

SULIQPITA

Augatnaaq Jess Eccles modeling an InukChic design at our 2019 annual general meeting

Vol. 4, Spring 2019

WHO WE ARE

Pauktuutit is the national representative organization of Inuit women in Canada. We foster greater awareness of the needs of Inuit women, advocate for equality and social improvements, and encourage Inuit women's participation in the community, regional and national life of Canada.

WHAT IS SULIQPITA

Suliqpita means "what are we doing." *Suliqpita* is our seasonal newsletter where we provide updates on what we've been working on and what's coming up.

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PAUKTUUTIT

INUIT WOMEN OF CANADA

MESSAGE FROM PAUKTUUTIT

Spring is finally here, and we hope you're enjoying the sunshine. With the change in season comes the newest edition of *Suliqpita*. It's been a busy few months for us as we wrap up 2018-19 and transition to a new fiscal year. This is also the beginning of an important anniversary for us – make sure you read until the end to see some photos from our archives in celebration of our 35th anniversary.

If you want to hear more about our work and receive updates more frequently, follow us on social media. In the coming months we'll be releasing some great materials, so stay tuned!

Qujannamiik/Nakurmiik/Ma'na/Koana

SAVE THE DATES

May 13-14: Seal Days on the Hill (Ottawa)

June: National Indigenous History Month

June 21: National Indigenous Peoples' Day

Updates from Rebecca

Following our successful annual general meeting in January, I returned home to Baker Lake for a few weeks. In mid-February, I then returned to Ottawa for a meeting of the Indigenous Women's Advisory Circle for the federal department of Women and Gender Equality (formerly Status of Women Canada).

Part of Pauktuutit's mandate is to represent Inuit women internationally. Attending global events means we can raise awareness of the unique needs of Inuit women, learn and share with others from around the world, and build our global network. Events at the United Nations are important opportunities for us to do that work.

From March 11 to 15, I was in New York City for the 63rd Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. This year's priority themes are social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. During the opening of the Canadian forum, The Honourable Maryam Monsef, Minister of International Development and Minister for Women and Gender Equality, put forward questions on participants' priorities and recommendations. The two main concerns I expressed were the lack of shelters in Inuit Nunangat and

the need for continued work on missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. In addition to attending the opening of this session with the larger forum, I also took part in two side events. On March 12, I spoke at one of the session's side events, "Ending Violence Against Indigenous Women: Importance of Social Protection Systems & Access to Public Services for Indigenous Women." During this conversation, I spoke on the connection between Inuit women's social protection needs and a continued lack of infrastructure in Inuit Nunangat. I also addressed Canada's obligation to fulfilling the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the necessity for consultation and engagement with all distinct groups of Indigenous women as part of this. Then, on March 13, I participated in a side event presented by the Canadian Council of Young Feminists that focused on dialogue with Indigenous leaders. In this discussion, I emphasized the need for Inuit representation on the panel and the importance of the inclusion of remote communities in these discussions.

Rebecca Kudloo

Rebecca Kudloo, President



*Left: President Rebecca Kudloo with The Hon. Maryam Monsef, Minister of International Development and Minister for Women and Gender Equality
Right: Canadian delegation for the tri-lateral UN side event on March 12 (photo courtesy of Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak/Women of the Métis Nation)*

CONDOMS 101



STIS AND PREGNANCY PROTECTION

Condoms are the only form of birth control that protect against pregnancy and STIs.



CONDOMS CAN BREAK

Put me on smoothly and use lubricant (real lube or saliva, but not vaseline). Don't store your condoms in your qamutik; freezing or heat will make them weak.



ONLY WORKS IF YOU WEAR IT

Remember that condoms don't work unless they are on the penis. From start to finish. 😊

- SAFE IS SEXY -



The CheckUp Project's Facebook page has lots of great content about safe sex, including memes, infographics, and even a podcast! Like the Facebook page @CheckUpProject

Health

Our Health team has continued its work on the *Inuusinni Aqqusaaqtara – My Journey* cancer project, funded by the Canadian Cancer Society. A new communications strategy has been developed to support the promotion of the project and its resources. Additionally, two e-learning modules are being developed to complement the existing cancer resources. One is designed for Inuit living with cancer and their families, and the second is for health care providers working with Inuit patients. We're also preparing a presentation on this project for the Public Health 2019 conference to be held in Ottawa at the end of April hosted by the Canadian Public Health Association.



Canadian
Cancer
Society

Pauktuutit has recently joined an Expert Advisory Committee on Indigenous Women's Health and Wellbeing, chaired by the Associate Deputy Minister of Health, Simon Kennedy. Also, we are working closely with Indigenous Services Canada in the context of Indigenous women's reproductive health rights regarding a distinct, Inuit-specific

needs assessment to understand informed consent and the impact of coerced sterilization of Inuit.

The CheckUp Project is a Nunavik-specific program that aims to change social norms around sexually transmitted and blood borne infection testing among youth. We are working with the project team to adapt and expand the project to the other regions of Inuit Nunangat. The project planning is well underway and we have just announced a request for proposal for the development of the social media strategy. You can find it on our website at www.pauktuutit.ca/media/.



On the Horizon

Our Health department is also excited to continue enhancing the National Inuit Sexual Health Network with funding from Indigenous Services Canada and to continue implementing *Tavva: The National*

Inuit Sexual Health Strategy. The Health team is currently planning the next face-to-face meeting of the Network to take place alongside the HIV/STI World Congress in Vancouver, BC in July.

We are also going to present a on *Ikajurniq: An Inuit Cascade of Care Framework* at the Canadian Association for HIV Research in Saskatoon, SK in May.

Violence and Abuse Prevention

On the Horizon

We will soon launch the next phase of our Believe-Ask-Connect project titled *Sivummuatsiarniq: An Urban Resource Guide for Inuit Women*. This project includes three resources designed to support Inuit women when moving south. One of the resources offers information about services available in Ottawa, Montreal, Winnipeg, Toronto, Edmonton and St-John's. It will also include helpful strategies for getting to know one's new community and staying safe, while also increasing awareness about women's rights. Also, we are developing a resource for *qallunaat* (non-Inuit) service providers to increase their cultural competency when working with Inuit – the goal is to improve the experience Inuit have with various services in the south.

Additionally, our Access to Justice project will soon begin. This project, in partnership with the Law Society of Nunavut, will focus on the experience of Nunavummiut with the Family Abuse Intervention Act (FAIA) and will take place over the next two years.

The past few months have been very active as our current projects unfold and new proposals are submitted.

As part of our *Pilimmaksarniq – Engaging Men and Boys in Reducing Violence Against Women and Girls* project, we launched a call for nominations for our Role Model Campaign. This initiative invites community members across Inuit Nunangat to acknowledge someone in their daily life who demonstrates the Inuit societal values of healthy relationships, gender equality and ways of living free from violence. We are now looking forward to creating a video and photo campaign to encourage others to learn from the role models chosen by the regional and national advisory committees. Throughout the formation of this project we have worked closely with regional organizations and we thank them for their support: Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.; Qikiqtani Inuit Association; Nunatsiavut Government; Inuvialuit Regional Corporation; Qarjuit Youth Council; and Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services.

At Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami's Forum on the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse (November 2018), they committed to hosting a follow-up session. Held in Ottawa in March and attended by delegates from across Inuit Nunangat and staff from our Violence and Abuse Prevention department, this two-day gathering focused on the next ten years of implementation of ITK's National Inuit Suicide Prevention Strategy, knowledge sharing and action planning.



We accepted nominations for our Role Model Campaign from late March to April 14. Stay tuned to see which nominees were chosen to be part of our national photo/video campaign!



Pauktuutit Youth Board Member, Laura Churchill, presenting at the Nunavut Mining Symposium during a panel on Diversity and Inclusion in Mining, March 2019

Social and Economic Development

The winter months have been busy for us! On January 31 we were in Kuujuaq, Nunavik to participate in the Nunavik Entrepreneurship Roundtable hosted by Makivik Corporation. The roundtable brought together various stakeholders, including Kativik Regional Government, Raglan Mine, Qarjuit Youth Council, Youth and Employment Services, Nunavik Investment Corporation, Kativik Ilisarniliriniq (KI), Fédération des Coopératives du Nouveau Québec (FCNQ) and individual entrepreneurs. In addition to hearing about current initiatives and priorities in relation to regional entrepreneurship, Pauktuutit also had the opportunity to present several of its own socio-economic development initiatives, such as the Inuit Women in Business Network (IWBN) and its mentorship resources.

In early March, we launched our IWBN resources on the entrepreneurial use of Facebook and Etsy. These resources on how to effectively use these digital platforms for business include a detailed guide (available in both English and Inuktitut) and a series of eight engaging how-to videos. You can check them out at www.iwbn.ca.

We are also continuing our work on *Addressing Inuit Women's Economic Security and Prosperity in the Resource Extraction Industry*. We have been working closely with our regional partners while also forming partnerships within the extraction industry. In this quarter, we held our first call with the advisory committee and completed a literature review, through a gendered lens, to assess the effectiveness of existing industry policies and procedures, current legislations and relevant human rights codes.

We also travelled to Iqaluit, Nunavut in early April to attend the Nunavut Mining Symposium and Trade Show. One of the youth representatives on our Board of Directors, Laura Churchill, presented for us on a panel addressing gender and inclusivity in the mining industry. The symposium also gave us the opportunity to speak with and collaborate with potential governmental, community and industry representatives about our previous and current work on Inuit women's participation in the extraction industry.

On the Horizon

The social and economic development department is currently working with our advisory committee members and regional partners to design surveys that will help us better understand the issues of workplace sexual harassment

and violence in the resource extraction industry. In the coming months we will travel to all regions of Inuit Nunangat to give out these surveys to Inuit women who have, or are currently, working at extraction sites.

35th Anniversary

April 1 was our 35th anniversary! Here are a few photo highlights from over the years.

Top: Pauktuutit's first Board of Directors. *Front:* Rosie Veevee, Eva Voisey, Andrea Webb and son. *Middle:* Inooya Inuk, Jeela Moss-Davies, Annie Okalik, Okpik Pitseolak. *Back:* Anna Samsack, Helen Tologonak, Lizzie Ittinuar

Bottom right: Former President Veronica Dewar at an international meeting on intellectual property in 2001

Bottom left: President Rebecca Kudloo with The Hon. Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, signing our Memorandum of Understanding in 2017

