

Pauktuutit Inuit Women's Association

ANNUAL REPORT
2002 - 2003



PAUKTUUTIT
Inuit Women's Association

President's Message

This past year has been a turbulent one for Pauktuutit. Our HIV/AIDS Coordinator Todd Armstrong became seriously ill and had to take medical leave.

As well, we entered into the process of hiring a new Executive Director. In addition to these two circumstances, we continued our efforts to move the agenda of Inuit women ahead. It was a year of hard work, concern for our staff, and hope for the future.

Funding is harder and more complex to access each year. In our efforts to lower costs, we have decided to change the format of our annual report. While the information may be more concise, it is also necessarily limited. I urge you to access our website (www.pauktuutit.ca) or contact our staff for additional information on our activities.

Although our organization is modest in size, I continue to feel that we have accomplished much for Inuit women. In addition to the project work I have given presentations on a wide range of issues including Inuit women's health, FASD, gender equality, leadership and abuse prevention to forums around the country.

We have worked hard together to face the challenges that have appeared before us. Challenges will continue to arise, but by working together, we shall overcome.

Veronica N. Dewar



2002-2003
Board of
Directors

Executive

Pauktuutit's Aims and Objectives

Pauktuutit is the national non-profit association representing all Inuit women in Canada. Its 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;
- Act and be recognized as the official representative for Inuit women;
- Familiarize our children with Inuit values, heritage, culture and language;
- Work towards better conditions for all Inuit women;
- Motivate Inuit women to realize their potential as individuals and as a group;
- Promote self-confidence and self-reliance amongst Inuit women;
- Encourage Inuit women to take their rightful place in society;
- Work for the betterment of individual, family and community conditions through health, social, and economic action;
- Promote the rights of Inuit women and children;
- Promote the equality of Inuit women in all levels of Canadian governmental and non-governmental structures;
- Encourage the involvement of Inuit women in all levels of Canadian society; and,
 - Encourage communication between Inuit women and all aboriginal peoples.

Since its incorporation in 1984, Pauktuutit has addressed many of the serious social issues that affect Inuit communities. Pauktuutit has undertaken comprehensive projects on family violence, child sexual abuse, housing, traditional Inuit midwifery and birthing practices, tobacco cessation, economic development and is active in a wide range of health issues.



Report on Issues

- **National Inuit Health Renewal Network** — Inuit health continues to be a primary area of concern for Pauktuutit. Over the past year, Pauktuutit has worked with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK) on a number of Health Renewal and health-related projects. A primary activity was the review and analysis of a number of health-related documents in regards to how the recommendations made impacted Inuit women. As well, recommendations were developed for ameliorating or eliminating any negative impacts and providing this information to the Inuit Health Technical Working Group overseeing the Health Renewal process on behalf of Inuit.
- **Gender Analysis** — The federal government had encouraged the implementation of gender analysis throughout all departments and agencies so as to provide guidance to federal legislation and policy-making. Pauktuutit received funding from ITK during the course of the year to undertake a gender analysis of Inuit health in regards to the summary papers on *First Nations and Inuit Health Renewal*. The analysis also included key gender equity principles and issues for Inuit health including the involvement of communities and the need to encompass men, women, youth and elders.

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Committee

Veronica Dewar
President,
Ottawa, Ontario

Mary Palliser
Vice-President,
Inukjuak, Nunavik

Sharon Edmunds
Secretary/Treasurer,
Happy Valley,
Labrador

Regional Directors

Anita Pokiak
Ualiniq
(Western Arctic)

Annie Buchan
Kitikmeot

Mary Matoo
Kivalliq

Mary Qulitaliq
North Qikiqtani
(Baffin)

Martha Jaw
South Qikiqtani
(Baffin)

Minnie Etidlui
Ungava Coast,
Nunavik

Lizzie Nowrakudluk
Hudson Coast,
Nunavik

Mary Adams
Happy Valley,
Labrador

Pauktuutit's 19th Annual General Meeting

Financial constraints dictated that the 2002–2003 Annual General Meeting had to be postponed until February 18, 2004. It was convened in Yellowknife, N.W.T. The agenda included: 1. A workshop on the issues surrounding Pauktuutit's relationship with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, '*TOWARDS A STRONGER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INUIT TAPIRIIT KANATAMI AND PAUKTUUTIT INUIT WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION*'; 2. Pauktuutit and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada hosted the launch of the Inuktitut version of Journey to Success — Aboriginal Women's Business Planning Guide; and 3. A workshop exploring the practical side of environmental awareness: '*Environmental Issues — Community Animation*'



Annie Napayok—Vice Chair, Qullit, Nunavut Status of Women; Marg Shawana, Senior Policy Advisor, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, special guests from Canadian Heritage, Status of Women Canada and the Ajunnginiq Centre, National Aboriginal Health Organization (NAHO) and others.

Agenda discussions resulted in the board adopting the following resolutions:

Resolution 01–2004 — Strengthening Collaboration with ITK — Carried unanimously

RESOLVED that: Pauktuutit continue to retain its independent corporate and representational structure; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that Pauktuutit work with ITK to identify and implement mutually agreeable elements of a stronger working relationship in several areas, including but not limited to:

- communications and networking;
- recognizing and broadening the scope of the current collaboration on program and policy initiatives;
- celebrating the independent voice of Inuit women; and
- developing vehicles for unified and mutually supportive contributions to all program and policy development tables.

Resolution 02–2004 — Yellowknife Representation — Carried unanimously

RESOLVED that Yellowknife be added to Pauktuutit's list of communities to be represented by the Western Arctic (Ualiniq) Regional Director; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Inuit and Inuvialuit

non–Regional Director to attend Pauktuutit's Board of Directors meetings and Annual General Meetings.

Resolution 04–2004 — Youth Representation — Carried unanimously

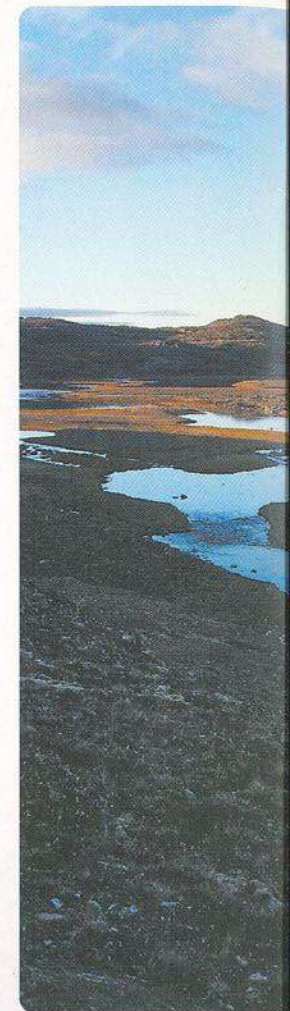
RESOLVED that Pauktuutit amend its By–Laws to accommodate the addition of a Youth Director to Pauktuutit's Board of Directors to represent female Inuit youth in Canada and to stipulate the eligible age range for the Youth Director; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the NIYC choose by a process of their own choosing a female Inuk youth from among the Council members to fill the Youth Director seat on Pauktuutit's Board of Directors; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that if there are no female Inuit members on the NIYC that the NIYC select, in a manner of their choosing, a female Inuk youth residing in Canada to fill the seat; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the term and timing of the Youth Director will coincide with timing already in place for the nomination and election processes of the Regional Directors; and

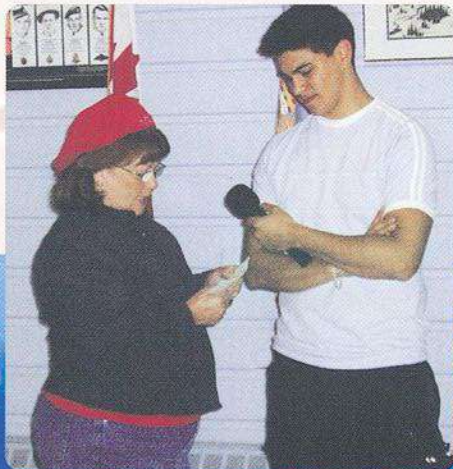
FURTHER RESOLVED that Pauktuutit cover the travel and any other costs as stipulated in the By–Laws to assist the youth Director to attend Pauktuutit's Board of Directors meetings and Annual General Meetings





The AGM elected two executive positions to the board — Mary Palliser as Vice President and Annie Buchan as Secretary/Treasurer. Winner of this year's Woman of the year was announced — she is Annie Oahitok, who has worked in the area of child sexual abuse awareness and counsels people who are thinking of suicide.

As well as the full board and elected delegates, special guests during the three day meeting included: Lisa Koperqualuk, representing the women of Nunavik on behalf of Makivik Corporation; Jose Kusugak, President, ITK;



women of Yellowknife appoint a contact person from among themselves for communication purposes with the Western Arctic (Ualiniq) Regional Director; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that when the normal rotation among eligible communities in the Western Arctic (Ualiniq) falls upon Yellowknife to select a delegate to attend Pauktuutit's Annual General Meeting (AGM), the Inuit and Inuvialuit women in Yellowknife will, by a democratic process of the community's choosing, provide a name to Pauktuutit; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that as is the practice, Pauktuutit will cover the travel costs for the Yellowknife delegate to attend the AGM.

Resolution 03-2004 — Non-regional Representation — Carried unanimously

RESOLVED that: Pauktuutit amend its By-Laws to accommodate the addition of a non-Regional Director to Pauktuutit's Board of Directors to represent Inuit women residing outside of the Inuit communities in the North; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the nomination and election process for this non-Regional Director parallel the processes and timing already in place for the Regional Directors; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that Pauktuutit cover the travel and any other costs as stipulated in the By-Laws to assist the

Annual General Meetings.

Resolution 05-2004 — Respite Strategy for Caregivers — Carried unanimously

RESOLVED that Pauktuutit identify the needs for respite for unpaid caregivers in Inuit communities; and

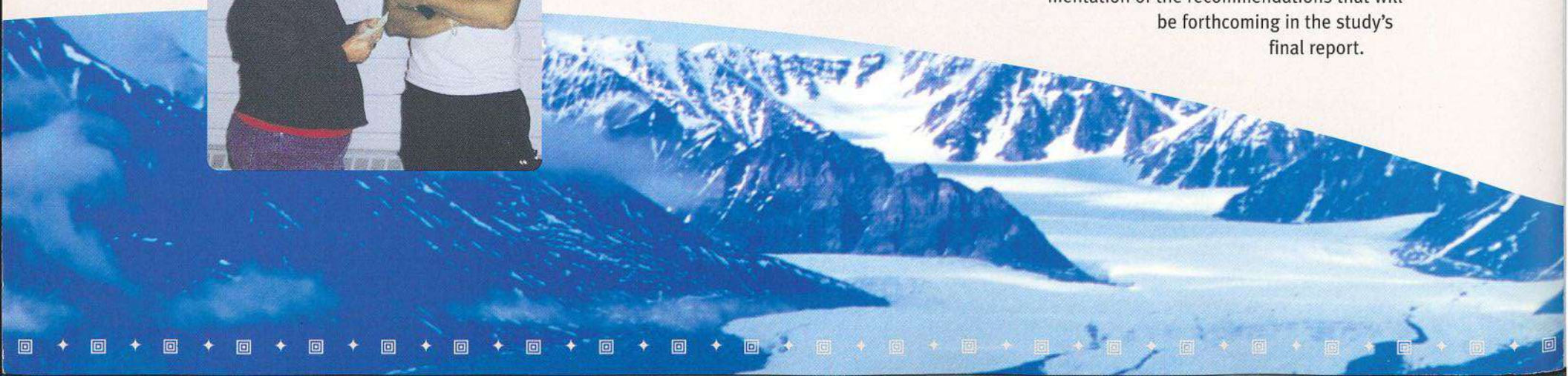
FURTHER RESOLVED that based on this needs assessment, Pauktuutit will develop and promote a strategy to educate caregivers and the public resulting in an increased level of respite for caregivers; and

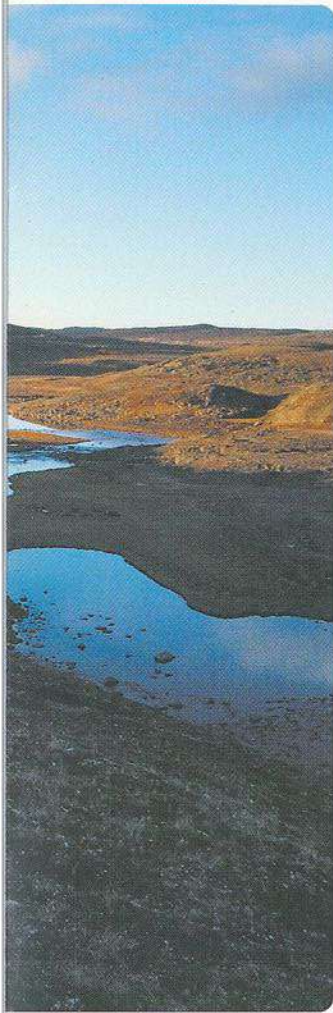
FURTHER RESOLVED that Health Canada be called upon to make every effort in collaboration with Pauktuutit to incorporate the respite strategy into their existing First Nations and Inuit Home and Community Care Program.

Resolution 06-2004 — Inuit Women's Participation in the Fishery — Carried unanimously

RESOLVED that all levels of governments and the Arctic fisheries industry be called upon to support the outcomes of the study and implement its recommendations; and

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Status of Women Canada be solicited to provide the required financial resources to Pauktuutit for the implementation of the recommendations that will be forthcoming in the study's final report.





Resolution 07-2004

— Action on the Environment

— Carried unanimously

RESOLVED that Pauktuutit provide a representative to the proposed national Inuit committee on the environment (to be coordinated by ITK) and related working groups; and FURTHER RESOLVED that Pauktuutit approach Environment Canada and other potential partners to provide resources to implement the recommendations developed at the February 2004 Environmental Community Action workshop at Pauktuutit's AGM related to research, awareness, and materials development and training to support community-based initiatives that have positive impacts on the environment.

Resolution 08-2004 — 20th Anniversary Celebration

— Carried unanimously

RESOLVED that Pauktuutit seek funding from all levels of governments and Inuit organizations to facilitate the attendance of participants from each Inuit community in the North; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that all levels of governments and Inuit organizations be approached to support this endeavour with financial and in-kind assistance.

Resolution 09-2004 — Inuapik Family Resource

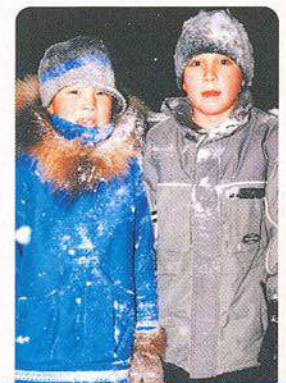
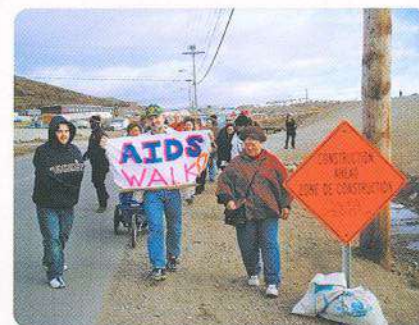
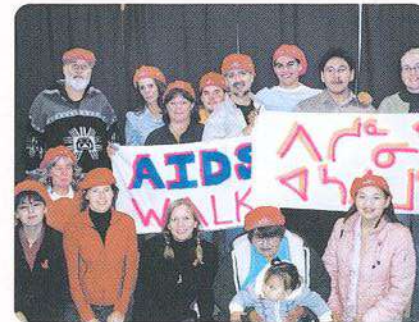
Centre — Carried unanimously

issues related to the apprehension of Inuit children; seek a financial commitment from the Federal Government to establish its own best practice site to explore emerging issues related to the apprehension of Inuit children; seek the financial resources from Federal and Territorial/ Provincial governments to carry out a community consultation process to explore traditional measures that strengthen Inuit families as a potential alternative to current child welfare practices; and, seek a financial commitment from the Government of the Northwest Territories to support their participation in discussions around Child and Family Service standards and practice in the NWT.

Resolution 11 — 2004 — Protection of Inuit Intellectual Property

— Carried unanimously

RESOLVED that Pauktuutit proceed with the work plan and objectives published in the final workshop report and that the work plan and objectives be broadened to include protection for a wide range of Inuit intellectual property. ✦



Centre — Carried unanimously

RESOLVED that Pauktuutit provide letters of support for the Inuapik group to encourage the establishment of an Inuit Family Resource Centre in Yellowknife.

Resolution 10 — 2004 — Inuit Child Welfare —
Carried unanimously

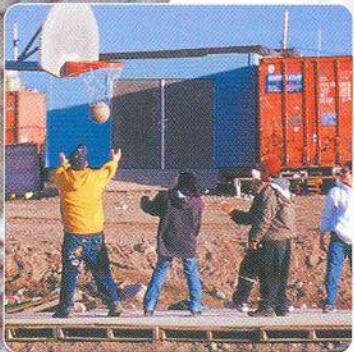
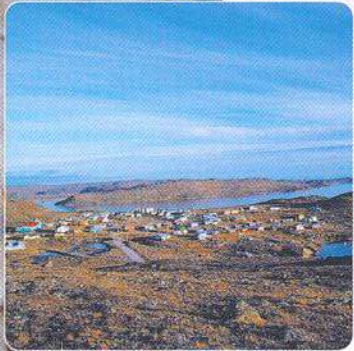
RESOLVED that Pauktuutit pursue to the best of its ability each of the following clauses: seek a financial commitment from the Federal Government to explore emerging



FINANCIAL REPORT

Annual Summary For Year Ending March 31, 2003

ACTIVITIES	CORE OPERATIONS	SPECIAL PROJECTS	TOTAL 2003	TOTAL 2002
Revenues	287,281	865,246	1,152,527	1,692,527
Expenses	315,381	865,246	1,180,627	1,668,716
Surplus/ (Deficit)	-28,100	0	-28,100	23,811



• **The Amauti and Intellectual Property** — Pauktuutit continued to develop awareness of the importance of protecting Inuit intellectual property at both the national and international level. A major activity this past year was preparing for participation in the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg, South Africa. The President was part of a Canadian delegation of NGO representatives to the Summit and made a presentation to a working group. In addition, a proposal to assist Inuit to learn from a Panamanian delegation about Panama's legislation that protects Indigenous knowledge and creations was submitted to a wide range of funding agencies.

• **Federal-Provincial/Territorial-Aboriginal Process (FPTA)** — Pauktuutit participated in the FPTA process which has the objective of exploring means to increase the participation of Aboriginal peoples in the economy. Among the activities that Pauktuutit assisted in were the review of *Journey to Success: Aboriginal Women's Business Planning Guide* to ensure the views and needs of Inuit women were included; assisting five Inuit women to participate in the National Business Summit held in Igloolik; and to develop a

1990s and then provided ongoing assistance to Pulaarvik during the development of their proposal and program. The program provides separate support and programming for both abusers and victims.

- Pauktuutit also provided guidance and review services to the Justice and Corrections project including attendance at various Correctional Services of Canada meetings relating to the initiative.
- Pauktuutit continued to work with the Tupiq Program, an innovative program for Inuit inmates at the Fenbrook Correctional Facility.

• **Early Childhood Development Program** — Over the past year, Pauktuutit has worked with ITK to develop a joint workplan addressing certain elements of the federal government's Early Childhood Development Strategy. A priority of the workplan is to build linkages with Inuit regions including urban Inuit in regards to their early childhood development needs. Funding will also be used to increase the capacity of Pauktuutit to provide ongoing input and advice to the federal government concerning Inuit early childhood development priorities and needs.

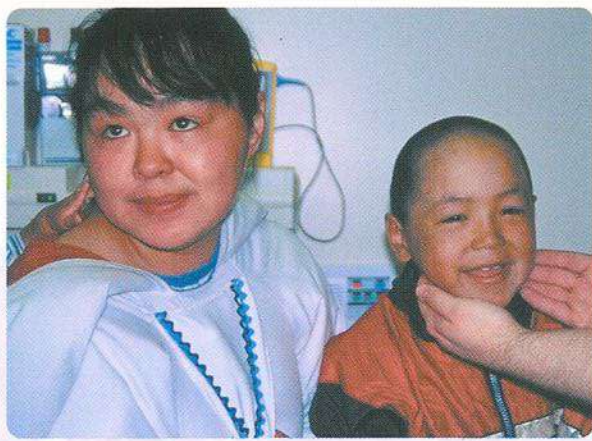
• **Aniqsaattiarniq — Breathing Easy Project** — The effects of smoking and second-hand smoke continue to exact a heavy toll on Inuit families. The Aniqsaattiarniq Project while receiving considerably less funding than in past years continued to make inroads on Inuit attitudes and habits concerning smoking. This past year focused on conducting an evaluation of the training efforts that have been completed over the past several years. In addition a newsletter on community and regional efforts to reduce tobacco use was

HIV/AIDS. Over eighteen communities in five Inuit regions held fairs with very positive results.

- **AIDS Walk Ottawa** — In addition to many AIDS Walks in the North, Pauktuutit also assisted in the organization of the AIDS Walk in Ottawa adding to its already long list of successes in raising public awareness of this deadly disease.

• **Surusiit Qanuungitiarninginut** — Pauktuutit continued its work to ensure Inuit communities had the resources and support needed to address issues and medical conditions affecting children. Under the *Surusiit* project and with the help of a Steering Committee, an Inuit-specific health resource (flipchart and manual) on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) was developed. In addition, the project dubbed and copied previously developed videos on traditional Inuit child-rearing practices for distribution to communities. A workshop for 15 Inuit front-line workers from Nunavut communities and several guests from other regions was also planned for the following September. The workshop will engage community participation in the use of the FASD information resources and Pauktuutit's popular FASD video kit *Before I was Born*.

• **Inuit Justice and Corrections** — Pauktuutit continued to receive funding from Correctional Services of Canada (CSC) to address



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iqaitut; and to develop a workplan and proposal for the hiring of a social policy analyst position within Pauktuutit.

- **Family Violence Program** — A number of projects carried out have been undertaken under the umbrella of the Family Violence Program. These have included:

- **National Inuit Strategy For Abuse Prevention** — Pauktuutit applied for funding under the Strategic Fund of the National Strategy on Community Safety and Crime Prevention under the Department of Justice. The three-year program is intended to help develop and implement solutions to problems that contribute to crime and victimization including the development of a National Inuit Strategy for Abuse Prevention.

As funding was received late in the 2002–2003 fiscal year, project activities will commence in 2003–2004. Among the objectives of the project will be the establishment of a national network of individuals and agencies involved in preventing abuse in Inuit communities, a website and a newsletter.

- Pauktuutit provided input and support to the Pularvik Friendship Centre in Rankin Inlet, Nunavut in establishing *Ningartailinirmut Ikajurtauvvik* (Spousal Abuse Program). Pauktuutit initially developed the conceptual framework in the

regional efforts to reduce tobacco use was produced. Copies of the *Truth or Dare* youth series video on smoking were purchased and distributed to 52 communities. Pauktuutit also continued to provide advice and review documents of the First Nations and Inuit Tobacco Control Strategy Advisory Circle as needed.

The Canadian Inuit HIV/AIDS Network (CIHAN)

— CIHAN, in conjunction with and supported by Pauktuutit, oversees the HIV/AIDS project and the many activities undertaken to educate and prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS in Inuit communities. CIHAN is guided and directed by a steering committee whose members are selected to sit on the committee based upon their expertise in a variety of areas including public health. Among the activities undertaken by Pauktuutit in relation to HIV/AIDS are:

- **HIV/AIDS Strategy** — A key element of the fight against HIV/AIDS is to increase awareness of Inuit about how the disease is contracted, how it can be prevented and to dispel incorrect assumptions about the disease. To this end, over the past year Pauktuutit received funding to replenish the stock of previously developed materials that have proven very successful in informing Inuit about HIV/AIDS.
- **Arctic Youth AIDS Fairs** — Arctic Youth AIDS Fairs — These fairs provide an opportunity for Arctic youth to participate in their own education concerning HIV/AIDS and to enable them to share what they learn with other youth and the community at large. The fairs encourage students to create projects that reflect aspects of

tional Services of Canada (CSC) to address correctional issues relating to Inuit sentenced to serve time in federal prisons. Working in partnership with the CSC and ITK, an examination is being conducted of institutional and community reintegration needs for Inuit offenders. Pauktuutit assisted ITK and the National Inuit Youth Council to convene a national Elders and youth conference. Part of the agenda included information sharing concerning justice and corrections issues of importance to Inuit. Staff also traveled across the country participating in regional and local activities focusing upon addressing the needs of Inuit offenders and Inuit communities. Overall, the past year saw the continuation of a number of successful networking and partnership initiatives developed with CSC, Regional Inuit Organizations, the Fenbrook Institution, the *Tupiq* Program, ITK and many other organizations and agencies.

- **Listing of Services** — Pauktuutit received funding from the Aboriginal Healing Foundation to develop a listing of services for Inuit survivors of child sexual abuse. Time and budget constraints caused the project to reduce its goal of including all communities. The resource expected in March 2004 includes services provided by 20 organizations and a number of individual caregivers. In addition an analysis report is available. It identifies what additional resources are needed and makes a number of recommendations particularly useful for consideration by governments and service agencies. ✦

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Pauktuutit would like to thank the following agencies for their support during 2002–2003: Aboriginal Healing Foundation • Canadian Heritage — Aboriginal Women's Program • Correctional Service of Canada • Health Canada • Indian and Northern Affairs Canada • Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami • Justice • Rights and Democracy

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