shown in me. Since my election to the Presidency of Pauktuutit at the Spence Bay Annual General Meeting in April 1987, I have given much thought to Pauktuutit's aims and objectives. I have come to realize that all of Pauktuutit's achievements depend on attaining the Association's first objective: "To unite the Inuit women of Canada." Pauktuutit is only as strong as the unity of Inuit women.

We have already seen, through three years of operations and three general assemblies, that Inuit women are voicing their concerns. Problems raised at the 1987 Annual General Meeting such as substance abuse, pornography, family violence, child sexual abuse, and issues such as midwifery and the delivery of health and social services, require concerted action on our part. We must organize women's groups in all Inuit communities and at the regional level in the Northwest Territories, Northern Quebec and Labrador, so that Inuit women can intervene on these matters at the local, regional and national levels.

Organization must go hand in hand with communication. There is a pressing need to improve communication between the national and local level Inuit women's groups. Local women's groups have to know that they are not alone in their endeavours, and the national office must be guided by local and regional needs. Communication is the key to co-operation and by working together we will achieve our aims and objectives.

At the 1981 Annual General Meeting of the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada in Nain, Labrador, I made a presentation outlining the reason why the Inuit women of Canada should have their own organization. That meeting gave us a mandate; by way of resolution, to work towards that goal.

I was involved in the initial organizational work for the Inuit Women's Association of Canada. It was then that I began to understand the importance of women's networks. The women who were involved in laying the groundwork for Pauktuutit with me deserve special recognition: Mary Simon, Leah D'Argencourt, Minnie Freeman, Eeta Kanajuk, Annie Padlo, Betty Brewster and Meeka Kilabuk.

The first proposal we put forward was to hire a full-time co-ordinator to work towards the establishment of the national office. The co-ordinator we hired was Jeela Moss-Davies who became the first president. Through a network of common goals and communication we founded the Inuit Women's Association of Canada. Through networks of support, women in the North can learn from each other, seek change from governments, and share their knowledge, experience and resources. A network of women's groups all across the North will ensure the strength of each Inuit women's group as well as the strength of Pauktuutit.

In view of these ambitious plans, we are fortunate to have a Board of Directors which can carry the load. Since April, I have had occasion to see the Pauktuutit directors in action at a board meeting. I was very proud to learn that our directors are strong, vocal, and capable women committed to improving the well-being of their people. Together we will be able to work honourably towards Pauktuutit's aims and objectives. Congratulations to the Board.

The work to implement the 1987 resolutions has already begun at the national office. Currently, Pauktuutit is applying for recognition as a charitable organization by Revenue Canada. A charitable status number will facilitate fund-raising for worthwhile projects. Meanwhile, however, proposals have been written and are underway for government funding to implement the resolution on child sexual abuse and to engage in an information project on midwifery.

The national office has been re-organized to ensure that we can deliver maximum efforts with our limited resources. We have a responsibility to make Pauktuutit an instrument of positive change. I am looking forward to fulfilling the potential of Pauktuutit with the guidance of our Board of Directors, and the Inuit women of Canada.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Sillett



Pauktuutit Aims and Objectives

Pauktuutit Inuit Women's Association of Canada

Pauktuutit, the Inuit Women's Association of Canada is a national non-profit organization representing all Canadian Inuit Women.

Our mandate is to foster a greater awareness of the needs of Inuit women and to encourage their participation in community, regional and national concerns in relation to social, cultural and economic development.

The aims and objectives of the Inuit Women's Association of Canada are:

- 1) To unite the Inuit women of Canada;
- 2) To act and be recognized as the official representative for Inuit women;
- 3) To familiarize our children with Inuit values, heritage, culture and language;
- 4) To work towards better conditions for all Inuit women;
- 5) To motivate Inuit women to realize their potential as individuals and as a collective group;
- 6) To promote self-confidence and self-reliance amongst Inuit women;
- 7) To encourage Inuit women to take their rightful place in society;
- 8) To work for the betterment of individual, family and community conditions through social and economic action;
- 9) To promote the rights of Inuit women and children;
- 10) To push for equality of Inuit women in all levels of Canadian governmental/non-governmental structures;
- 11) To encourage the involvement of Inuit women in all levels of Canadian society; and
- 12) To encourage communication between Inuit women and all aboriginal peoples.



1987/88 IWA Board of Directors

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Ottawa, Ontario



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The Year in Review



Highlights

- It has been a very busy year for local women's groups. New groups are being established and they are voicing their concerns on issues ranging from midwifery to child sexual abuse. Inuit women are being heard through Pauktuutit and priorities are being set as we look toward the future.

- Earlier this year, Eva Voisey and Bernadette Immaroitok, the former vice-president of Pauktuutit, met with former Secretary of State Minister Benoit Bouchard to discuss Association concerns and priorities. Pauktuutit members brought up the need for increased funding for travel to the communities to address priorities. The meeting was both meaningful and informative.

Efforts are being made this year to hire fieldworkers for the regions to increase the effectiveness of local women's groups in their efforts to increase the quality of life for all Inuit women. Pauktuutit will continue to work closely with Secretary of State.

- During the summer, Eva Voisey toured the Keewatin to consult with people in the communities about childbirth practices and facilities. Several medical staff members from the hospital in Churchill, Manitoba, as well as a doctor from the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Medicine travelled with her. The tour provided Pauktuutit with the opportunity to discuss concerns and to push for action on a resolution passed in Igloodik in January, 1985. The resolution called for the recognition of midwifery in the North. A second tour was scheduled for late summer.
- Also during 1986, Pauktuutit participated in the Task Force on Inuit Management Development. The Task Force formed a co-ordinating group, called the ATII Co-ordinating Group, and the Association acts as a group advisor. The priorities of the Group, which is administered by ITC, are to develop and implement professional training programs and workshops on Inuit management development.
- Pauktuutit continued its work with the *Women In Conflict With the Law (WICL)* program and participated in a national conference in Winnipeg in June, 1986. A number of resolutions were passed at the meeting, but one in particular expresses the need for a national conference on aboriginal people in conflict with the law. It also states that funding should be made available for this endeavour.
- Eva Voisey represented Pauktuutit at the National Native Advisory Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (NNACADA) meetings. The Council was established in

1982 and its primary purpose is to develop policies and to provide advice towards improving the National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program.

- Community Health Representatives (CHRs) from across Canada held their first national conference in Calgary, Alberta in June. Shirley Kisoun attended on behalf of Pauktuutit. Among the major concerns expressed by those who attended the conference were the continued need for employment and training.
- Pauktuutit attended the first Native Business Summit in Toronto in June, 1986. Participants met with a cross-section of native and non-native business leaders and professionals from across the country to exchange information on housing and real estate development, native business development, resources and economic development and the International Congress on Finance and Trade. A Summit trade show emphasized native achievements.
- Eva Voisey and Mary Simon, Pauktuutit's Constitutional advisor, continued their work on the Constitution. Both women attended the Inuit Committee on National Issues meetings to prepare for the final First Ministers' Conference on Aboriginal and Constitutional Matter in March, 1987. (They also attended the First Ministers' Conference in March.)
- Pauktuutit addressed health issues by working with Martha Greig, ITC's health co-ordinator (Martha Greig was transferred from ITC to Pauktuutit in 1987). In 1986, Health and Welfare Canada was given responsibility, for a five-year period, to facilitate initiatives for the prevention of child sexual abuse. Monies were made available to support these initiatives and Pauktuutit submitted proposals to ensure that Inuit would also benefit.
- In July, 1986 Pauktuutit attended a meeting of the Nutrition Committee, Medical Services Branch, Health and Welfare Canada, regarding the distribution of sample nutritional awareness activity kits to Indian and Inuit schools.
- Eva Voisey attended the fourth Inuit Circumpolar Conference in Kotzebue, Alaska in July, 1986. Mary Simon, Pauktuutit's constitutional co-ordinator, was the first Canadian and woman elected president of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference (ICC).
- In October, 1986 Eva Voisey was appointed to the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women by



Barbara McDougall, the Minister Responsible For The Status Of Women. The Council is comprised of 27 members who each serve a three-year term. Their role is to represent the concerns, values and goals of all Canadian women.

- In the fall, work began on the Association's Annual General Meeting in Spence Bay, NWT. One delegate was invited from each Inuit community. Pauktuutit approached possible funding sources for assistance and a local co-ordinator was hired.
- A *Community Development-Health Needs Assessment* workshop to address community health needs was held

in February, 1987. The two-day workshop, in Ottawa, was attended by the Association's board of directors and staff. The workshop assisted the directors with development work in their communities.

- Pauktuutit members attended a three-day, national workshop on child sexual abuse held by the Indian and Inuit Nurses Association of Canada, entitled, *National Consultation on Child Sexual Abuse—'What Can Be Done?'*. The workshop addressed the causes and effects of child sexual abuse on victims and perpetrators and methods of prevention. It was an initial attempt to identify the scope of the problem.

Report on the Third Annual General Meeting Spence Bay, April 6 to 8, 1987



Introduction

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is a forum where Inuit women from all across the North can exchange information and ideas on matters that concern them. The AGM is designed to provide the membership with an opportunity to review the work that Pauktuutit has done on behalf of Inuit women in the past, and to provide direction to Pauktuutit for the upcoming year.

Health and Social Issues

The theme of Pauktuutit's Third Annual General Meeting was health and social issues. Discussions focussed on:

- substance abuse
- pornography
- the delivery of social services
- health and the delivery of medical services
- family violence
- child sexual abuse
- midwifery

Inuit women from the Northwest Territories, Northern Quebec and Labrador agreed that many social problems can be alleviated by:

- acting at the community level through the local women's groups;
- creating community awareness of the issues;
- relying on the wisdom of Inuit elders for guidance;
- encouraging young people to get an education and to become involved in creating solutions to social problems;
- recruiting Inuit into the helping professions.

Women, as well as men, share responsibility for the social well-being of their people. Women should also concern themselves with helping men who have problems.

Local women's groups can undertake the following tasks:

- meet regularly to discuss issues of importance to women;
- send activity reports to Pauktuutit in order to facilitate co-ordination and the exchange of information;
- send their concerns about health to Martha Greig, Health Coordinator, Inuit Tapirisat of Canada;
- contact Pauktuutit, request support when needed and ask for research and studies on issues of concern to them;
- talk to MLAs, education societies, and community councils about problems and recommend improvements to them.



Spence Bay, NWT.



Marilyn and David Belleau of Alkali Lake, British Columbia.

Substance Abuse

Pauktuutit invited Edda Grant, National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program (NNADAP) communications officer, to address the AGM delegates. Delegates learned about NNADAP funding and about prevention, treatment, training and research in the field of substance abuse. The future of the treatment of substance abusers lies in a holistic approach to counselling abusers and their entire families.

Edda Grant also provided information on solvent abuse, a lethal and worldwide problem. After two years of study on the subject, it has been discovered that the majority of solvent abusers come from homes where there are problems either with alcohol, family violence or drugs. She informed delegates about the symptoms and effects of solvent abuse.

Delegates' views on effective solutions to the problem of substance abuse focussed on individual responsibility on the part of women and men towards their families, as well as on the need for human resources like family counsellors and substance abuse prevention education.

Delegates also heard from Marilyn and David Belleau of Alkali Lake, British Columbia. Alkali Lake is an Indian

reserve which has been transformed, by its people, from a seriously-afflicted drinking reserve to one that is dry. The Belleau's told delegates that essential elements in the healing of the Alkali Lake community were: a community spirit and willingness to help; control over social assistance; and the removal of alcohol from the community.

Pornography

The Advisory Council on the Status of Women defines pornography as a presentation, in any media, of sexual behaviour in which people are physically or psychologically abused and forced into participation, and in which there is an obvious imbalance between age and sex. Pornography usually depicts cruelty and violence towards women or children who are represented in situations where they are helpless.

Pauktuutit delegates heard from Jennifer Rigby, Women's Secretariat, Government of the Northwest Territories. The Territorial Government is proposing legislations which will allow municipal, hamlet, and settlement councils to write their own by-laws to control pornographic materials in their communities.

Jennifer Rigby also provided suggestions for those women who want to take immediate action in their communities. They can refuse to have pornographic materials in their homes; supervise the children's TV program selections and be aware of their children's whereabouts and activities; find out what pornographic materials are available in the communities; inform local storeowners and others about their feelings; attend local community council meetings to ask for change; and write to MLAs and MPs.

Delegates said that the dissemination of pornography should be prevented, whenever possible. Pornographic videos in the communities are of particular concern. Inuit women believe in educating people, especially children, against the message of pornography, through public meetings and workshops.

The Delivery of Social Services

Pauktuutit invited Jane Reese, child welfare worker with the Newfoundland Department of Social Services, to give a presentation on her work in Hopedale, Labrador. Her experience tells her that the best way to help and to counsel people is to build self-confidence in sufferers and to make them understand that there is someone who cares. It is also important to inform them that there are options available to them.



Jennifer Rigby (left) of the GNWT Women's Secretariat talks to Jane Reese, a child welfare worker from Hopedale, Labrador.

Maggie Annanack, a Pauktuutit board member and community worker in George River, Northern Quebec, provided information on her work which involves victims of spousal abuse and teenagers in conflict with the law. She talked about Social Services' policy with respect to young offenders and abused children. Parents are always consulted in cases of child apprehension. However, often the parents of children who come to the attention of Social Services are not involved enough.

Maggie also talked about children who are repeatedly told, in one way or another, that they are worthless. Eventually these children believe it and get into trouble, she said. Social workers try to resolve these problems by counselling the young people.

One of the major points of discussion by delegates was the role of social workers in the North. Their work is to help people with such matters as adoption and social assistance, and to provide counselling and crisis intervention, among other functions.

Often, however, measures taken by non-native social workers to solve family problems have disruptive effects on

the community by dividing families. Delegates were particularly concerned about social workers' child apprehension powers. Social workers should take guidance from elders in the communities where they work. Greater trust should be placed in Inuit ways of resolving family problems.

Delegates said that Inuit need to know their rights with respect to family law. They also expressed a need for information on how to counsel young girls who have been sexually abused. In cases of sexual assault, the offender, rather than the victim, should be removed from the community.

Delegates felt that young offenders should be tried by local justices of the peace who understand the community, instead of the youth court. There is also a need for better communication between parents and social workers with respect to young offenders.

Health and the Delivery of Medical Services

Jean Goodwill, president of the Indian and Inuit Nurses' Association (IINA), spoke to the delegates about IINA and provided information on health care training programs and medical studies scholarships for native people.



Jean Goodwill, president of the Indian and Inuit Nurses Association of Canada.



Martha Greig, Pauktuutit's Health Co-ordinator informed delegates of the findings of her 1987 research on the concerns of 37 northern health committees. Concerns included the accessibility of medical services; drug and alcohol abuse; Inuktitut terminology for parts of the human body for medical interpreters; cultural orientation for doctors and nurses; improved communication between medical professionals and health committees; suicide; sexual assault; and nutrition.

Greig emphasized that everybody, regardless of race, has a right to see a doctor and get a physical check-up. People also have a right to a second opinion. Inuit must insist upon having their needs met, instead of remaining silent in the presence of medical professionals.



Martha Greig, Pauktuutit's health co-ordinator.

Ann Mikkijuk-Hanson, representing the Baffin Regional Hospital Board, also addressed the delegates. She provided information on the devolution of health services to the Government of the Northwest Territories and on Baffin Region health concerns. She also talked about the Baffin Regional Hospital Board philosophy, which includes the following principles:

1) Individuals have a right to the best health care services possible and they have a right to understand the services that they receive;

2) Communities have a right to know about health care services and have a right to participate in decisions relating to community health care services.

Inuit are gradually becoming more involved in the decision-making processes regarding health care services. The Baffin Regional Hospital Board consists of representatives from all 14 Baffin Region communities. The Board has discussed the need for certified nursing assistant (CNA) courses at Arctic College. It is in the process of finding training opportunities for CNAs in Iqaluit. The Board's goal is to train Inuit nurses and doctors because there are none at this time. Also, members are encouraging Inuit youth to join the hospitals as candy strippers so that they may develop an interest in pursuing careers in medical professions.

Delegates discussed their concerns with respect to health and the delivery of health services and made recommendations for improvements. A major issue during these discussions was the accessibility of medical services to Inuit. Medical specialists such as chiropractors, dentists, heart specialists, optometrists and general practitioners do not stay in the communities long enough, nor do they visit frequently enough. The result is that some people who need medical attention do not get it.

Some women said that men do not get physical check-ups as often as women because they are hesitant to seek help when they feel pain. Also, older people are sometimes reluctant to get medical attention. Young people, however, are more outspoken and less intimidated by *Qallunaaq* and they have their illnesses diagnosed.

There was concern about the number of illnesses today related to lifestyle and environment, for example, bacteria in plastic-wrapped food, smoking, alcohol, drugs, and snuff. Parents should teach children some basic health habits and give them the knowledge to lead healthy lives.

Pauktuutit delegates discussed the need for Inuit to enter the health care field as paraprofessionals and professionals. Inuit have very little involvement in these fields at present and, where they are involved, their skills are misused and are not given legitimacy by health officials. Items discussed included:

- the use of medical interpreters as secretaries in many communities; and women in the health field are too often used as interpreters and secretaries;
- the need for proper terminology and training in interpreting, especially with respect to body parts, for medical interpreters;



- the need to revive the Community Health Representative (CHR) program.

Inuit living in Goose Bay, Labrador who receive social assistance are ineligible for assistance with non-insured medical services, such as dentures and eyeglasses, unlike Inuit who live in northern Labrador.

Family Violence

Pauktuutit arranged for Iris McCracken to speak to Inuit women about the Task Force on Spousal Assault which tabled its report to the NWT Legislative Assembly in 1985. She also spoke about the GNWT Department of Social Services Family Violence Program.

The GNWT spousal assault policy is to discourage family violence; to protect and offer safety to family violence sufferers; and to offer counselling and rehabilitation to sufferers. To this end, the GNWT supports and encourages community development programs. The goal of the Department of Social Services is to eliminate spousal assault in the NWT within the next 5-10 years. Realization of this goal requires total community involvement, McCracken told the delegates.

Delegates raised concerns about the readiness of RCMP officers to respond to family crisis situations, and about the accessibility of RCMP in general. In some communities, they said, answering machines are used at the RCMP stations. There is sometimes a problem with the availability of Inuktitut-speaking personnel, as well.

Delegates felt that women and men are responsible for causing family violence and counselling should be offered to both victims and assaulters.

Child Sexual Abuse

Child sexual abuse is sexual contact with a child who is incapable of understanding or resisting that contact and who is financially or psychologically dependent upon the abuser.

Pauktuutit invited Barbara Round, Department of Health, Government of the Northwest Territories, to talk to the assembly about child sexual abuse. The Department of Health operates a Family Life Program which focusses on education and prevention. A staff of three will travel to the communities to offer workshops to teachers on child sexual abuse. The teachers are informed on how to provide



Barbara Round (at left, inside circle) of the GNWT Department of Health participates in a Baffin workshop.



Left to right: Leslie Ann Paulette, Betty-Ann Putt and Jennifer Righy.

ongoing links with victims, offenders and a local person. The staff will also talk to teachers and the community groups about prevention. The program is taught at schools if it is accepted by local education authorities. To date, only two of the fifteen communities that the staff has visited have accepted the program.

Often, child sexual abusers are in positions of trust and it is difficult to accept that a person in a position of trust would abuse a child. Barbara Round provided some helpful information on detection of child sexual abuse. When children seem to be making hints or showing signs that there is a problem, women should be straight forward and ask them if they have a problem. It is important to pay attention to unspoken or indirect messages children may be sending. Studies show that children tell an average of nine people about abuse before they are believed or before something is done.

Delegates felt that public awareness of, and education on, child sexual abuse are lacking in the North. Parents and schools should be involved in creating awareness of the problem. Women have a responsibility to inform young people about child sexual abuse.

Some delegates said that offenders should be imprisoned and receive counselling. Sentencing of child sexual abusers is not

severe enough. There have been cases of child sexual abuse involving parents, teachers, and social workers, Inuit and non-Inuit.

Midwifery

Pauktuutit delegates listened to a presentation by Leslie Ann Paulette, Childbirth Resources, Alberta (near Fort Smith, NWT). She spoke about midwifery and the difficulties facing midwives in Canada. She also talked about the advantages and disadvantages of women's reliance on hospitals. Paulette's training involves teaching women about choices. There is no support in the North for women who want to have their babies at home.

Betty-Ann Putt, representing the Association of Ontario Midwives, addressed Pauktuutit delegates on traditional midwifery. She emphasized the importance of passing on the knowledge of midwives from generation to generation. Also, she explained that the current health system encourages women to turn over all responsibility to health professionals and that women's intuition with respect to pregnancies is underdeveloped. The Association of Ontario Midwives offers their support to Pauktuutit. They can provide information on the legalities and problems in obtaining recognition of midwives.



Many of the women who attended the AGM have midwifery experience. The discussions provided an opportunity to delegates to share their knowledge and experience. They talked about procedures as well as healthy behaviour for pregnant women. Delegates are concerned that the knowledge of Inuit women with respect to delivering babies is not being passed on to younger women because births occur inside hospitals today and are attended by doctors and nurses only. This is yet another aspect of Inuit culture that could die with the elders.

Another topic discussed was that young women have to leave their communities for long periods of time to have their babies. This is very hard on them mentally and emotionally, especially those who have small children at home. It is natural and quite safe for a healthy pregnant woman to have her baby at home. Birthing within the community should be facilitated by health services.

It was generally agreed that there should be Inuit midwives trained to deliver babies in the Inuit way which is considered mentally and physically healthier for birthing women. There are hospitals and nursing stations available to deal with the complications that may arise.



Sarah Kakutiniq (left), an observer from Spence Bay, and Bessie Omilgoitok, a delegate from the Kitikmeot region.

When deliveries occur in hospitals, women elders and female relatives should be present. It helps young girls to have Inuit present during birthing to talk to them and reassure them. Inuit women should assume greater responsibility for childbirth.

In Povungnituk, Northern Quebec, the women worked very hard to get midwives into the hospital. Now, there are four Inuit women in the hospital who have been trained by a midwife to deliver babies.

Regional Concerns

Workshops were held during the AGM so delegates could discuss regional issues and problems. Following are some of the concerns that were expressed.

Western Arctic

Education and social problems figured prominently in Western Arctic delegate discussions.

- There is a need for native counsellors in regional hostels or schools to help children stay in school. Parents and grandparents should encourage their children to attend. Otherwise, Inuit will never take over the professional jobs from the *Qallunaaq*. Delegates are encouraged to talk to their education societies and regional school boards about the problem.
- The Life Skills Program should be maintained.
- There is a need for funding for *preventative* programs to address all social problems.
- Many part-time social workers are under a lot of pressure because of their workloads. These social workers should be made full-time to increase their effectiveness and lessen turnover in these positions.
- There should be parenting skills workshops for young parents.

Kitikmeot

Kitikmeot Region delegates discussed issues focussing primarily on health services, social control and youth.

- Facilities for housing patients who travel to the Edmonton hospital are inadequate and unsuitable. Also, there are often no interpreters available in Edmonton.
- The Cambridge Bay Youth Council feels that there is a need for youth co-ordinators in the communities.



- The unavailability of the RCMP in Cambridge Bay, at times, is a serious problem.
- There should be greater cultural content in the school curricula.

Keewatin

Keewatin delegates emphasized social programs, health and health services in their presentation of regional concerns to the Assembly.

- There is a need for Inuit counsellors in the communities to address family problems (i.e. trouble between couples, girls getting birth control pills or abortions, which can be psychologically harmful, without their parents' knowledge). These matters should be dealt with by Inuit counsellors who would involve all relevant people, such as parents and in-laws, and who would address these problems with the community.
- There is also a need for education programs in schools to increase the awareness of sexually transmitted diseases, such as AIDS.

- The unavailability of nurses evenings and weekends to treat sick people is a serious concern.
- Medical interpreters should have a certification system and Inuktitut medical terminology should be developed. Also there may be a need for a medical interpreters' society in the Northwest Territories.

Baffin

The Baffin Region delegates raised concerns about youth, young offenders and daycare.

- Young offenders should be dealt with by justices of the peace in their own communities rather than by the youth court. In a justice of the peace court, they are less likely to be sentenced to jail.
- Furthermore, parents should be consulted before young people are incarcerated. Older persons and parents can do something for their children who are in trouble and should be given that opportunity.
- Social workers should work with Inuit elders when they counsel younger people.



Residents of Spence Bay demonstrate throat chanting.



- Cape Dorset people feel that there should be a daycare centre in their community.

Northern Quebec

Northern Quebec concerns involved a variety of issues, including the Pauktuutit Board, to family and cross-cultural relations.

- Northern Quebec would like to have a representative of the Hudson Bay Region on the Pauktuutit Board of Directors. It was understood that Pauktuutit may have to await additional funding for this resolution to be implemented.
- Inuit parents should be educated about how to treat their future sons or daughters-in-law. If parents treat them badly, saying they are not good enough for their sons or daughters, the children might turn against their parents, or decide not to get married.
- Northern Quebec needs a shelter for battered spouses. Neighbours and relatives are often too frightened to give them shelter.

- Handicapped people who have been sent south should receive care in northern hospitals so that they can be closer to their families.

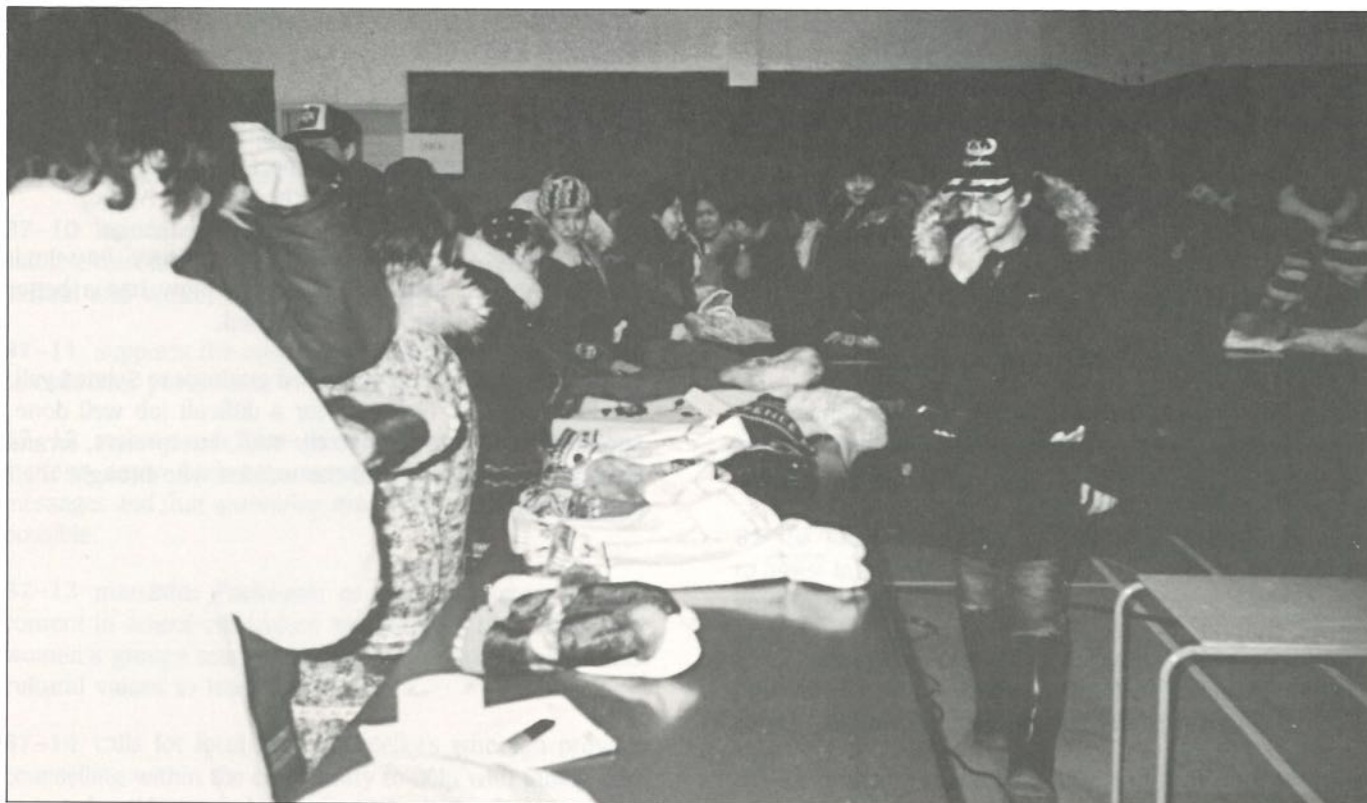
- *Qallunaaq* culture has eroded family authority by influencing children to consider themselves independent at age 18. This is not the Inuit way. Inuit should deal with this matter instead of just following *Qallunaaq* laws.

- It is not right for the law to grant divorces after a couple has been married.

- There is a high incidence of *Qallunaaq* men abandoning their Inuit wives and common-law wives and children. Inuit women should claim financial support in these cases. There are also white women who, upon returning south, leave their children of mixed relationships with their Inuit relatives.

Labrador

Labrador concerns included sub-standard living conditions, social programs and proposed amendments to unemployment insurance benefits, among other issues.



A variety of crafts were on display and for sale at an exhibit during the annual general meeting in Spence Bay.



- There is a need for Inuit social workers and for cultural orientation of non-Inuit social workers. The Department of Social Services assumes that single mothers cannot take care of their children as well as couples. Labrador Inuit want less interference from social workers in order to raise their children the way they see fit.

- Daycare for working Inuit mothers is inadequate, expensive or, in some places, non-existent. A letter from Ruth Flowers, Makkovik women's group, was read to the delegates. The letter outlined the severe difficulties encountered when trying to establish a daycare centre. Makkovik gained experience by conducting a pilot project under the auspices of the Department of Social Services. Difficulties included very low wages for daycare workers, a lack of job security due to the grant system, and expensive rates for Makkovik parents.

- Generally, living conditions in Labrador are sub-standard. Food costs are excessively high, housing conditions are poor, water and sewage are lacking, and mail and air services are poor.

- Proposed amendments to unemployment insurance benefits are a major concern. Local people must be consulted before changes are made by people who are unaware of Labrador living conditions. There are already serious problems with unemployment insurance benefits because the regulations are not designed for the lifestyle and economic conditions of fishermen/hunters and seasonal fish plant workers.

- Labrador communities need more shelters for battered spouses. (There is a centre for battered women in Goose Bay).

Pauktuutit By-laws

The by-laws were amended to ensure that permanent and term employees are not elected to the Board or the Executive unless they resign beforehand. Also, there was a motion to repeal previous by-laws and to accept the new by-laws.

Elections

The following women were elected:

General Board Members

Lizzie Ittinuar	Rankin Inlet, NWT
Mary Matoo	Coral Harbour, NWT
Lizzie Palliser	Inoucdjouac, PQ
Maggie Annanack	George River, PQ
Annie Okalik	Pangnirtung, NWT

Regional Board Member

Helen Tologanak
Cambridge Bay, NWT

Vice-President

Rosi Aggark
Eskimo Point, NWT

President

Mary Sillett
Ottawa, Ontario

Closing Remarks

The chairperson extended the Assembly's appreciation to the people and mayor of Spence Bay for their warm hospitality and generosity.

Spence Bay Mayor David Tuktoo expressed gratitude to Pauktuutit for having their meeting in Spence Bay. He was grateful for the opportunity to meet Inuit women of every community, from Labrador to the Western Arctic.

Sarah Takolik, vice-president of the Spence Bay Inuit women's group, said that her group now has a better understanding of the issues discussed.

Finally, the chairperson expressed gratitude to Sylvia Lyall, the local AGM co-ordinator for a difficult job well done. Special thanks were given to the staff, interpreters, errand boys, guest speakers, and the women who brought their crafts to exhibit.

1987 Resolutions



87-01 calls for the re-establishment of the Community Health Representatives Program before the transfer of health services to the Government of the Northwest Territories.

87-02 expresses Pauktuutit support for the funding of the Life Skills Program.

87-03 calls for native counsellors at the regional level to help students finish their high school educations.

87-04 recommends that more resources be allocated to *prevention* in social programs and that communities have access to these resources.

87-05 mandates Pauktuutit to approach the federal government to air concerns of Inuit women about short sentences for child sexual abusers; to seek research funds; and to assist in creating awareness of the problem in the communities and schools.

87-06 recommends that social workers be employed fulltime for a more effective delivery of social services.

87-07 calls for parenting workshops for young single parents.

87-08 requests that government and municipal authorities prohibit the distribution of pornographic videos to youth.

87-09 requires that the schedule of visiting doctors and medical specialists be revised to increase accessibility of medical services to Inuit.

87-10 mandates Pauktuutit to lobby government for a suitable transient centre in Edmonton for patients from the Central and Western Arctic.

87-11 supports the creation of local and regional youth co-ordinator positions.

87-12 recommends that answering machines at RCMP stations carry Inuktitut, as well as English, recorded messages and that answering machines be used as little as possible.

87-13 mandates Pauktuutit to lobby for more cultural content in school curriculum and resolves that local Inuit women's groups teach and promote traditional skills and cultural values to Inuit youth.

87-14 calls for local Inuit counsellors who can provide counselling within the community to help with family and personal problems, and encourages Inuit to seek help at the local level.

87-15 supports the trial of young offenders by local justices of the peace.

87-16 mandates Pauktuutit to write to police in the Northwest Territories recommending that parents be consulted before their children are incarcerated.

87-17 resolves that Pauktuutit will consider having two board members instead of one board member from Northern Quebec.

87-18 supports Northern Quebec women in their efforts to establish a shelter for battered spouses.

87-19 mandates Pauktuutit to investigate the possibility of having handicapped people stay in northern hospitals where they can be close to their families.

87-20 resolves that Pauktuutit will encourage communication between elders, adults and youth in the context of the Inuit tradition of guiding their youth far past 18 years of age.

87-21 encourages the provincial Department of Social Services in Labrador to hire Inuit social workers and provide cultural training for non-Inuit social workers.

87-22 mandates Pauktuutit to address the concern that RCMP are unwilling to respond to situations of domestic violence which they consider minor, resulting in assaults and injuries on Inuit women.

87-23 mandates Pauktuutit to improve accessibility to daycare services in the North.

87-24 resolves that Pauktuutit will lobby for the improvement of living conditions in the North, including high food costs, poor housing conditions, lack of water and sewage and poor mail and air services.

87-25 requests that Labrador people be consulted before changes are made to unemployment insurance benefits.

87-26 recommends that an interpreter/translator be hired to assist Inuit women who travel to St. John's, Newfoundland for medical services.

87-27 mandates Pauktuutit to work with the Labrador Inuit Association to lobby government for assistance with travel expenses for non-insured health services.

87-28 resolves that safe homes and shelters for victims of spousal assault should be established in those communities where they are needed.



87-29 calls for more interpreter training programs on the subject of medical terminology.

87-30 resolves that Pauktuutit lobby medical professionals to pay special attention to solvent abuse.

87-31 supports the Inuit women of Cape Dorset in their efforts to establish a daycare centre.

87-32 amends the by-laws to ensure that employees of the Association and people on contract to the Association may not be elected to the Board or Executive unless they have resigned their positions beforehand. This resolution also repeals the old by-laws and approves the amended ones.

Financial Summary

March 31, 1987			
	Money Received	Money Spent	Cash Surplus (Deficit)
CORE—Operating Account			
Office Operations	213,000		
Special Projects	40,000	*371,198	37,693
Annual General Assembly (AGM)	155,891		
*AGM, special project funding and operating expenses were combined resulting in a \$37,693 surplus.			
Inuit Committee on National Issues Contribution to IWA			
Constitutional Funding Contribution	108,150	121,970	(13,820)
There was an overall net surplus of \$23,873 at March 31, 1987.			
Funding by the Department of Secretary of State for the fiscal year 1987/88 remained unchanged from the previous year at \$213,000.			
A final contribution of \$27,000 from the Inuit Committee On National Issues was provided to Pauktuutit for the three-month period ended June 30, 1987.			
This represents a summary of the 1986/87 Financial Statements as provided to the Association by the auditors. The audited Financial Statements for fiscal year 1986/87 will be made available to the members of IWA at the next Annual Meeting.			

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(613) 238-3977



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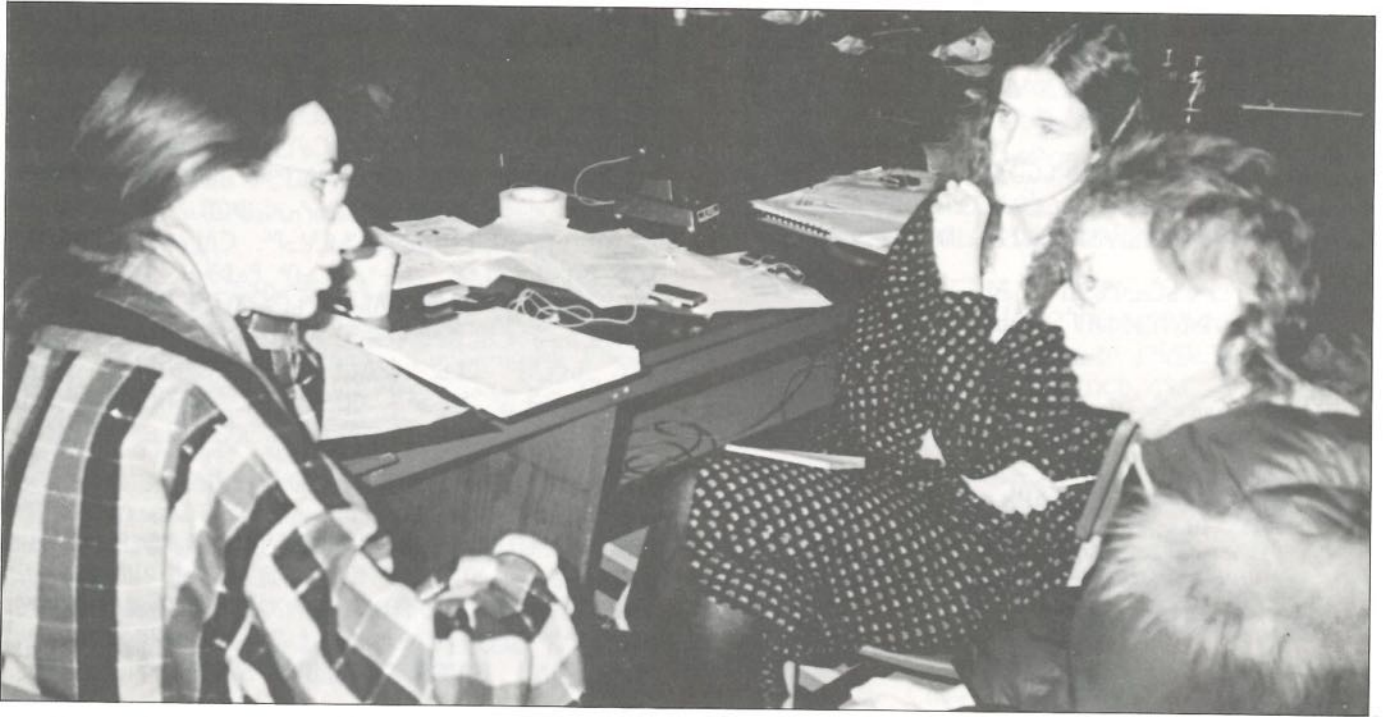
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