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PAUKTUUTIT
INUIT WOMEN OF CANADA
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2012–2013
ANNUAL REPORT



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Rebecca Kudloo

Welcome to the 29th Annual Report of Pauktuutit. It is with considerable pride that I present this record of our achievements and success over the past year. While the year went by very fast, I am confident you will agree that Pauktuutit has had another impressive year and continues to serve well the interests of Inuit women and their families across Inuit Nunangat.

At the beginning of the year, we were facing a number of challenges including funding cutbacks and a busy roster of projects. I must admit that on a few occasions, I wondered how we were going to get everything done on time and on budget. Through it all however I found that the quiet strength and determination of my Board and staff members helped to instill a sense of confidence and energy that I have rarely experienced elsewhere. I know that many of you reading this report may not be familiar with our Board and staff members but let me assure you this is a group you want on your side! Inuit women can be proud of the work and dedication of this unique group of women.

For me personally, I think one of the highlights of our year was the launch of the Virtual Quilt project held in Ottawa at the Museum of Civilization in March 2013. Organized by our Abuse Prevention staff Kat Irngaut and Sipporah Enuaraq, the launch featured a documentary about a number of Inuit communities who portrayed their experiences and impressions of the Residential School experience in various forms of art. It was, in a word, amazing. The audience was mesmerized by the images they were seeing and the stories they were hearing. You will read more about the project and some of our other work in this area in the pages to come, but this event held a very special, very unique place in my heart.

I was also very pleased to be able to help organize and participate in a research project Pauktuutit was undertaking in Baker Lake. The project was exploring how mining projects impact Inuit women and their families. Our staff did a wonderful job in helping to train some local people to help conduct the research so these skills will stay in the community once the project finishes. Mining activities are occurring all over Inuit Nunangat and it is important that we fully understand what these developments mean for our communities and our people.

Pauktuutit has always been very busy in the area of health. With the substantial cutbacks to federal funding programs in health, we were concerned that this important area of activity would suffer. While funding has been a big challenge for Pauktuutit, staff worked very hard and

with the help of Leona Aglukkaq, the federal Minister of Health, Pauktuutit received funding to conduct a cancer project. Projects such as these are crucial in helping ensure Inuit women and their families are able to access resources that are appropriate, effective and beneficial to improving their understanding of medical issues. This in turn will help them to be more knowledgeable about what health care they need and deserve.

Pauktuutit has always recognized that its responsibility to represent the interests of Inuit women often extends beyond the regional, territorial/provincial and even the national level. We work actively with the Inuit Circumpolar Conference Canada and with other Inuit representative organizations around the circumpolar world. In the past, Pauktuutit has attended international meetings to participate in initiatives that support the protection of intellectual property rights of indigenous peoples and other equality issues, and holds consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. As well, Pauktuutit has attended meetings with indigenous partners in South Africa and South America to address issues including but not limited to health, violence against women and children, sustainable development and the environment. These initiatives are important as they enable Pauktuutit to ensure the voices of Inuit women are heard at the international level. I hope we can continue to represent Inuit women at the international level in the future as the appropriate opportunities arise.

Before I finish my report, I would like to take this opportunity to offer, on behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and all Inuit women, my sincere thanks and appreciation to our outgoing President, Elisapee Sheutiapik. For me, she represented what a true Inuit leader should be – strong, intelligent, committed to helping Inuit achieve their full potential, and, importantly, to try and build consensus among Inuit despite the challenges this may involve. Elisapee, you have inspired a generation of Inuit women to become better leaders and members of our society. You have left some very large kamiks to fill! Qujanamiik Elisapee!





PAUKTUUTIT'S MANDATE

Pauktuutit is the national non-profit organization 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.

PAUKTUUTIT'S OBJECTIVES

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

2012 – 2013

Executive Committee

Rebecca Kudloo

Interim President, Kivalliq, NU

Annie Buchan

Interim Vice-President, Kitikmeot, NU

Anne Curley

Secretary-Treasurer, Qikiqtani South, NU



Annual General Meeting 2013 in Ottawa.

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Board Members

Charlotte Wolfrey

Region and Communities Represented

Nunatsiavut – Nain, Hopedale, Postville, Makkovik, Rigolet and Happy Valley-Goose Bay

Minnie Etidloie

Nunavik – Ungava Coast - Kangiqsualujjuaq, Kuujjuaq, Kangiqsujjuaq, Aupaluk, Kangiqsuk, Quaqtaq and Tasiujaq

Sarah Idlout

Nunavik – Hudson Coast - Salluit, Ivujivik, Akulivik, Puvirnituq, Inukjuaq, Umiujaq, Kuujjuarapik

Geela Maniapik

Qikiqtani South – Kingait, Kimmirut, Iqaluit, Pangnirtung, Qikiqtarjuaq, Clyde River, Sanikiluaq

Anne Curley

Qikiqtani North – Pond Inlet, Arctic Bay, Grise Fiord, Resolute, Igloolik, Hall Beach

Rebecca Kudloo

Kivalliq – Arviat, Whale Cove, Rankin Inlet, Chesterfield Inlet, Baker Lake and Coral Harbour, Repulse Bay

Annie Buchan

Kitikmeot – Kugaaruk, Taloyoak, Gjoa Haven, Cambridge Bay, Bathurst Inlet, Kugluktuk, Umingmaktok

Agnes Kuptana

Inuvialuit – Ulukhaktok, Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour, Aklavik, Inuvik, Tuktoyaktuk

Suzie Napayok

Yellowknife, Northwest Territories

Rhoda Ungalak

Iqaluit, Nunavut

Evelyn Winters

Urban Inuit women – Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Labrador

Myrtle Banfield

Urban Inuit women – St. John's, Nfld.

Nubiya Enuaraq

Inuit youth – Ottawa, Ontario

Julia Ford

Inuit youth – Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Labrador



TRC Virtual Quilt Launch
March 2013

PROJECT REPORTS

Pauktuutit has been successfully promoting the interests and priorities of Inuit women since 1984. A major element of this work takes the form of various projects the organization develops on behalf of its constituents. The process by which Pauktuutit's Board of Directors and staff determine which projects to try and obtain funding for begins with Inuit women themselves. Pauktuutit is required in its by-laws to have an Annual General Meeting. At the AGM, delegates from across Inuit Nunangat are brought together to discuss issues and identify priorities of concern to Inuit women. Based on the resolutions passed at the AGM, Pauktuutit's Board and staff develop plans to put these into action and begin to formulate project ideas and to start developing proposals to submit to funders. The process can be challenging particularly given the substantial funding cutbacks that have occurred over the past several years.

This past year has seen the successful completion of several important projects and the continuation of others. This section provides an overview of the various projects that have been undertaken by Pauktuutit's three departments over 2012-2013. For more details and current information on projects, please visit www.pauktuutit.ca.

ABUSE PREVENTION

One of the first priorities identified by the initial Pauktuutit Annual General Meeting was abuse prevention. While that was 29 years ago, abuse at many levels remains a serious problem across Inuit Nunangat and there is still a great deal of work to be done. Among this year's successfully funded projects, the Abuse Prevention department has been proud to work on the following.

Nipiqartugut Sanaugatigut TRC – Virtual Quilt

Pauktuutit has successfully completed a virtual quilt as a national commemoration of the Residential School experiences of Inuit women. With funding from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, participating individuals and communities created an impressive array of art pieces about Inuit women's experiences with Residential Schools.

The project included production of a video documentary, a photo album of the final art pieces, and an online 'virtual quilt' that will serve as a lasting



Thimble and grasswork,
Rigolet, Nunatsiavut



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memorial to the legacy of the Inuit Residential School experiences. The hope is that the project will continue to foster the healing and reconciliation process of survivors and their communities through its creation as well as being a testament to the resilience and strength, and cultural traditions of Inuit that survived a very difficult period in history. To commemorate the success of the project, Pauktuutit held a very successful national launch of the virtual quilt in Ottawa on March 7, 2013. The documentary was made as a means of educating the public on the legacy of the Residential Schools.



A COMMUNITY STORY

Pauktuutit partnered with BluePrintForLife (social work through hip hop) and the community of Kugaaruk, Nunavut, to develop *A Community Story*. Focusing on intergenerational healing, the project combined healing, cooperation, role modeling and unity between the adults and elders in the community with the youth about Residential Schools and child sexual abuse. Together through workshops held in tandem, the adult workshop (facilitated by Pauktuutit) and the youth (facilitated by BluePrintForLife) explored self-care strategies and taking ownership of their healing and what that meant for the next generation. At the end of the week an art piece and performance were produced as *A Community Story* – a healing journey specific to the community. The weeklong event and outcomes were published as a model that can be adapted for use in other Inuit communities. Funded by AANDC, the project was completed March 31, 2013.



VIOLENCE PREVENTION – INUIT CHILDREN

Pauktuutit developed a public awareness campaign with Inuit partners and stakeholders to reduce Inuit children's vulnerability to family violence. Funded by AANDC, this three-month project was guided by an advisory committee, and the outcomes are expected to form the basis for a continuation of the project in 2013/14. The project resulted in a new logo and child-focused awareness materials including temporary tattoos, colouring sheets, an animated webpage, stickers, t-shirts, and Frisbees. A communications strategy was also developed and will be implemented in 2013-2014.

Partnerships

The Abuse Prevention Department consistently works on issues and topics outside of project funding. Pauktuutit as a whole sits on 30 different working groups, advisory committees, or is consulted by different organizations and policy makers and others. The following are some of the events and activities that the Abuse Prevention department has participated, hosted, or partnered on to move forward on issues.

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Pauktuutit worked with the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services (NRBHSS) to deliver a workshop in Nunavik based on Pauktuutit's *The Hidden Face* child sexual abuse workshop materials and the NRBHSS's project called *Good Touch/Bad Touch* that also addresses child sexual abuse. The workshop consisted of 10 front-line workers from Nunavik, along with two employees of NRBHSS. The workshop was to be expanded to other communities.

ELDER ABUSE

Partnership development is in progress with National Initiative for the Care of the Elderly (NICE). This is taking longer than was hoped.

FAMILY VIOLENCE

Pauktuutit participated in as an advisory committee member on the Government of Nunavut's Family Violence Strategic Planning Committee. This work resulted in the *Ilagiitsiarniq Strategic Framework* which is currently awaiting approval from cabinet.

Pauktuutit is also a working group member of the Public Health Agency of Canada's Family Violence Initiative Working Group.



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MISSING AND MURDERED INUIT WOMEN AND GIRLS (MMIWG)

Pauktuutit has joined a community panel as part of Public Safety Canada's Human Trafficking Taskforce. Local service providers in Ottawa have noticed a significant increase in the number of Inuit women who have been victims of human trafficking, or forced prostitution.

Pauktuutit also participated in this year's National Aboriginal Women's Summit in Winnipeg. Although the focus was narrowed to Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women and Girls (MMAWG), Pauktuutit President Rebecca Kudloo consulted with other Inuit delegates (including Qullit Nunavut Status of Women, the Nunavut Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, the Nunavut Deputy Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, and the Nunatsiavut Minister of Health and Social Development) and delivered a presentation on Inuit priorities. In addition, Inuit-specific recommendations for next steps were submitted directly to the co-chairs of the event (Manitoba and NWAC).

PREVENTING AND REDUCING THE TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN AND GIRLS THROUGH COMMUNITY PLANNING

Pauktuutit is a partner in project submitted to Status of Women Canada by the Ottawa Coalition to End Human Trafficking to engage law enforcement, front-line agencies, government agencies and victims of human trafficking to coordinate action-oriented activities to support victims of forced labour and forced sex work. The Coalition represents over 47 member organizations including the RCMP, Ottawa Police Service and a range of social service NGOs and community partners. Three local partners have shared some confidential information related to Inuit girls and women who have been victims of extreme sexual violence. It was felt that it would be important, given that Ottawa is home to the largest urban Inuit population outside of the Arctic, to examine what seems to be an increase in Inuit girls and women working in the survival sex trade, and the supports and services required to meet their needs as victims of crime.

HEALTH

Pauktuutit's Department of Health Policy and Programs faced a challenging year primarily due to major federal cutbacks to a wide range of health program areas that provided key funding to Pauktuutit's projects. Despite these challenges, Pauktuutit was able to continue to deliver important projects that help Inuit women and their communities meet their health concerns and priorities.

Tukisiviit – Do You Understand?



Pauktuutit facilitated and hosted the *Tukisiviit* National Inuit Sexual Health Literacy Forum in February 2012. To help increase the ability of Inuit to understand complex medical terminology, various terms were translated into five dialects and are available on the website, on CD and in hard copies. The resource was sent to all Inuit communities.

Pauktuutit also made a presentation to the International Indigenous HIV/AIDS Working Group preconference meeting of AIDS 2012 on the process of developing *Tukisiviit*. The presentation received a lot of interest from indigenous groups around the globe. An extension to the project until March 31, 2014 was granted to complete a social marketing campaign for *Tukisiviit*. *Tukisiviit* was launched in Winnipeg with the Manitoba Urban Inuit Association on November 30, 2012 with additional launches being planned in all other regions in the coming year. Pauktuutit received much positive feedback on this project. An article on *Tukisiviit* appeared in the *Canadian Nurse* magazine in January 2013. *Tukisiviit* as well as other sexual health resources will become part of an online continuing education course for physicians being offered through Memorial University of Newfoundland.



Hepatitis C

Pauktuutit received funding to address hepatitis C in April 2011 until March 2013. Focus groups were conducted in all four regions to gain information about Inuit knowledge, attitudes and behaviour (KAB) regarding hepatitis C. Three brochures on hepatitis C were developed in all four dialects. Pauktuutit partnered with CATIE and translated their hepatitis C Chatterbox game as a tool to engage youth in the discussion of hepatitis C. All four of these resources have been sent to all Inuit communities. A hepatitis C strategic planning session was also held in Kuujuaq on January 20 – 21, 2013 to develop a five-year strategic plan for hepatitis C. Once validated by the advisory committee, the plan will be translated into four dialects and shared with all Inuit communities, governments, health authorities and other stakeholders. The project has been extended until March 2014. The extension will focus on the development and delivery of an awareness campaign.





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Cancer Project

Pauktuutit was honoured to host the Minister of Health's announcement on November 26, 2012 of the eight cancer projects that were funded by Public Health Agency of Canada this year. Pauktuutit's *Inuit Cancer Project* (2012-2014) has completed an environmental scan and knowledge, attitudes and behaviour (KAB) research to support an evidence-based response to the cultural and practical limitations associated with Inuit uptake of knowledge about cancer in general, and about cancer risk factors, cancer screening, and early detection. Pauktuutit completed two research ethics board reviews associated with this project, one federal and one provincial. Focus groups were held in Inuvik, Purvirntuq, Kuujuaq, Pangnirtung, Rankin Inlet, Rigolet and Ottawa. Partners for the project include the Canadian Cancer Society, Canadian Breast Cancer Network, the Canadian Partnerships Against Cancer, Government of Nunavut, ITK and all regional land claim organizations. A cancer workshop took place at the AGM in March 2013 and a terminology forum to develop a glossary of terms related to cancer will take place in June 2013.



STARSS

Following the input received from last year's AGM workshop on the STARSS (Start Thinking About Reducing Second-hand Smoke) program, Pauktuutit worked with an advisory committee to produce an Inuit adaption of this resource, which was renamed *Atii*. Focus testing on the resource was completed in all regions. The final product has been translated into four dialects of Inuktitut. These products link with tobacco cessation programs currently happening in all regions. Training on the new resources is planned for all four regions in March – May 2013. Training for Nunavut will take place using telehealth based on consultations with the government of Nunavut's Department of Health.



Active and Safe

Pauktuutit's *Active and Safe Inuit Children and Youth Project* (August 2012 – March 31, 2013) engaged Inuit youth in four of the communities that had previously hosted the *Journey to the Teachings* workshops. Pauktuutit was pleased to participate in the Minister of Health's announcement of all the Active and Safe projects on December 3, 2012. The project adapted the *Journey to the Teachings* material for a youth audience. Workshops have been conducted in Inukjuak, Pangnirtung, Inuvik and Makkovik. Youth developed messaging on injury prevention for other youth. The materials are being edited and will be reproduced on DVD for all Inuit communities, distributed using social

media such as Facebook and YouTube, and available on Pauktuutit's website. The Inuvialuit Regional Corporation's Regional Youth Coordinator was able to secure funding to bring two youth from three of their larger communities to participate in the workshop so they can train others in their home community and thus build capacity in the region. This increased the reach of the project.

Creating Culturally Relevant HIV/AIDS Education, Prevention, Screening and Treatment for Canadian Inuit

Pauktuutit is partnering with Dalhousie University to explore a community-based research project that will look at community readiness for research. Presently funding has only been received for a meeting to consult with community partners. Two meetings have been held in Iqaluit in June 2012 and most recently in Kuujuaq in January 2013. Communities participating in the meetings have expressed interest in being involved in the project. Pauktuutit will be moving forward to submit a three-year operating grant in the October 2013 call for submissions from the Canadian Institutes for Health Research.

Partnerships

The Health Department sits on a variety of committees both national and international.

The National Inuit Committee on Health (NICOH) is the advisory committee on health matters to the ITK Board. Additionally Pauktuutit sits on the Inuit Public Health Task Group (IPHTG), Inuit Maternal Child Health Working Group (IMCHWG), Inuit Early Childhood Development/Education Working Group (IECDEWG) and Mental Health Continuum Advisory Committee. All of these committees report to the ITK Board through NICOH. Pauktuutit strives to ensure that gender and women's issues are included in all discussions.

This year the priorities for NICOH are mental wellness, TB, oral health and maternal child health. The IPHTG's priorities are sexual health, TB and the social determinants of health. Being at these meetings provides Pauktuutit with an opportunity to move the priorities of Inuit women further. Pauktuutit is able to ensure that violence as a determinant of health throughout the life cycle is included in the discussions. These meetings also serve as a communication opportunity so the regions, ITK, ICC and Pauktuutit can see where they can work together to avoid duplication, ensure gaps are identified and solutions are discussed and acted on.



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The National Aboriginal Council on HIV/AIDS (NACHA) is the advisory council to the Public Health Agency of Canada that provides templates of advice for the Minister of Health on issues related to HIV and other communicable diseases. Pauktuutit's involvement on NACHA ensures that the Inuit perspective is included. The mandate of NACHA will be changing in 2013 as a result of PHAC's new integrated approach. PHAC is now looking at the issues from a more holistic perspective rather than a disease-specific approach. All of the advisory councils to the Minister will be reassessing their mission and vision statements and their terms of reference.

Canada has been taking the lead to ensure populations that are most affected by HIV/AIDS have a venue to collaborate and share promising practices. This group meets by teleconference on a regular basis and meets face to face at the World AIDS Conference every two years, most recently in Washington, DC in July 2012. Pauktuutit sits on the International Indigenous HIV/AIDS Working Group to ensure that Inuit issues are included globally.

The Aboriginal HIV/AIDS Community-based Research Centre Governing Council is a new council to advise the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network (CAAN) in its role as the hub for Aboriginal HIV/AIDS community-based research. Pauktuutit represents Inuit issues and priorities as a member of this council.

The CAAN National Aboriginal Steering Committee on Community Readiness (NASCCR) is an expansion of CAAN's earlier project on community readiness for risk reduction. In Phase 1 of this project CAAN partnered with Friendship Centers but now will be working with on reserve populations and also include a northern component. Pauktuutit staff took the training on this last year as part of Phase 1.

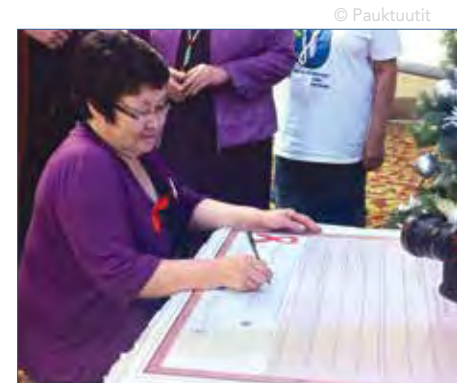
For the past three years, Pauktuutit has been active partners with CAAN on the Aboriginal AIDS Awareness Week (AAAW) Steering Committee. Last year Pauktuutit participated in three events:

- The launch of AAWW in Winnipeg where Rebecca Kudloo spoke;
- Co-hosting a youth event in Iqaluit with CAAN and NTI; and
- Co-hosting the Parliamentary breakfast with CAAN and Interagency Coalition on AIDs and Development (ICAD). That event allowed us to share *Tukisiviit* with government officials.

Pauktuutit also sits on the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada's Aboriginal Health Initiative Committee. This is particularly important as all aspects of women's health are discussed at this table. This gives us an opportunity to ensure Inuit women's issues are included.



2013 CAAN Poster



© Pauktuutit



The Food Security Network committee is an advisory committee to a pilot project that is occurring in Nunatsiavut. This project is called Engaging Communities: Achieving Healthier Weights Through Community Food Security in Remote Inuit Communities and is being piloted in Nunatsiavut until 2016. Pauktuutit and ITK both sit on this committee to support national collaboration and information sharing with other Inuit regions.

Working with Nunavut's Tobacco Has No Place Here Advisory Committee ensures continuity of our *Atii* project and other smoking cessation programs that are available. Pauktuutit is also able to be knowledge brokers to the other regions in providing them with an update on the status of this campaign.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The department has been focusing on four projects this year. These are the Inuit Women's Business Network (IWBN), the Inuit Women's Business Workshop, the mining and resource extraction project and a project to assess the interests, needs and barriers for Inuit youth with regard to economic development.

INUIT WOMEN IN BUSINESS NETWORK (IWBN)

The IWBN has exceeded all hopes for its success. The pilot project is guided by an advisory committee of business women and funding organizations across Nunavut. The project was intended to develop a model for a support

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network for Inuit business women that can be implemented in the other regions beyond the Baffin region. Other work focused on identifying the resource and information needs of women that may not be readily available or 'user-friendly.' New tools were finalized and presented for review and validation at a national roundtable of stakeholders held in Ottawa in March 2013.

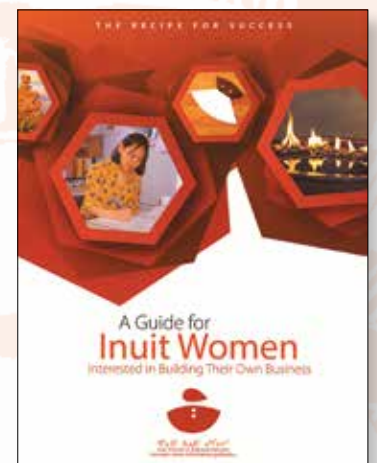
As various parts of the project were completed including launching the IWB website and sharing success stories of Inuit women in business, there was an immediate request for information and support by Inuit women from across the country. The project originally intended to work with approximately 10 women in Iqaluit to guide and advise the project but there are already more than 70 members from across the country. The project was also presented at a national conference on Aboriginal economic development in Ottawa in January 2013 where it was very well received.

Plans for the next fiscal year include building upon some of the support tools developed thus far and to secure ongoing sustainability funding to implement and support the network when it will be formally launched after March 31. Initial discussions about sustaining the network have been held with officials at Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, who are also interested in the continued success of the IWB.

INUIT WOMEN'S BUSINESS (IWB) WORKSHOP

The original IWB workshop was developed by Pauktuutit in the early 2000s and was very well received. Two years ago, Pauktuutit was approached by the Canadian Women's Foundation (CWF) as they had identified 'Aboriginal' women and the North as priorities. Pauktuutit and CWF determined that there was interest in continuing to deliver an enhanced and updated workshop. Pauktuutit was also interested in working with a new 'asset mapping' tool intended to help women realize the strengths and capital they already have such as family support, language and cultural expertise, knowledge of their community's needs, etc. This workshop was delivered in Inuvik and Iqaluit during 2012/13. As a result of the workshop in Iqaluit, a local Inuk woman was featured in an article in Nunatsiaq News saying that attending this workshop gave her the confidence to open her own specialty baking business and she is now well on her way to having a successful business.

Pauktuutit was asked to give a presentation on the project to the economic advisory committee of the CWF Board of Directors in Toronto in January 2013. There was great support and enthusiasm for the project, with offers being made of practical assistance such as making links to accountants and other professionals. The project will be completed in 2014.





BluePrintForLife

MINING AND RESOURCE EXTRACTION

Pauktuutit has been keenly aware of the need for research into how Inuit women and their families were being impacted by resource extraction activities across Inuit Nunangat. With the CWF identifying the North as a priority area, Pauktuutit identified a new opportunity to submit a small research proposal. The proposal was approved to begin in 2012/13 and is intended to document the unique social and health concerns and priorities of Inuit women and to work with communities and industry to find solutions to issues.

This project has greatly benefited from the guidance and support of Interim President Rebecca Kudloo, as there was interest from the women of Baker Lake in doing the project in that community. Dr. Frank Tester, University of British Columbia, contacted Pauktuutit with an offer to partner on the project as he had accessed funding for a similar project that was not gender-specific. The partnership has worked very well and the project was successful in providing important insights into how Inuit families perceive and are impacted by mining projects. An important aspect of the project was that local residents were trained to help undertake the research, skills that would remain in the community after the research was completed.

There is much interest in the outcomes of the project in Inuit regions. In addition, discussions have also been had with mining companies about possibly partnering with them on research of mutual interest.

INUIT YOUTH AND THE ECONOMY

In part due to the success of the IWBNI, AANDC approached Pauktuutit about taking on a project aimed at encouraging the participation of Inuit youth in the economy. With a short time frame, it was decided to seek input from Inuit youth about their interests, challenges, barriers and supports needed to engage with the economy. In discussions with stakeholders, it was acknowledged that there are many challenges with regard to education and that there needs to be a longer-term approach to this initiative. A round table was held with youth in March with two representatives from each of the four regions, and it is expected that the findings of this project will support a new, broader project in 2013/14.

Partnerships

All of Pauktuutit's projects are done in partnership with a number of other organizations including the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Services, Makivik and the Nunatsiavut Government, the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. Our many other partners this year included Kakivak Association and the Baffin Regional Chamber of Commerce in Nunavut as well as communities, health centres, services providers.



REPORT FROM THE 29TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Pauktuutit's 29th Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held March 5-7, 2013 in Ottawa.

Special Guests

At every AGM, a variety of Inuit leaders, politicians, government representatives and honourable guests attend the meeting and often provide an address to the delegates. This year's special guests included:

- Terry Audla, President of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (by video);
- Sue O'Sullivan, Federal Ombudsman for Victims of Crime; and
- Anna Fowler, Assistant Director of Health and Social Development, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami.

Inuit Woman of the Year

One of the highlights of the AGM has been the nomination for Inuit Woman of the Year. The award is given to an Inuk woman who has been recognized for her generosity and selflessness in working for the benefit of Inuit women and her community. This year's recipient was Ruth Sangoya from Pond Inlet.

Presentations and Workshops

PAUKTUUTIT CANCER PROJECT WORKSHOP

Geri Bailey, Pauktuutit's Manager of Health Policy and Programs, provided some background to the project. Pauktuutit was one of only eight cancer projects that were funded by Public Health Agency of Canada in 2012. The project had completed an environmental scan and other research to help assess the knowledge, attitudes and behaviour of Inuit in regards to cancer including risk factors, screening, and early detection. Seven focus groups were completed across Inuit Nunangat to gather input to the project. The purpose of the AGM workshop was to add to the information gained thus far and in particular to gain information from the group as to assess whether a number of medical terms that had been translated into Inuktitut were accurate and whether a number of resources that had been developed were useful in helping Inuit understand cancer-related issues better.

Delegates were informed about some of the initial findings from the other focus groups that had been conducted thus far. The findings had provided important insights into Inuit knowledge, attitudes and behaviour towards cancer. The research also focused on identifying gaps in knowledge about





cancer, Inuit-specific cancer risks, testing methods and attitudes/knowledge and different ways of informing Inuit about cancer. Some of the major findings indicate that many participants in the focus groups felt that the environment was a source of cancer and that cancer was often considered an incurable disease. As well, there was a need to change the Inuktitut term for cancer as the current term reflected the incorrect fact that cancer was always terminal. Participants had heard about different kinds of cancer but often didn't know about the causes, screening, testing or treatment techniques.

Violence and Abuse Prevention Priorities

The Annual General Meeting provided an opportunity for Pauktuutit to consult with Inuit women on the issue of human trafficking. Human trafficking involves the recruitment, transportation and/or confining victims for the purpose of exploitation – typically in the sex industry or forced sex work. This has become an emerging priority issue in Canada, although little is known about how Inuit women may have been or are being impacted.

Helen Roos from Ottawa Coalition to End Human Trafficking (OCEHT) gave a presentation to the delegates. Working with a wide range of stakeholders across Canada, OCEHT worked to reduce the spread of human trafficking in Ottawa. OCEHT's work focused upon raising public awareness about the issue and reducing the impact of trafficking. Helen described some common forms of human trafficking including the sexual trade and forced labour.

Helen described the Federal Action Plan on Human Trafficking led by the Department of Public Safety. She went on to review some of the initiatives Persons Against the Crime of Human Trafficking (PACT) had been involved in. PACT, a partner in the Coalition, helped coordinate police and victim services to act quickly and with the appropriate supports for victims. PACT had seen some success in shifting police attitudes away from sex workers as prostitutes to seeing them as victims of human trafficking. St. Joe's Women's Centre, a local agency in Ottawa, provides a single-window approach to coordinating local organizations and victims for shelter, medical and service requirements.

Front-line outreach workers in Ottawa reported over 40 disclosures from Inuit women regarding human trafficking over the last year. PACT contacted Pauktuutit about its knowledge of Inuit disclosures of victimization in Ottawa and to begin working together. PACT was working to develop a train-the-trainers workshop on human trafficking and there were proposals being developed to extend these workshops into Nunavut. Tungasuvvingat Inuit in Ottawa has also become an important partner in this work.

Helen also spoke about some of the terms and definitions regarding human trafficking. The sex trade is the single biggest element of human trafficking.



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She reviewed some information on the profile of victims, recruitment methods, transportation methods, exploitation methods, and some specifics about federal legislation regarding human trafficking. There have been a number of convictions under the new legislation and this number was expected to increase as the courts and police learned more about human traffickers and how they operate.

The delegates were then asked to form discussion groups to discuss the issue of human trafficking in more detail. Participants identified the unique risks to and vulnerabilities of Inuit women and youth, including poverty and unemployment, overcrowded housing and a lack of options, previous sexual or physical abuse/family violence, low self-esteem, lack of parental supervision, lack of education, popular culture and the 'lure of the south.' Outcomes of the discussion groups included the need to supervise Facebook and other Internet activities, having family discussions about personal safety, and to monitor their children's online activities, friends, moods and changes in behaviour. People were not necessarily aware of what if any resources and supports were available if needed. Some challenges to raising awareness included the reluctance to admit to problems, elders not knowing about the issue, people thinking that it only happened to people in other communities or in the south, the distance that has grown between children and their parents, and a lack of trust of police.



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Regular Business

Each year, a number of key tasks must be undertaken during the AGM to ensure the organization has met all of its legal requirements and to help prepare it for the next fiscal year. Among the tasks completed during the AGM this year were the review and approval of a number of revisions to Pauktuutit's by-laws. The primary change to the bylaws was intended to clarify the number of community delegates that attend the AGM each year. Once approved by the AGM, a copy of the amended by-laws are forwarded to Industry Canada for final approval.

Other regular business items include reviewing the finances of the organization, approving a new auditor for the next fiscal year, reviewing and approving the Annual Report and electing new members of the Board.

Elections

Due to the nature of Pauktuutit's Board structure, there are elections held every year for some of the Board positions for specific regions. This year the following Board members were acclaimed or elected to represent their regions:

- Charlotte Wolfrey – Nunatsiavut
- Sheila Pokiak Lumsden – South Qikiqtani
- Alyssa Flaherty-Spence – Youth
- Rebecca Kudloo – Kivalliq



2011-2012 RESOLUTIONS

Each year, resolutions developed and approved at the AGM provide a 'to do' list for Pauktuutit to guide its work in the future. This year, delegates approved resolutions on the following topics. For more details, please refer to the Pauktuutit website.

Resolution 2013 AGM-01 Resource Extraction resolves that Pauktuutit will continue to research the specific impacts of resource extraction activities on women and their families across Inuit Nunangat; engage women from affected communities to discuss impacts specifically on family relations, drug/alcohol use, violence and abuse of women and loss of cultural traditions; build upon the results from the mining research in Baker Lake to raise awareness of the concerns, priorities and needs of



Inuit women among northern governments, communities, Inuit regional associations and resource extraction companies; and, engage with resource extraction companies and other possible partners to discuss potential partnerships and opportunities for funding future work.

Resolution 2013 AGM-02 *Inuit Women in Business* resolves that Pauktuutit seek funding to continue building the Inuit Women in Business Network, creating new business support resources and expanding the Network to support Inuit women in communities across Inuit Nunangat; and build partnerships with organizations across the North that provide business support to Inuit women, to raise awareness of and promote the supports and resources available to women looking to start or grow a business.

Resolution 2013 AGM-03 *Housing and Homelessness* resolves that Pauktuutit will seek funding to research housing in Inuit Nunangat, engaging with women from communities across the North to assess the impacts of inadequate housing on women and families, including social determinants of health, domestic abuse and child sexual abuse, etc.; seek funding to research the situation of Inuit homelessness in Canada, in the North and in urban centres, to quantify the severity of the issue and examine the impacts on women; and partner with front-line organizations to determine the support and resources available to homeless Inuit and to develop culturally appropriate supports.

Resolution 2013 AGM-04 *Mental Health* resolves that Pauktuutit and ITK work collaboratively in development of policy and program initiatives affecting Inuit women's health; and that Pauktuutit continue to seek funding for raising awareness and prevention strategies.

Resolution 2013 AGM-05 *Inuit Language Documentation* resolves that Pauktuutit use more local translation within printed documentation; increases its efforts with Inuit regional organizations to get regional specific translated documentation; and use plain language in all health related printed materials.

Resolution 2013 AGM-06 *Benefits of Healthy Food* resolves that Pauktuutit provide information on healthy lifestyle, living and nutrients in food to help prevent these health issues with the use of plain language; and raise awareness on high cost of living and seek funding to assist with this issue.

Resolution 2013 AGM-07 *Residential Schools* resolves that Pauktuutit continue to support Labrador Inuit in their effort to be recognized at the federal level for Residential Schools.



Resolution 2013 AGM-08 *Shelters* resolves that Pauktuutit encourage the equal representation of Inuit women on local housing committees to influence change; and encourage the federal government to allocate funding to Inuit communities; and support increased and updated training for shelters front-line workers.

Resolution 2013 AGM-09- K-12 *Education* resolves that Pauktuutit continue to work with organizations addressing Inuit education; and advocate that Inuit students meet Canadian national standards and education is in full compliance with the rest of Canada.

Resolution 2013 AGM-10 *Shelters and Shelter Funding* resolves that Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada recognize the rates of violence against Inuit women, and children, as a priority and urgent situation; and amend their current on-reserve funding for shelters to include Inuit communities and shelters.

Resolution 2013 AGM-11- *Human Trafficking of Inuit Women* resolves that Pauktuutit work with federal, provincial, territorial and municipal governments to develop a specific and targeted plan to address this issue.

Resolution 2013 AGM-11 *Inuit Children in Foster Care* resolves that Pauktuutit seek support to further explore the problems this creates for children and their families, consult with adults who have survived the foster care system to learn what their problems were as children and as adults; and work with families and communities to address this issue.

Resolution 2013 AGM-12 *Capacity* resolves that funders and other partners enhance their financial and other support to Pauktuutit to continue and enhance its work to improve the lives of Inuit women, their families and communities; and examine the costs of establishing staff in each of the regions and explore the possibility of working with the Inuit organizations to make this happen.