

ᐸᐸᐸᐸᐸ PAUKTUUTIT

ᐃᓂᐃᐸ ᐳᓂᐃᐸ ᓂᓕᐸ INUIT WOMEN OF CANADA

25

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS
OF ACCOMPLISHMENT



ᐸᐸᐸᐸᐸ
PAUKTUUTIT
INUIT WOMEN OF CANADA
ᐃᓂᐃᐸ ᐳᓂᐃᐸ ᓂᓕᐸ

2008–2009
ANNUAL REPORT



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS
OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada
56 Sparks Street, Suite 400
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5A9

Phone: (613) 238-3977 | Toll Free: 1-800-667-0749 | Fax: (613) 238-1787

www.pauktuutit.ca

CONTENTS

Pauktuutit Celebrates 25 Years of Advocacy and Success	2
Pauktuutit	4
Pauktuutit Board of Directors 2008/09	5
Report on Activities	6
Report from the 25 th Annual General Meeting	16
2008–2009 Resolutions	19
Acknowledgements	20
Financial Report	21

PAUKTUUTIT CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF ADVOCACY AND SUCCESS

2009 marked a very significant milestone in Pauktuutit's past, present and future. Pauktuutit has achieved 25 years of success in raising awareness about issues of priority and concern to Inuit women, and all Inuit in Canada.

Incorporated in 1984, priorities are identified through resolutions passed by Board members and delegates to Annual General Meetings. These have included issues related to the administration of justice, family violence, lack of access to health care services, the lack of adequate housing, and the need for birthing in the communities.

Early priority issues such as the lack of permanent police in smaller communities and lack of access to basic health services have evolved over time to include new and emerging issues such as HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis-C and other blood borne diseases, FASD, Inuit women in business, addressing the legacy of residential schools, and protecting Inuit cultural and intellectual property. Initial analyses of all resolutions passed by delegates to the organization's Annual General Meetings since 1984, conducted in the summer of 2008, confirmed that political equality, health and social issues have been and continue to be the top three priorities of Pauktuutit's membership.

The organization has also not shied away from very difficult issues such as the sexual abuse of children, and issues related to advancing Inuit women's equality rights in Inuit and the broader Canadian political environments. During the journey to Nunavut, Pauktuutit was an active partner with the Nunavut Implementation Commission in advancing a model for the Nunavut Government that would have seen equal numbers of men and women elected to the Legislative Assembly. While the gender parity proposal was not successful in a territory-wide plebiscite, it stimulated significant public discussion about governance in Nunavut.

There has been significant progress in a relatively short time. Pauktuutit has been a leader in innovative and creative approaches to raising awareness and addressing these issues in an Inuit-specific context, and has become a credible and valued partner to many Inuit communities, organizations and governments. Some tangible results include Pauktuutit's contributions to the efforts by many to support and return traditional Inuit midwifery and birthing options to women in the communities, which is now being actively addressed by various governments and other stakeholders.

Other very successful initiatives include the multi-faceted "Livesavers" project initiated during the 1990s, which raised awareness about HIV and AIDS in Inuit communities and has developed numerous practical and relevant resources for use in the communities. The infamous country food condom covers achieved international recognition and acclaim as an effective, culturally-specific public health education and intervention program.

Family violence and abuse have remained priorities for Pauktuutit and its members. There are many complex factors that contribute to the high rates of violence in the communities. According to Pauktuutit's 2006 *National Strategy to Prevent Abuse in Inuit Communities* "Most Inuit agree that while there always has been some violence and abuse in Inuit society, it now is much more common than in the past." The vision of the Strategy is "an Inuit society of healthy individuals who respect the past and embrace the future as Inuit, and who live in supportive families and caring communities."

Pauktuutit's success has been the result of strong and committed direction from a Board of Directors comprised solely of Inuit women. The other half of the relationship includes a dedicated and tireless staff who implement the direction provided by the Board and AGM resolutions through developing and implementing numerous projects, and support the Board's efforts in advocacy on behalf of its membership to influence policy change in broad areas. None of this work would have been possible without strong community, regional and national partnerships across the Arctic with Inuit and other organizations. Pauktuutit is looking forward to continued success over the next 25 years.

Pauktuutit is the national non-profit organization representing all Inuit women in Canada. Incorporated in 1984, 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. Pauktuutit's aims and objectives are to:

1. promote the rights of Inuit women and children;
2. provide the Inuit women of Canada with a united voice;
3. work towards better social, economic and political conditions for Inuit women;
4. work for the betterment of individual, family and community health conditions through advocacy and program action;
5. encourage Inuit women to take their rightful place in society;
6. promote equity for the views of Inuit women in all levels of Canadian governmental and non-governmental structures;
7. motivate Inuit women to realize their potential as individuals and as a group;
8. promote self-confidence and self-reliance amongst Inuit women;
9. provide resources to ensure that our children are raised with Inuit values, heritage, culture and language;
10. encourage the involvement of Inuit women in all levels of Canadian society; and
11. facilitate collaboration between Inuit women and other Aboriginal peoples.

PAUKTUUTIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2008/09

Executive Committee

Rhoda Innuksuk	President
Mary Matoo	Vice-President
Annie Buchan	Secretary-Treasurer

Board Members	Region and Communities Represented
Annie Lidd	Nunatsiavut: Nain, Hopedale, Postville, Makkovik, Rigolet and Happy Valley-Goose Bay
Minnie Etidlui	Nunavik – Ungava Coast: Kangiqsualujjuaq, Kuujjuaq, Kangiqsujjuaq, Aupaluk, Kangiqsuk, Quaqtaq and Tasiujaq
Leena Metuq	Nunavik – Hudson Coast: Salluit, Ivujivik, Akulivik, Puvirnituq, Inukjuaq, Umiujaq, Kuujjuarapik
Leesee Qaqasiq	Qikiqtani South: Kingait, Kimmirut, Iqaluit, Pangnirtung, Qikiqtarjuaq, Clyde River, Sanikiluaq
Anne Curley	Qikiqtani North: Pond Inlet, Arctic Bay, Grise Fiord, Resolute, Igloodik, Hall Beach
Becky Kudloo	Kivalliq: Arviat, Whale Cove, Rankin Inlet, Chesterfield Inlet, Baker Lake and Coral Harbour, Repulse Bay
Martha Akoluk	Kitikmeot: Kuugaaruk, Taloyoak, Gjoa Haven, Cambridge Bay, Bathurst Inlet, Kugluktuk, Umingmaktok
Anita Pokiak	Inuvialuit: Ulukhaktok, Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour, Aklavik, Inuvik, Tuktoyaktuk
Iga Atagootak	Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
Elisapee Sheutiapik	Iqaluit, Nunavut
Rhoda Innuksuk	Representing urban Inuit women
Meeka Otway	Representing urban Inuit women
Jennifer Williams	Representing Inuit youth
Valerie Taqtu	Representing Inuit youth

Pauktuutit is governed by a 14-member Board of Directors that oversees its strategic direction and overall operations. The Annual General Meeting provides Inuit women with an opportunity to see what the organization has been doing over the past year and provides the organization with a “to-do” list for the upcoming fiscal year. While Pauktuutit staff and Board members are immersed in a wide range of activities over the course of the year, the following section provides an overview of some of the specific projects that were undertaken during the 2008–2009 fiscal year.

NATIONAL ISSUES

Self-Government Initiatives

In 2008/09, Pauktuutit received funding provided by the Self-Government Initiative of the Aboriginal Peoples’ Program, Canadian Heritage. Through this project, Pauktuutit sought to enhance its efforts to:

- Develop Inuit women’s positions, strategies and research on Inuit/Aboriginal self-government;
- Participate and partner with other Aboriginal and women’s groups/organizations as well as Inuit/Aboriginal governments on self-government initiatives; and
- Communicate with and inform Inuit women on this critical issue affecting their lives and those of their children and families.

During 2008/09, this funding enabled Pauktuutit to participate in several national processes that addressed the priorities of Inuit women in Canada. These activities included:

- Participating in discussions and meetings related to the National Economic Development Committee for Inuit Nunangat (NEDCIN) in response to the new federal framework for Aboriginal economic development. Pauktuutit is a strong proponent for economic self-sufficiency as being a foundation for effective self-government. More details about this activity are provided below;
- Ongoing discussions with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami on a wide range of issues including the development of an Inuit-specific education accord, health and other projects and priorities, and attending the ITK Annual General Meeting in Nain, Nunatsiavut;

- Working with the Native Women's Association of Canada to ensure communication links and effective cooperation was maintained between these important partners; and
- Establishing and maintaining links with existing or new Inuit women's groups including those in Nunatsiavut and Nunavik.

National Aboriginal Women's Summit II

The second National Aboriginal Women's Summit was held in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, from July 29–30, 2008. The goal of Pauktuutit's participation in NAWS II was to strengthen the participation of Inuit women at the summit by ensuring that their priorities and recommendations, and the issues that affect them were adequately addressed and presented by the Inuit women's delegation. Pauktuutit facilitated the participation of 10 Inuit women as delegates. Pauktuutit also played a key role in ensuring Inuit concerns were addressed at the summit by having materials translated into Inuktitut, liaising with the Native Women's Association of Canada staff in terms of planning and logistics, and providing input and direction into key documents prepared for the summit including the final report.

Prior to NAWS II, Pauktuutit's Board members (and delegates) met to undertake a strategic planning session. One key area that was discussed during this meeting was the issue of identifying strategic health priorities for Inuit women. In order to prepare for these discussions, an initial analysis of all AGM resolutions passed by Inuit women since 1984 indicated that political equality, health and social issues, in that order, have been and remain the organization's top priorities. The strategic planning session proved to be very useful in orienting the Pauktuutit Board members to priority issues in relation to the agenda and breakout discussions during the summit.

The goal of Pauktuutit's participation in NAWS II was to strengthen the participation of Inuit women at the summit by ensuring that their priorities and recommendations, and the issues that affect them were adequately addressed and presented by the Inuit women's delegation.

Federal Consultation and Accommodation Initiative

Inuit women have long recognized that a strong, autonomous national Inuit women's organization is an essential partner for Inuit organizations and governments to facilitate and provide informed women's input into current and future government initiatives. In an effort to review and improve the manner in which the Government of Canada consults with Aboriginal peoples, a document entitled *Interim Guidelines for Federal Officials to Fulfill the Legal Duty to Consult* was developed by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) which outlined how it proposes to undertake consultations. Aboriginal organizations were provided funding to consult with their respective constituencies to review and provide feedback on the proposed consultation process. Pauktuutit received funding to consult with Inuit women on the issue and held a workshop at the 2008/09 AGM in March in Iqaluit. Workshop participants supported the need for Inuit women to be key partners in the consultation process with the federal government, including through Pauktuutit as their national representative organization and other regional and community-level processes. This workshop is described in more detail in the report from the 25th AGM.

Gender-Based Analysis

For several years, Pauktuutit has been working with the federal government to provide advice and expertise to help ensure new federal policies and programs undergo an internal gender-based analysis. The development of a culturally-relevant gender-based analytical tool began in 2006, when Pauktuutit was asked by the Bureau of Women's Health and Gender Analysis at Health Canada to develop a framework for an Inuit-specific culturally relevant gender-based analysis of health determinants.



- ◀ In 2008/09, Pauktuutit used the INAC Food Mail Program, and potential changes to the program, to conduct a case study applying an Inuit-specific gender-based analysis to assess how proposed changes to eligible food products might impact Inuit women and men in the North differently. The Food Mail Program (FMP) is a program which provides a shipping subsidy for certain nutritious food and other essential items by air to isolated northern communities that are not accessible year-round by road, rail or marine service. The primary methodology for the project was to conduct workshops with Inuit women and gain their insights into how the program has impacted them to date and how potential changes to subsidized products might impact them. The project provided an important opportunity to test Pauktuutit's work to date on a relevant and timely federal policy initiative. The project also provided an opportunity to work with federal officials as they addressed their obligation to do an internal gender-based analysis as part of their responsibilities.



Economic Development

Pauktuutit participated as an *ex officio* member of the National Economic Development Committee for Inuit Nunaangat (NEDCIN). This included participation at a meeting of the working group in Iqaluit in January, 2008, as well as participation in regular conference calls of the committee. Pauktuutit expressed the unique priorities and concerns of its membership in relation to sustainable and responsible economic development initiatives in the communities. This involves the need to support human and social capital development, and community infrastructure, including the development of civil society and non-profit organizations as a key element of sustainable economic development. These views were incorporated in the Committee's 2009/10 research and work plan as well as other working and final documents.

Pauktuutit continued to support Inuit women interested in pursuing business opportunities and conducted a train-the-trainer workshop with 10 Inuit women participants in Ottawa in January 2009. Subsequently, two workshops were held for community members in Baker Lake and Iqaluit in March 2009. Initial steps were taken to develop an Inuit Business Women's Network. Smaller networks have been established with the individual groups of participants through e-mail and fax/phone lists allowing participants from smaller communities to keep in contact and receive on-going support. Preliminary research has been conducted about the potential development of an advanced on-line training/distance education module that incorporates specific training needs for Inuit women. However, further studies and funding will be necessary to continue this aspect of Pauktuutit's work.

Education

Pauktuutit worked with the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and its member organizations, federal government partners and other stakeholders in the four Inuit regions in the development of a National Inuit Education Accord, and is a signatory to the Accord signed by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, ITK and other parties on April 2, 2009. Preparatory events included participation at the Summit on Inuit Education, held in Inuvik, NT in April 2008. Pauktuutit will continue this work as a member of the National Committee on Inuit Education to address issues to improve educational access and outcomes for Inuit youth.

HEALTH

Gathering Inuit Knowledge, Beliefs, and Attitudes on Communicable Diseases

Inuit face a number of health challenges to a greater degree than other Canadians. To bring about effective change in Inuit health requires that attention be paid to more than just the physical and socio-economic factors that impact health. There is also a need to consider Inuit knowledge and opinions in order to develop effective strategies to limit communicable diseases. How do Inuit understand health issues and what strategies do they use in regards to issues such as communicable diseases? The objective of the *Gathering Inuit Knowledge, Beliefs, and Attitudes on Communicable Diseases* project was to better understand how Inuit perceive and act with respect to their health. By achieving a better understanding of Inuit behaviors in regard to health issues, better health promotion and disease prevention strategies can be developed specifically for Inuit.

The primary information for the project was gathered through a series of workshops and key informant interviews with health care workers across all Inuit regions. Topics covered by the project include HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections such as Hepatitis C (HCV), immunization, pandemic preparedness/influenza and Tuberculosis. Some of the key results of the research indicate that Inuit rely upon health care professionals to make health care decisions for them. Such findings have strong implications for the development of effective health promotion strategies that target Inuit.

Sexual Health

The impact of sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections, including HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C, continues to be a priority health concern, particularly among Inuit youth. The number of people living with HIV/AIDS continues to increase in Canada and Aboriginal people are contracting the virus at alarming rates. The most common route of HIV infection for Inuit is unprotected heterosexual sex. Greater contact between southern and northern communities and the semi-isolation of northern communities combined with the high incidence rates of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), high birth rates and higher than average rates of sexual assault



convictions in the North indicate higher potential risks of infection. As well, Inuit are proportionally over-represented in Canada's correctional institutions, which are high risk environments for HIV and other blood borne infections.

Pauktuutit has been very active in promoting public awareness and developing resources to help reduce the impact of STIs, including HIV/AIDS, for many years. One particularly effective method of increasing awareness and exchanging information on STIs has been to facilitate youth conferences on the topic. In February 2008, Pauktuutit conducted a Pan-Arctic Sexual Health Conference in Inuvik, Northwest Territories. Entitled *Resource Extraction and Inuit Sexual Health: Sexual Health is Everyone's Responsibility*, the conference also brought 10 Inuit youth from across the country together for a one-day workshop to discuss and share information on STIs. The outcome of this workshop was a recommendation for an Inuit-specific youth conference on sexual health.

In February 24–26, 2009, a national Inuit-specific youth conference was held in Kuujuaq Nunavik. Entitled *Stay Informed – Make Responsible Choices*, the conference brought together 35 Inuit youth from across the North as well as regional and federal public health experts. The meeting's objectives included developing the capacity of youth participants to promote healthy sexual behaviours, developing leadership skills and encouraging the development of community teams. The three-day meeting combined a number of activities to facilitate the learning process while combining several entertaining and educational activities to support team building and learning. Pauktuutit worked closely with the Centre of Excellence for Youth Engagement, the National Inuit Youth Council (NIYC), the Nunavik Regional Health and Social Services Board (NRHSSB) and the Canadian Inuit HIV/AIDS Network (CIHAN) to build on their expertise and extensive networks to facilitate and coordinate this very successful event.

Pauktuutit has been very active in promoting public awareness and developing resources to help reduce the impact of STIs, including HIV/AIDS, for many years.

Increasing Sexual Health Capacity and Building Supportive Communities for Inuit Living With HIV/AIDS Project

During 2008/09, with funding provided by the Public Health Agency of Canada, Pauktuutit produced a number of HIV/AIDS resource materials.

Louisa's Story is a DVD intended to raise awareness of the risk HIV infection among Inuit, including southern urban issues and risk factors as they affect potential infection in northern communities. The DVD shows the way of life in remote communities where many Inuit live as well as urban life for many Inuit. The DVD also includes footage of Louisa talking with high school students in the Arctic about her life and experiences, and an "HIV/AIDS 101" segment.

Pauktuutit designed and produced a *patient referral card*, intended to be a resource for Inuit persons with HIV/AIDS (PHAs) who may be diagnosed in their home communities. This resource provides contact information for

HIV/AIDS supports and services for immediate use by the patient and is intended to provide information and support in the absence of post-test counselling in many Inuit communities in the Arctic. Five cards were produced, providing regionally specific information.

Pauktuutit also designed and produced five *physician diagnosis fact sheets* intended to provide practical information for physicians and nurse practitioners in Inuit communities who may not be familiar with Inuit culture a better understanding of some of the challenges facing Inuit PHAs.

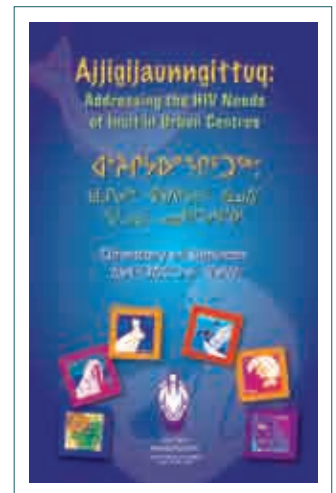
Ajjigijaunngittuq – Addressing the HIV Needs of Inuit in Urban Centres

While the majority of Inuit in Canada live in remote communities in the North, up to 22 per cent now live in urban centres. Some come to pursue educations or careers, or seek health care not available to them at home, while some have left their communities to escape abuse and overcrowded housing. For newly arrived Inuit, living in the south can be difficult and many feel isolated. Inuit who engage in high risk behaviours may be at an increased risk of HIV infection.

Pauktuutit has listened to many Inuit talk about their experiences trying to access HIV prevention, testing, diagnosis, care, treatment and support. Pauktuutit also discovered that Inuit in urban areas experience isolation and front-line service workers want to learn how to work more effectively with Inuit clients. There is a need for a wide variety of services, and each city can present unique challenges. However language, food and culture continue to unite Inuit.

In an effort to improve the quality of life of Inuit infected or affected by HIV by improving access to Inuit-centred prevention, diagnosis, care, treatment and support, in 2007/08 Pauktuutit conducted an assessment of the needs of Inuit living with HIV/AIDS in seven urban centres across southern Canada. The findings of this needs assessment identify gaps in Inuit-specific supports and services, and provide recommendations intended to support the development of appropriate and effective tools to assist front-line workers meet the needs of Inuit infected or affected by HIV/AIDS.

Subsequent to the completion of this needs assessment, Pauktuutit developed a directory of Inuit, Aboriginal or HIV/AIDS services in major urban centres across Canada, which is available to urban front-line workers who may work with Inuit clients. Pauktuutit also designed and focus-tested a knowledge exchange workshop for front-line workers with Inuit clients, which provides an overview of Inuit priorities, realities of community life in the Arctic, and the importance of Inuit culture, values and practices. The workshop was very well-received and appreciated by the participants and there are plans to adapt the workshop model and contents for use in the North.



Sexual Health Arctic Youth Fairs

With funding received from the MAC AIDS fund, Pauktuutit facilitated four sexual health fairs in 2008/09 in Iqaluit and Kimmirut, Nunavut, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Ottawa, Ontario. These 'fairs' are intended to encourage high school students to undertake projects, similar to science fairs, that address HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C in their communities.



« Injury Prevention

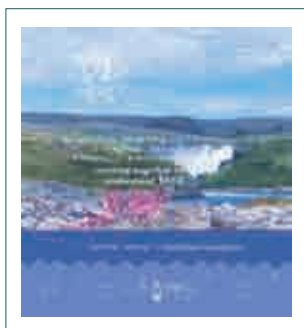
Pauktuutit has been active on issues related to injury prevention in Inuit communities for many years. In 2008/09, Pauktuutit with the assistance of the project advisory committee produced radio public service announcements for Inuit communities on injury prevention. Two Pauktuutit staff were also trained in the delivery of the Health Canada's *Journey to the Teachings* manual, which is intended to involve Inuit and First Nations communities in injury prevention awareness. In 2009/10, Pauktuutit will collaborate with the regions and communities to implement pilot testing of *Journey to the Teachings* in Inuit communities.

Midwifery

In 2008–2009, the Inuit Nunanni Midwifery Working Group, with the technical support of Pauktuutit staff, worked on the core competencies for Inuit midwives and for southern midwives working in Inuit communities. The working group continues to work on the development and implementation of various components of the draft National Inuit Midwifery Action Plan.

Pauktuutit's President, one staff member and five members of the working group represented the organization and its members at an international gathering of indigenous midwives in Washington, DC in May 2008. The President and one staff person also attended the licensing ceremony for the first two Inuit midwives who have received unrestricted licenses in Canada in Quebec City, Quebec in September 2008.

Pauktuutit's President and Executive Director, accompanied by a traditional Inuit midwife from Nunavut, participated in the first International Meeting on Indigenous Women's Health and part of the Third International Meeting on Indigenous Child Health, held in Albuquerque, New Mexico from March 4–6, 2009. A presentation was made to delegates from Canada and the United States on the organization, its mandate and activities, with specific discussion of its work on midwifery and violence abuse prevention as priority issues for Inuit women in Canada.



Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder/Early Childhood Development

- « In 2007/08 Pauktuutit completed 'Piaranut For Our Children: Quality Practices in Inuit ECE.' Using the *Piaranut* model, Pauktuutit conducted five site visits and developed a chapter focused specifically on FASD-

affected children. During 2008/09, Pauktuutit implemented advanced FASD training workshops – Katujjiqatigiitsuni Sannginiq: *Working Together to Understand FASD* – in Inuvik, Northwest Territories, Cambridge Bay, Nunavut, and Kuujuaq, Nunavik. Pauktuutit also entered into a partnership with the Department of National Defence’s Canadian Junior Rangers to develop and conduct an advanced FASD training workshop for their trainers to develop a relevant PHASE (Preventing Harassment and Abuse Through Successful Education) program module.



Pregnancy Calendars

The very popular *Born On the Land With Helping Hands* calendar was distributed in English/Nunavut and English/Nunavik syllabics. The calendar was translated into Inuinnaqtun and will be distributed in 2009/10.



Aboriginal Health Transition Fund (AHTF) – Pre-Natal Health Resource Development and Implementation

During 2008/09, a storyboard for a prenatal DVD was developed by the project advisory committee, and filming for the DVD took place in all four regions. The project will continue during 2009/10.

FAMILY VIOLENCE AND ABUSE

Making Our Shelters Strong

Pauktuutit has identified family and community violence as major issues facing Inuit. Since its very early days as an organization, Pauktuutit has researched the causes and impacts of this serious social problem and developed a number of resources for communities to help address violence. Inuit children who witness violence are particularly vulnerable to the negative impacts caused by violence. This past year saw the completion of *Gap Analysis of Services for Inuit Children Who Witness or Experience Violence*, a project funded by Justice Canada. The project focused on gathering information about the resources and programs currently available in Inuit communities that address the needs of these children.



Overall the project found serious gaps and discrepancies in the services available to Inuit children particularly in the areas of mental health services, social services policies and practice, the justice system, shelters, and culturally appropriate services of any kind. Specific issues identified included the sporadic use of Inuktitut, inadequate training for workers dealing with Inuit children who witnessed violence, inadequate incorporation of traditional Inuit healing practices within existing programs and services, and a significant lack of mental health services. The report includes recommendations to strengthen each of the services currently provided to Inuit children and to create and link new services in order to address the various gaps that exist in service delivery.

Pauktuutit undertook a project to address the specific needs of Inuit children who have been sexually abused, and worked with a Child Sexual Abuse Working Group to guide its work.

Addressing the Needs of Child Sexual Abuse Survivors

The sexual abuse of children remains a critical issue facing many Inuit communities and has been a priority issue for the organization for the past 25 years. Pauktuutit undertook a project to address the specific needs of Inuit children who have been sexually abused, and worked with a Child Sexual Abuse Working Group to guide its work. The project had the following objectives:

- Increase public awareness of sexual abuse of Inuit children and youth in Inuit communities, and support community efforts to prevent and detect abuse;
- Promote, and whenever possible, facilitate the engagement of Inuit experts in discussions pertaining to the sexual abuse of Inuit children and youth; and
- Promote culturally appropriate approaches in the prevention of sexual abuse of Inuit children.

Pauktuutit adapted an existing public awareness DVD concerning sexual abuse, *“The Hidden Face,”* from Greenlandic to Canadian Inuktitut. This resource will be an important tool to assist communities in their effort to support victims of child sexual abuse. Although the initial intention was to widely distribute the DVD once completed, the Working Group determined that it would be inappropriate to circulate the resource without supporting documents and materials including a teaching and facilitation guide, as well as providing an opportunity for front-line workers to come together to discuss how to use these materials.

Pauktuutit also facilitated a meeting of experts to assist in the development of key messages and elements of a child sexual abuse communications strategy. The Child Sexual Abuse Working Group met in March 2009 and identified some major issues regarding the needs of children who were sexually abused and outlined the key themes and structure of a communications strategy. Various elements of the communications strategy, once implemented, would include the development of posters, public service announcements, newsletters and Web content.

With financial support from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Pauktuutit’s implemented *Somebody’s Daughter*, a holistic on-the-land program that develops self-esteem, enhances cultural identity and pride, and promotes healing through the writing of personal stories and experiences. *Somebody’s Daughter* was developed for marginalized Inuit women including those at-risk of abuse, single mothers or victims of violence or abuse. The model is a stepping-stone program for these women to empower them to achieve a better future.

National Inuit Women’s Shelter Association

In 2008–2009, Pauktuutit worked with shelter directors from across the North to support the National Inuit Women’s Shelter Association. Pauktuutit was an early supporter of efforts to help fill a gap in advocacy, service delivery and access to funding for shelters in Inuit communities that are readily

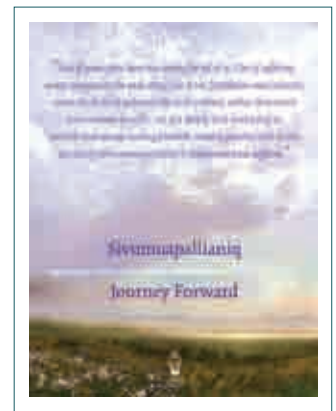
available in many other parts of Canada. The Association was formally incorporated in 2007/08 with the goal of achieving a steady reduction in incidents of violence and abuse in Inuit communities, and the promotion of caring and respectful relationships. Pauktuutit convened a number of teleconferences including one to mark the organization's first Annual General Meeting in December 2008. As well, Pauktuutit staff provided administrative and technical support by developing funding proposals, finalizing by-laws and policies and procedures for the organization, and assisting the Association in a range of communication activities.

Pauktuutit delivered a shelter workers' training workshop in Kuujuaq, Nunavik, in March 2009, to 14 participants from Nunavik, Nunatsiavut and Nunavut including shelter workers, shelter board members, and a policy maker. Participants developed strong bonds with each other and found that they shared a number of challenges in their work. Several participants noted that they would take the workshop back to their communities to train other shelter workers.

Sivumuapallianiq – The Journey Forward

In 2004, Pauktuutit was approached by Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada (IRSRC) to undertake a substantive program to address the legacy of residential schools among Inuit. In 2005, Pauktuutit and IRSRC entered into a five-year commitment to ensure there was sufficient time to develop, establish and implement a strategy. A project Advisory Committee comprised of six members including resource persons, experts, community members and IRSRC (as an *ex-officio* member) was established to provide ongoing direction and guidance to the project. ▶▶

Phase One of the project (2005–2007) focused on the development of a national strategy. Input was gathered from Inuit through interviews, research and workshops. Phase Two involved the implementation of the national strategy. Due to funding restrictions, the activities of the last year of the project were limited to the provision of support to the Inuusivut Project, a national initiative of the Embrace Life Council and the National Inuit Youth Council. The support enabled a group of young Inuit from across Canada to meet to discuss the impact of the residential school system and ideas for developing a full documentary on the subject. The final result was a documentary entitled 'Inuit Youth Perspectives on Residential Schools.'



COMMUNICATION

Pauktuutit prides itself on maintaining close links with all Inuit communities, its partner agencies, and the interested public. To this end, the organization makes a strong effort to develop and maintain a number of communication media to fulfill this goal. Over the past year, the following communication activities took place:

- The Pauktuutit website was updated to enhance its visual appeal and ease of access;

- Regular northern media were provided with information by Pauktuutit on issues including Canada's Arctic Strategy, Inuit education, economic development, women in business, early childhood development and FASD, suicide prevention and numerous health issues;
- Print media coverage included a national Inuit youth sexual health forum held by Pauktuutit in Kuujuaq, Nunavik in March 2009, as well as Pauktuutit's 25th Anniversary Annual General Meeting, held in Iqaluit, Nunavut in March 2009.
- Extensive radio interviews were conducted on a range of topics including Inuit women in business and economic development, suicide prevention, FASD, Inuit midwifery, family violence and child sexual abuse, as well sexual and other health issues.

REPORT FROM THE 25TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Pauktuutit's 25th Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held March 24–26, 2009 in Iqaluit. This year's AGM marked a very special and historic occasion – the 25th anniversary of the founding of Pauktuutit. From the initial stirrings of the newly founded organization in 1984, Pauktuutit has proven to be a major force in improving the lives of Inuit women, their families and their communities for over a quarter century. The 25th AGM continued a long history of bringing together Inuit women from across Canada to meet each other, renew old friendships, exchange information and provide important direction to the organization for the next year. The AGMs also provide a unique and essential opportunity for government and non-government agencies to consult with a broad range of Inuit from each Inuit region.

The organization strives to hold its AGMs in northern communities as often as possible but due largely to limited funding and increasing costs of holding large meetings in northern Canada, the last few years have seen several of the meetings being held in Ottawa. The selection of Iqaluit as the site of the 25th AGM was particularly appropriate given the close ties the organization has maintained with Inuit communities both in northern and southern Canada. Nunavut's capital city welcomed the AGM delegates with open arms and traditional hospitality combined with a real sense of pride and comradeship.

Highlights of this year's AGM included the election of new members to the Executive and Board and the hosting of a major gala event to celebrate Pauktuutit's 25th birthday. Among the many dignitaries attending the gala were Nunavut Premier Eva Aariak, Mr. Paul Kaludjak, President of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and Ms. Elisapee Sheutiapik, in the capacity of Mayor of the City of Iqaluit. This event was made possible with generous contributions from the Makivik Corporation and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., which were greatly appreciated. Reports gathered after the event indicated that a good time was held by all.

An AGM event that has proven to be very popular with delegates is the announcement of the recipient of the Inuit Woman of the Year Award. The award is given each year to an exceptional Inuk woman in recognition of her outstanding contribution to her community and to Inuit women. This year Pauktuutit's Woman of the Year Award was bestowed upon Sylvia Watt-Cloutier for her exceptional leadership as a cultural ambassador and a strong positive role model for young Inuit women.

Pauktuutit's AGMs provide a unique opportunity for Inuit women from all across the country to congregate and exchange information while discussing issues affecting their families and communities. The opportunity to consult and inform the largest congregation of Inuit women in the country has been recognized by a number of key government and non-government agencies wishing to seek out and inform Inuit women across a wide range of important issues.

Special Guests

Every year special guests are invited to address the delegates both to inform the participants about various issues and developments of importance, and to maintain and build bridges between organizations. This year saw a particularly large number of special guests in attendance to share in the 25th anniversary of the organization. Special guests included Nunavut Commissioner Ann Hanson, Senator Willie Adams, Paul Kaludjak, President of Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., and a number of Members of the Nunavut Legislative Assembly including Paul Okalik, James Aarvaluk, Ron Elliot, Johnny Ningark, Inuk Pauloosie, Moses Aupaluktuq, Johnny Ningeogan, Alan Rumboldt, and Fred Schell. Several ministers from the Government of Nunavut also addressed the delegates during the course of the meeting including Louis Tapardjuk, Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth and Tagak Curley, Minister of Health and Social Services.

Workshops

INUIT WOMEN'S VIEWS AND PRIORITIES ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND HUMAN HEALTH WORKSHOP

The workshop began with a presentation on the Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program for Northern/Inuit Communities, a program of the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch of Health Canada intended to assist Aboriginal communities to cope with climate change. Climate change impacts many facets of people's lives, and it was noted that it was important to generate discussion among people to determine how they were adapting to climate change and what they had seen in terms of actual changes in the environment. The participants were then divided into groups where they discussed their experiences with climate change and developed some priorities and issues impacting their communities. The proceedings were filmed, and workshop participants and community residents had an opportunity to participate in videotaped 'Speakers Corner' sessions to be included in the final project report.



DIALOGUE ON CONSULTATION AND ACCOMMODATION OF INUIT WOMEN WITH INDIAN AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS CANADA

For a number of years, Pauktuutit has been working to identify ways to improve the manner in which Inuit women were consulted by the federal government. The purpose of this workshop was to provide some information to delegates regarding the current methods of consultation followed by the federal government and to gain their input into how they felt Inuit women should be consulted. Delegates were provided with background information on the current consultation process adopted by the federal government in its dealings with Aboriginal Peoples. It was noted that there was a need to incorporate gender-based analysis into the consultation process to ensure that the potential impact on Inuit women was recognized and acknowledged in the development of federal public policies and programs. The discussion groups that followed the presentation generated some interesting perspectives including the need to ensure Inuit women are incorporated into all discussions regarding topics as diverse as health care and non-renewable resource development. Overall there was widespread support for the greater inclusion of Inuit women in the government consultation processes. The report submitted to INAC includes specific steps that would facilitate these consultations.

GENDER-BASED ANALYSIS (GBA) WORKSHOP

Since its inception, Pauktuutit has worked closely with government partners in an effort to ensure government programs and services meet the needs and priorities of Inuit women. For the past several years, Pauktuutit has been working to develop a culturally relevant gender-based analysis (CRGBA) tool to assist the federal government in improving the effectiveness of its policies, programs and services for Inuit. Delegates discussed this method of analysis that focuses upon determining how government programs impact Inuit women and their families differently than either Inuit men in their communities or people from other cultural backgrounds. The federal Food Mail Program, a program developed to provide a subsidy for the shipping costs of healthy foods in remote regions, was then discussed in the context of a culturally-relevant GBA. The department responsible for the program, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, was reviewing the list of eligible goods that could be subsidized and was considering reducing their number. The purpose of the workshop was to apply an Inuit-specific gender-based analysis to the program and explore how the proposed changes to the list of eligible goods would impact Inuit women and their families.

The delegates expressed interest in the Inuit-specific GBA process and voiced concerns over the proposed changes in the Food Mail Program. As well, several participants stated that they were concerned over the lack of control and influence that Inuit have over the development of government programs. The delegates were thanked for their participation and assured that their input would inform the further development of the Inuit GBA tool.

The purpose of the workshop was to apply an Inuit-specific gender-based analysis to the program and explore how the proposed changes to the list of eligible goods would impact Inuit women and their families.

Elections

This year, a number of positions on the Pauktuutit Board of Directors were up for election. The election was notable in part by the acclamation of two board members:

- Dawn Michelin – Nunatsiavut
- Rhoda Innuksuk – Urban Representative

As well, the following members were elected to the Board:

- Elaine Uppahuak-Prusky – Kivalliq
- Geela Maniapik – Qikiqtani South
- Michelle Gillis – Kitikmeot

2008–2009 RESOLUTIONS

Each year, resolutions developed and approved at the AGM provide a 'to do' list for Pauktuutit to accomplish in the following year. This year, delegates approved resolutions on the following topics.

- 2009–01 – Federal Consultation with Inuit Women
- 2009–02 – Inuit Women and Climate Change
- 2009–03 – Childhood Obesity
- 2009–04 – Sexual Health and Resource Effectiveness
- 2009–05 – Midwifery and Community-Based Research Partners
- 2009–06 – Health and Resource Extraction in the North

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

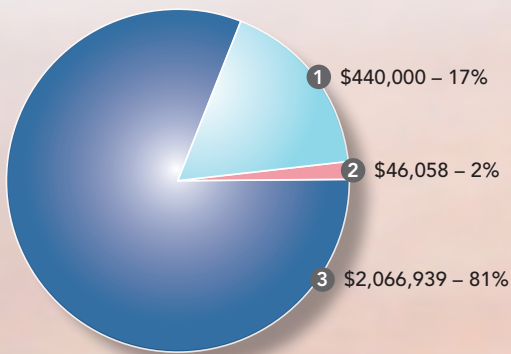
Each year, Pauktuutit relies on a number of funding agencies to help support the important work it carries out. These agencies vary from various federal departments to private foundations. While the degree and type of support may differ, they all contribute to improving the lives of Inuit women and their communities, and for this, Pauktuutit extends its sincere appreciation. Funders for this year's many activities include:

- Aarluk Consulting
- Canadian Heritage
- First Air
- Government of Nunavut (Victims Assistance Fund)
- Health Canada
- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
- Indian and Residential Schools Resolution Canada
- Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami
- Inuit Tuttarvingat, NAHO
- Justice Canada
- MAC AIDS Fund
- Makivik Corporation
- Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
- Public Health Agency of Canada
- Status of Women Canada

FINANCIAL REPORT – REVENUES AND EXPENSES 2008–2009

Revenues

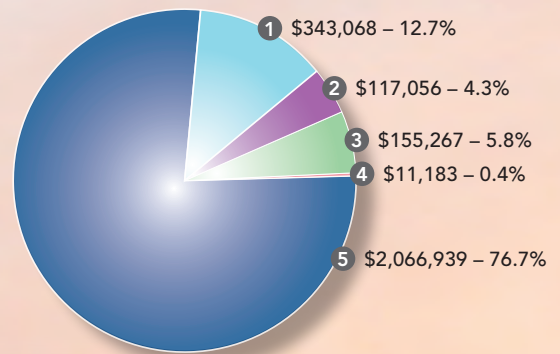
Where the Money Comes From



- 1 Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (Core)
- 2 Other (Core)
- 3 Special Projects Funding

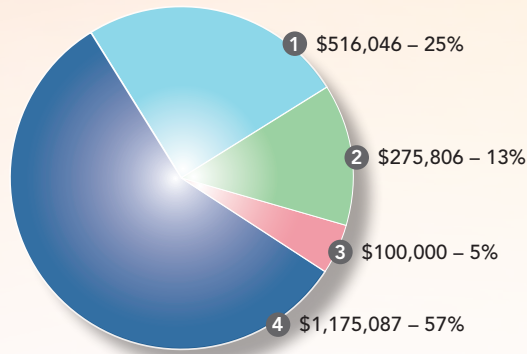
Expenses

Where the Money Goes



- 1 Administration (salaries/rent/office exp/equip rental)
- 2 Policy & Program Development
- 3 Board Meetings/AGM
- 4 Amortization of Capital Assets
- 5 Special Projects

Consolidated Categories of Special Projects



- 1 Socio-Economic & Self Government Projects
- 2 Abuse & Residential School Projects
- 3 National & International Engagement
- 4 Health Policy & Program Projects

Consolidated Financial Position

As of March 31, 2009, with comparative figures for 2008

ASSETS	2009	2008
Cash and other working capital	1,364,354	890,772
Capital Assets	36,214	41,684
Total Assets	1,400,568	932,456
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	848,454	627,661
Deferred Revenue	258,095	94,065
	1,106,549	721,726
Leasehold Inducements	5,510	8,264
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted	252,295	160,782
Invested in capital assets	36,214	41,685
	288,509	202,467
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	1,400,568	932,457

Consolidated Statement of Operations – Core Funding

Year ended March 31, 2009, with comparative figures for 2008

REVENUES	2009	2008
Core Funding	440,000	226,990
Other	46,058	48,474
Total Revenue	486,058	275,464
EXPENSES		
Administration	343,068	308,872
Policy & Program Development	117,056	79,481
Board Meetings/AGM	155,267	62,251
Amortization of Capital Assets	11,183	13,616
Total Expenses	626,574	464,220
Deficiency of Revenue over Expenses – Core Funding	(140,516)	(188,756)
Project Recoveries	226,559	145,549
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenses	86,043	(43,207)

Consolidated Statement of Operations – Special Project Funds

Year ended March 31, 2009, with comparative figures for 2008

REVENUE	2009	2008
Deferred Revenue, Beginning of Year	94,065	43,738
Contributions	2,392,534	2,150,570
Less: Payable to funding agencies	(186,565)	(51,014)
Deferred Revenue, End of Year	(233,095)	(94,065)
Total Revenue	2,066,939	2,049,229
EXPENSES		
Consolidated expenses	2,066,939	2,049,229
Total Expenses	2,066,939	2,049,229
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue over Expenses	—	—