

**ԱՅԾԸ ՀԳՁԸ ԵՃԴԿԵՈՐՔԻ**  
**ՀԳՋԼԿԵՐԸՆԻ - 1998-99**







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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My second year as President has allowed me to continue to work hard to address the many issues of concern to Inuit women. Although the responsibilities of my position require long hours and much travel, I find it very gratifying to be working towards improving the lives of Inuit women and their children throughout the country.

A particular high point for me this past year was the re-election of myself and the entire Executive of our Board. We have all worked together very hard and there is a good working relationship between us. It was gratifying to receive that vote of confidence from the Annual General Meeting. As in every year, there were times when we encountered substantial challenges that were quite daunting. With the support and determination of our Executive members and our Board, we were able to move forward with our agenda and provided solid accomplishments on a number of issues. I look forward to working with the Executive and the Board for the next few years.

I would also like to thank our staff. It is sometimes too easy for people outside the organization to give all the credit for an organization's success to the leaders. While our Executive and Board members have all worked extremely hard, I am confident that they would support me in congratulating our staff for their dedication and undefeatable spirit.

We have been working on a great number of issues this year and I would like to provide a quick summary of a few of them here. One of the greatest challenges currently facing Pauktuutit and its ability to adequately represent Inuit women is the fact that Pauktuutit is



The challenges we face are many. Locating and accessing adequate funding for our projects is getting more difficult and threatens to limit our ability to move forward as quickly as we would like. However, I am confident that we have the right team of Executive and Board members and staff to tackle any challenge that faces us. Our path will not be easy but we will continue to make progress in improving the lives of Inuit women, families and communities across the north.

Veronica Dewar, President

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## PAUKTUUTIT'S AIM AND OBJECTIVES

Pauktuutit is the national association that represents all Inuit women in Canada through the perspective of women and their traditional roles in community development and in caring for the well-being of their families. 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 Pauktuutit are:

-  To unite the Inuit women of Canada;
-  To act and be recognized as the official representative for Inuit women;
-  To familiarize our children with Inuit values, heritage, culture and language;
-  To work towards better conditions for all Inuit women;
-  To motivate Inuit women to realize their potential as individuals and as a group;
-  To promote self-confidence and self-reliance amongst Inuit women;
-  To encourage Inuit women to take their rightful place in society;
-  To work for the betterment of individual, family and community conditions through social and economic action;
-  To promote the rights of Inuit women and children;



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## Executive Committee

Veronica Dewar - President, Ottawa, Ontario  
Monica Ell - Vice-President, Iqaluit, Nunavut  
Donna Kisoun - Secretary/Treasurer, Inuvik, NWT

## Regional Directors

Wilma Pigalak - Kitikmeot  
Mary Matoo - Kivalliq  
Enooya Enook - North Baffin  
Geela Maniapik - South Baffin  
Minnie Etidlui - Ungava (Nunavik)  
Lizzie Nowrakudluk - Hudson (Nunavik)  
Silpa Edmunds - Labrador  
Ester McLeod - Western Arctic

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## REPORT ON ISSUES

During the past year, the Board and staff of Pauktuutit have worked very hard to ensure that the needs and aspirations of Inuit women were met. Although the tasks required substantial amounts of effort and dedication, a wide number of activities were undertaken and many successes achieved.

## Tobacco Use Reduction Project

The initial phases of the *Aniqsaattiarniq—Breathing Easy*, Pauktuutit's tobacco use reduction project, originally began in 1994. A variety of activities took place, primarily in the areas of public education including the production and distribution of resource materials for use in schools, health centres and other interested organizations. Before embarking on the third stage of the project, Health Canada had asked that an evalua-

## Family Violence

The issue of family violence and violence against women continues to be a priority issue for our constituency. As indicated in the report on the 1998/99 Annual General Meeting, the lack of sufficient and appropriate resources in the communities is a significant barrier to dealing with the various underlying causes of this critical issue. Over the past year, the family violence project has been focusing upon the development of two proposals: the development of an Inuit-specific counseling pilot project to help abusive men to heal and to provide the necessary supports to both victims and children who witness family violence; and, a project to develop an inventory of Inuit-specific child sexual abuse programs and services across the Arctic that will be distributed to all Inuit communities to assist with the development and implementation of urgently needed services for abused children. As well, there are efforts being undertaken to publish two documents of particular relevance to Inuit women. The first booklet, "Abuse is Wrong in Any Culture," explains how powerful the impact of abuse is and assists women to understand that they have the right to safety in their homes. The second booklet is a "Safety Plan", intended to provide advice on what preparations women and children should make in anticipation of leaving a violent home situation. Pauktuutit feels that these

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The HIV/AIDS project has been guided by a Steering Committee comprised of health representatives from the six regions. The Committee has been very helpful and has worked hard to move the project forward. This year, a total of six booklets will be produced on various aspects of HIV/AIDS, focused on the unique needs of Inuit and their communities. Some of this information was presented at the AGM in Rankin Inlet. Health Canada is very interested in this issue and supportive of Pauktuutit, and will be providing funds for future projects as well. Specialized training is needed for health care workers and an Inuit HIV/AIDS Network needs to be developed. It is anticipated that the next phase of the project will focus upon addressing these specific needs.

In regards to the FAS and FAE project, there are two projects that have had proposals in various stages of development. Details of a pre-natal project are being developed, and a proposal for a FAS/FAE video project has been submitted. The video will be in various languages to make the resource more accessible to Inuit.

## Community Economic Development

Pauktuutit had received funding from the Human Resources Development Canada Aboriginal Strategic Initiatives Program to undertake a project related to economic development and traditional and contemporary

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Inuit clothing. Entitled *The Road to Independence*, the project provided Inuit women with the opportunity to develop and enhance their skills in the area of clothing production and marketing. Despite a late start, Eva Adams, Pauktuutit's project leader on this project, worked hard to ensure the objectives of the project were met. Funding for the project ended at the end of March 1999. Pauktuutit believes the project was a success and will continue to seek out opportunities to promote the participation of Inuit women in economic development activities.

Eric Loring

Pauktuutit staff continued to work towards establishing child care centres in each Inuit community. The success to date has been significant with the vast majority of communities either having established child care centres or being in the process of developing one. The national First Nations/Inuit Child Care Initiative was launched by the federal government three years ago. An Inuit Working Group provided input into the development of guidelines for the Inuit component of the First Nations/Inuit Child Care Initiative. Pauktuutit staff have focused upon the development of a variety of resources to provide support and information to Inuit day care centres. As well, a catalogue is being prepared to promote Inuit women who produce traditional items for children. In order to ensure Inuit culture is preserved and promoted, resources are being developed on traditional Inuit child rearing practices.

## Gathering Strength - Response to the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples

Early in 1998, the federal government formally responded to the findings of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples (RCAP). One of the highlights of the government's response was the announcement that a \$350 million healing fund would be administered by the Aboriginal Healing Foundation (AHF) to help address the legacy of residential school abuse. Pauktuutit was disappointed that the government did not seek to consult with the organization, despite wide-spread recognition of its expertise in the area of abuse, family violence and healing. Despite its best efforts during the past year, Pauktuutit has been frustrated in ensuring that the needs of Inuit women are heard by the AHF. The program continues to be hindered by inadequate communication about the

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program and difficult access to the funds available. Although there is a significant amount of funding available, and the AHF has been accepting proposals for funding for a reasonable amount of time, the number of Inuit-related projects approved has been disappointing. Pauktuutit hopes to be able to work more closely with the AHF in the future to better ensure the interests of Inuit women are addressed.

Pauktuutit's 15th Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held March 15-19, 1999, in Rankin Inlet, Nunavut. The AGM enables Pauktuutit to bring together representatives from all six Inuit regions to discuss issues of concern and to seek their direction as to Pauktuutit's activities for the coming year. A highlight for the AGM was the election of all three Executive positions for the organization, which had undergone some personnel changes over the past year. A special note of congratulations was made to the delegation from Labrador on the signing of an Agreement-in-Principle on their land claim. This marks the fourth and final Inuit land claim agreement and will be the successful end of a long, arduous journey for Inuit.

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As has become the case with Pauktuutit's AGMs, the delegates discussed a wide range of issues of interest to Inuit women. In particular, delegates were brought up to date concerning several changes that had occurred within Pauktuutit including the departure of Mary Sillett, Executive Director and former President of Pauktuutit. As well, the delegates discussed a number of important policy issues and provided their input into how several of these issues were to be addressed. Staff provided reviews of their projects (please see Report on



to the policies and procedures to ensure a more sound financial management structure was in place. Although obtaining funding for projects continues to be difficult, the organization was in good financial health.

To provide delegates with the opportunity to learn more about specific issues and to provide them with an opportunity to express their ideas and concerns, several workshops were held throughout the AGM. From the funders' and project managers' perspectives, the workshops provide unique opportunities to consult with Inuit women from across the Inuit regions on a wide number of issues. The results of these workshops help to direct the development of future projects and activities for both Pauktuutit and government stakeholders.

Pauktuutit's Health Coordinator, Roda Grey, facilitated an HIV/AIDS workshop. Delegates learned how the virus was transmitted, how both people and communities were affected and what preventative measures could be taken to reduce infection rates. Of particular interest were issues surrounding the virus and women.

Delegates were also asked to provide some feedback on HIV/AIDS resource materials produced by Pauktuutit and to discuss issues of concern about HIV/AIDS.

An economic development workshop was also undertaken. It focused on what was involved in setting up a small business and was developed in response to the interest many Inuit women had indicated in starting their own businesses. Delegates listened with great interest to the experiences of Cathy Towtungie, an Inuk businesswoman who had developed her own successful business in Rankin Inlet. A variety of presenters added an interesting and varied element to the workshop. The delegates urged Pauktuutit to continue to deliver such workshops and to continue to address the economic



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development needs of Inuit women. The Nunavut Community Economic Development Officers were also holding a meeting in Rankin Inlet during the Pauktuutit AGM. Monica Ell and Donna Kisoun made a presentation to the Nunavut CEDOs, and provided advice on how they may work better with Inuit women in their communities. Pauktuutit also took advantage of the opportunity to express their willingness to work with them to assist them in fulfilling their responsibilities.

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A child care workshop was facilitated by Carol Rowan, a consultant overseeing Pauktuutit's child care project. She informed the meeting that an Inuit Working Group had provided input into the development of guidelines for the Inuit component of the First Nations/Inuit Child Care Initiative. Since then, a variety of resources have been produced to provide support and information to Inuit and child care centres that are now becoming available in every Inuit community. They are also developing a catalogue on Inuit women who produce traditional items for children as well as other resources on traditional Inuit child rearing. Delegates then broke into discussion groups to discuss regional and community concerns related to child care.

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The issue of child sexual abuse was the subject of another intense workshop. The AGM heard of the various initiatives that had been undertaken at the community and regional level to address child sexual abuse. A presentation was made by Becky Kudloo on the *Mianiqsijit* counseling project in Baker Lake, which has been in operation for 10 years. The centre established the first treatment plan for abusers in the NWT and provided counseling and support services for the victims and the community. As well, the *Mianiqsijit* program received children who were referred by Health



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## Special Guests

At every AGM, a variety of special guests are invited to address the delegates. This provides a unique opportunity for the delegates to hear directly from Inuit leaders, politicians and government officials concerning policies, programs and events that affect their everyday lives. In turn, special guests have the opportunity to get their message out to the people and to find out their opinions on issues. As in past years, Pauktuutit was pleased by the degree of interest shown by special guests when asked to make presentations to the AGM.

Okalik Eegeesiak, President of the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada (ITC), attended several days of the AGM and made a presentation to the delegates. She reviewed the ITC Board structure, the mandate of the organization and some of the other changes that had occurred in the organization since she had been President. In regard to the issue of the Court Challenge, Okalik stated that ITC had attempted to resolve the issue with Pauktuutit, and that she felt that Inuit organizations should work together for the benefit of all Inuit.

Jose Kusugak, President of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI), also made a presentation to the AGM during the economic development workshop. He described some of the economic development activities that NTI had been involved in and added that Inuit women have traditionally made an equal contribution to the well-being of their families. He stated that NTI should continue to support Pauktuutit and Inuit women as they become more involved in economic development activities.

Raymond Ningeocheak, Second Vice-President of NTI, reported to the delegates concerning recent changes to NTI's Harvester Support Program. The program provides capital equipment to Nunavut harvesters to enable

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Inuvialuit representatives stated that the region needed more workshops on family violence, traditional skills, HIV/AIDS, and child sexual abuse. Improving communications between elders and youth, possibly with the assistance of a workshop, was identified as a priority. Some people felt that some attention was



Eric Loring

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needed concerning the high cancer rates in Sachs Harbour which may be connected to the water supply.

Baffin identified the need to make Inuit leaders more responsive to the needs of their constituents. Pauktuutit should also do more to communicate with communities. Board members need to inform their regions about the Annual General Meetings. More workshops were needed concerning social services and assistance for pregnant women. Additional shelters are needed in the region for abused women and training is



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required for the workers as well. Healing was another area of need particularly in relation to elders and suicide victims. Communications between health care workers, counselling professionals and the communities need to be improved as well.

In Nunavik, the primary concerns were: the need for help in some communities in forming committees to work on women's issues; a need for more information concerning Pauktuutit and its work; and more support



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requests that the federal government recognize the expertise resident in the Inuit Child Care Working Group and acknowledge the Working Group as an advisory



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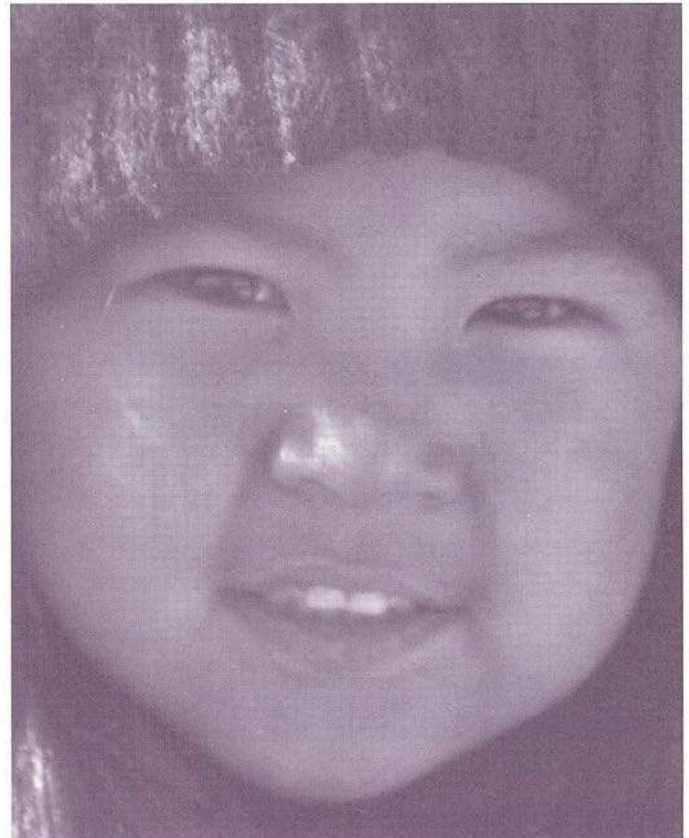
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ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ

**ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ 99-05 -**

ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ  
ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ  
ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ  
ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ  
ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ  
ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ  
ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ

**ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ 99-06 -**

ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ  
ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ  
ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ  
ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ  
ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ  
ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ ᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐᓂᐱᓐ



Eric Loring

body responsible for guiding and advising on all aspects related to policy and program development for Inuit children's services in Canada.

**Resolution 99-06 -**

encourages the Aboriginal Healing Foundation to work with Pauktuutit to meet the current and emerging needs of Inuit women in regards to their efforts to deal with the legacy of the many abuses suffered by Inuit in residential schools.

**Resolution 99-07 -**

directs the Aboriginal Healing Foundation to fund Pauktuutit initiatives in the areas of developing healing tools and regional workshops to facilitate the design of these healing tools.



ለገንዘብ ምንጭ	የገንዘብ ምንጭ	ለገንዘብ ምንጭ ምንጭ	በገንዘብ 1999	በገንዘብ 1998
ገንዘብ	\$352,795	\$3,969,724	\$4,322,519	\$4,373,553
የገንዘብ ምንጭ	\$236,137	\$3,923,365	\$4,159,502	\$4,269,053
የገንዘብ ምንጭ / የገንዘብ ምንጭ	\$116,658	\$46,359	\$163,017	\$104,500

## FINANCIAL REPORT

## ANNUAL SUMMARY

### FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1999

Activities	Core Operations	Special Projects	Total 1999	Total 1998
Revenues	\$352,795	\$3,969,724	\$4,322,519	\$4,373,553
Expenses	\$236,137	\$3,923,365	\$4,159,502	\$4,269,053
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$116,658	\$46,359	\$163,017	\$104,500

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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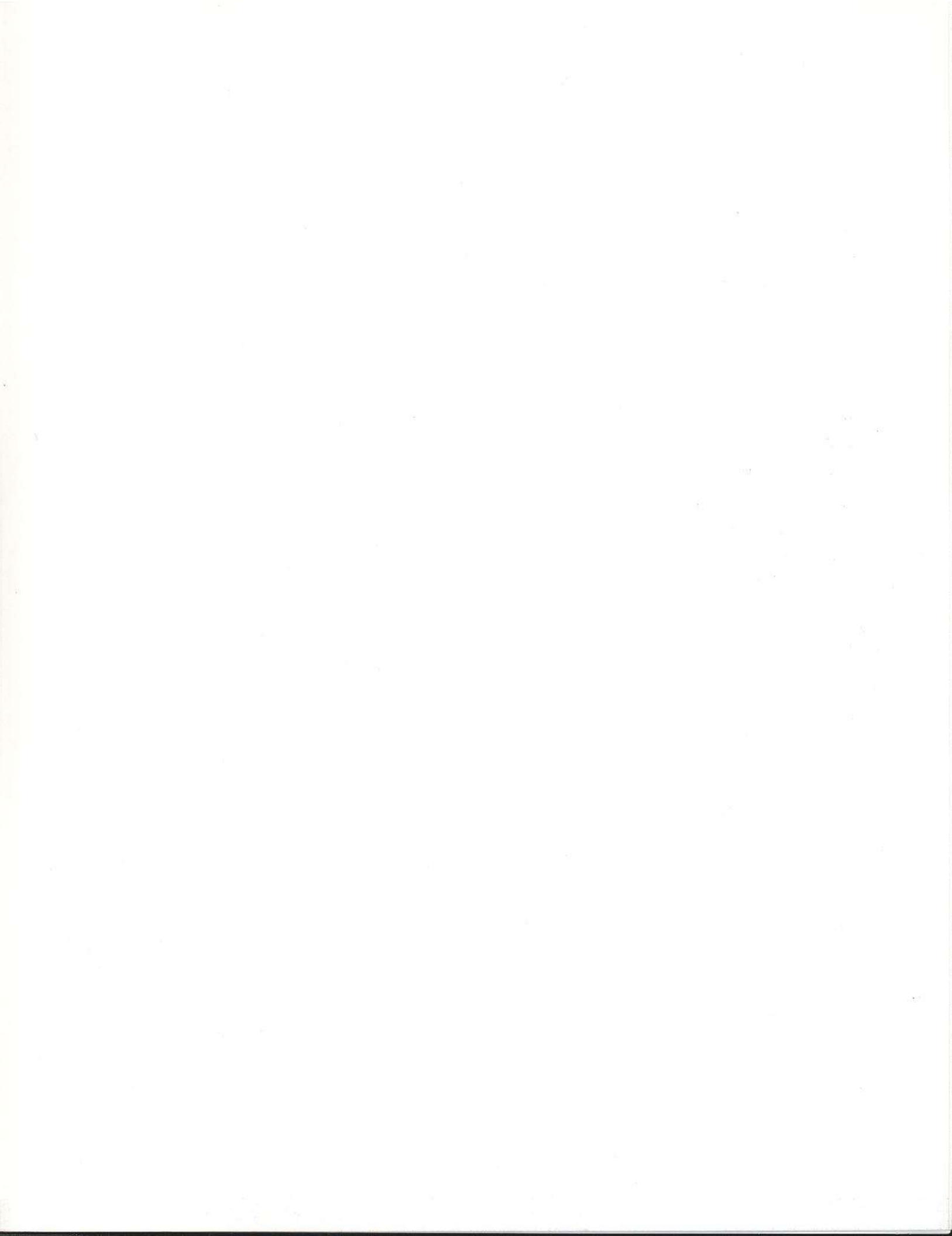
Human Resources Development Canada  
Health Canada  
Canadian Heritage  
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada  
Government of the Northwest Territories  
First Air  
Environment Canada  
Kativak Association  
Kativik Regional Government  
National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation  
Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated

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