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PAUKTUUTIT
INUIT WOMEN OF CANADA

SULIQPITA

News from Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada



Pauktuutit's past presidents (from left) Mary Sillett, Martha Flaherty, Gerri Sharpe, Veronica Dewar, Martha Greig, Elisapee Sheutiapik, and Rhoda Innuksuk (not pictured : Jeela Alikatuktuk Moss-Davies, Eva Voisey, Mary Palliser, and Rebecca Kudloo).

Celebrating 40 Years of Empowering Inuit Women



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President's Message: Interim President Nancy Etok

I am honoured to address you as the Interim President of Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada, as we celebrate 40 years of empowering Inuit Woman. Following the tenure of President Gerri Sharpe, I am grateful for the opportunity to lead this incredible organization that has been at the forefront of advocating for Inuit women, children, and gender-diverse individuals in Canada.

Pauktuutit's mission to foster a greater awareness of the needs of Inuit women and gender-diverse people is more critical now than ever before. As an Inuk woman representing Nunavik, Ungava, I am committed to advancing the inclusion, advancement, and success of Inuit women, girls, and gender-diverse Inuit.



I want to express my thanks to President Sharpe for her exceptional leadership and dedication to Pauktuutit. Under her guidance, Pauktuutit achieved significant milestones nationally and internationally, advocating for Inuit women in various forums and promoting their empowerment and leadership.

As we look ahead, Pauktuutit remains committed to advancing the full participation of Inuit women, children, and gender-diverse Inuit in decision-making

processes affecting their health, safety, economic and social security, and leadership. We are developing plans to collaborate more closely with our Inuit and Indigenous partner organizations as we prepare for potential changes in government.



I look forward to working closely with the board and our partners to continue the critical work of Pauktuutit. Together, we will strive to ensure that the voices of Inuit women, children, and gender-diverse Inuit are heard and respected.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Pauktuutit. Together, we can create positive change for Inuit we represent.

Qujannamiik,

Nancy Etok
Interim President
Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada



Government and Community Relations

Pauktuutit maintains strong relationships with all levels of government and our Inuit communities. We advocate for the rights and empowerment of Inuit women, children, and gender-diverse individuals at national and international levels. Our proactive engagement with governments helps shape policies that reflect the diverse needs of our communities and preserve our cultural heritage. At the same time, we work closely within our stakeholders to understand specific needs and concerns, ensuring that our advocacy efforts are informed by lived experiences. Through this dual approach, we aim to create positive change and address the unique challenges faced by those we represent.

Canada-Nunavut Signing of the Gender-Based Violence National Action Plan

On September 29, 2023, Pauktuutit Board Member, Elisapee Sheutiapik attended the Canada-Nunavut Signing of the Gender-Based Violence National Action Plan Meeting at the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut. At this meeting, the Honourable Marcil Len, Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Youth, joined by the Honourable Margaret Nakashuk, Nunavut's Minister responsible for the Status of Women, and the Honourable John Main, Nunavut's Minister of Health, made a historic funding announcement of up to \$17 million to help the victims and survivors of gender-based violence. The Government of Canada will be investing up to \$16.4 million over four years to support the implementation of the National Action Plan to End Gender-based Violence in Nunavut.

Women and Gender Equality Canada (WAGE) recognizes President Gerri Sharpe

Women and Gender Equality Canada, on social media during Women's History Month in October 2023, recognized President Gerri Sharpe as the outstanding woman in Canada making a significant impact in advancing gender equality.



Photo credit: Woman and Gender Equality, Government of Canada

Indigenous Services Canada recognizes Charlotte Wolfrey

In the same month, Indigenous Services Canada (ISC, GCIndigenous), in a social media campaign, recognized Charlotte Wolfrey, Secretary-Treasurer and Board Member for her work supporting Indigenous women, girls, and gender-diverse people during Women's History Month in October.



Photo credit: Indigenous Services Canada, Government of Canada

Inuit Crown Partnership Committee

Pauktuutit's President Gerri Sharpe joined the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee (ICPC) on October 30, 2023, for their meeting in Ottawa. ITK welcomed new federal Ministers to the table to discuss a range of Inuit priorities and continued cooperation.





Honourable Gary Anandasangaree, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations

Honourable Gary Anandasangaree, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations, and Pauktuutit's President Gerri Sharpe met and discussed Shelters and Transitional Housing and Missing and Murdered Indigenous woman and girls (MMIWG). The meeting marked a positive step towards addressing the specific needs and challenges in Inuit communities.



Inuit Day Celebrations at Annie Pootoogook Park in Ottawa

On November 5, Pauktuutit was invited by Isaruit Arts to partner in the International Inuit Day events at Annie Pootoogook Park in Ottawa. Martha Flaherty, Pauktuutit board member, participated in the celebration alongside guest speakers and entertainers. This collaboration emphasizes Pauktuutit's commitment to supporting and engaging in cultural activities while supporting the Inuit community in Ottawa and associating with community leaders.



The Annual Ottawa Inuit Community Christmas Celebration

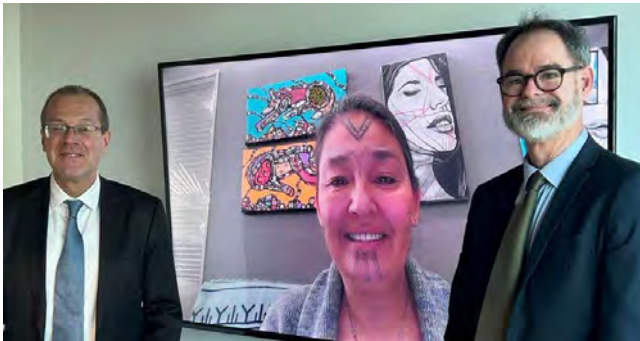
The Annual Community Christmas Celebration, cohosted and funded by Pauktuutit, Tungasuvvingat Inuit, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, and Inuuqatigiit, brought joy to the Ottawa Inuit community. Pauktuutit Board member Martha Flaherty joined other guest speakers for an afternoon of fun activities, entertainment and food.





World Health Organization

President Sharpe met with Dr. Hans Henri P. Kluge and Martin Krayner von Krauss from the World Health Organization (WHO), marking a significant step in exploring joint efforts to improve Inuit health in the circumpolar region. Pauktuutit shared key insights into the health challenges facing Inuit women, stressing the need for gender-informed strategies. Conversations covered a range of topics, including addressing health disparities and advocating for the revival of traditional Inuit midwifery. The collaboration aims to make a positive impact on reproductive and sexual health, mental wellness, and suicide prevention. Pauktuutit is fully committed to taking a holistic approach and supporting WHO's study of health priorities in Inuit Nunangat.



World AIDS Day events hosted by CAAN Communities, Alliances and Networks

On behalf of Pauktuutit, Board Member Martha Flaherty attended the World AIDS Day events and flag-lowering ceremony hosted by CAAN Communities, Alliances and Networks on December 1, 2023. Our participation reflects our commitment to commemorating those we have lost and supporting those living with HIV/AIDS. We emphasize fostering understanding, eradicating stigmas, and advocating for equal access to medicine and care.



Iqaluit community march and ceremony - National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

On December 6, 2023, Pauktuutit attended the Iqaluit community march and ceremony, organized by Qullit Nunavut Status of Women Council to commemorate the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. Pauktuutit Board member, Elisapee Sheutiapik spoke at the event, with support from our Iqaluit regional office.



Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Indigenous Services

President Gerri Sharpe met with Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Indigenous Services, on February 9, 2024, to discuss midwifery and the Ontario midwifery exemption status.





Inuk Woman of the Year & Young Inuk Woman of the Year

Every year, Pauktuutit's Board of Directors chooses two remarkable women to be honored with the titles of Inuk Woman of the Year and Young Inuk Woman of the Year.

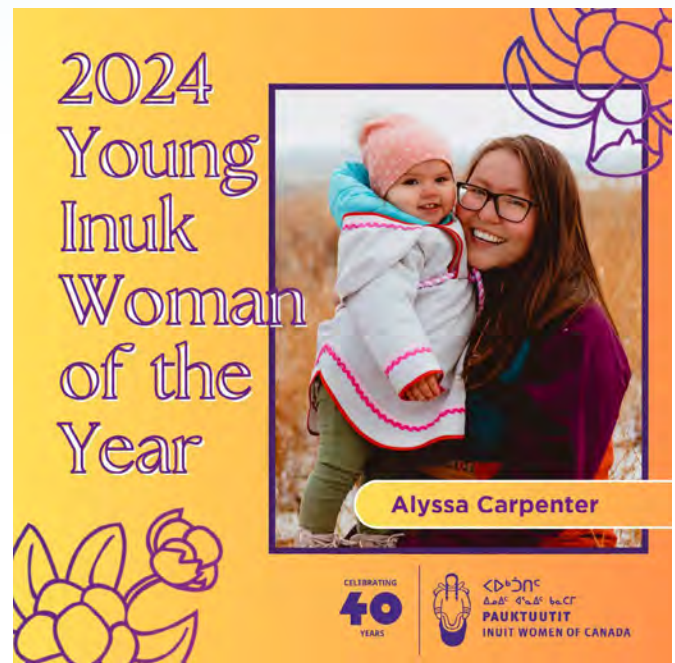
This year, President Gerri Sharpe, presented the Inuk Woman of the Year and Young Inuk Woman of the Year awards at Pauktuutit's Annual General Meeting on February 14 in Ottawa. Both winners joined us virtually to receive their award.



Janine Lightfoot from Makkovik, Nunatsiavut, was named this year's Inuk Woman of the Year.

Janine is a passionate advocate for revitalizing Inuit language and culture in an area deeply affected by language erosion. Janine holds a degree in Political Science and Native Studies and completed the Aurniarvik Program at the Pirurvik Centre in Iqaluit, where she resided and worked for several years, and whose work inspires Janine to find ways to incorporate Inuktitut into all areas of her life.

In addition to her academic achievements, Janine's efforts include initiating free weekly Inuktitut classes for learners, organizing enriching workshops centered around hunting, culture, and revitalization, and establishing a memorial bursary for high school students prioritizing Inuktitut, all done in loving memory of her Anaansiak, Clara Ford. Currently, Janine resides in Makkovik with her family, including their fierce and thoughtful 11-year-old, Panik Aaju Morgan, who dreams of becoming an astronaut.



Alyssa Carpenter, originally from Inuvik, has been named this year's Young Inuk Woman of the Year.

Alyssa is a northern social worker currently residing in Whitehorse, Yukon, with her partner and daughter. A majority of her work experience is within the grassroots and non-profit sector, working with various levels of government in both the Yukon and Northwest Territories, primarily with Arctic and Northern Indigenous youth.

Alyssa is the leading founder and Project Director of the Western Arctic Youth Collective, a youth-led organization based in Canada's Western Arctic region that focuses on empowering young people and promoting positive change in the community through on-the-land programming. Alyssa is a Laureate of the Arctic Inspiration Prize Youth Category for 2020.



Annual General Meeting

On February 14 and 15, 2024, Pauktuutit held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Ottawa, marking a significant milestone in our history as the first of our 40th-anniversary celebrations. We were thrilled to bring past presidents together, inviting them to attend and contribute to the meeting, and reflect on Pauktuutit's remarkable journey of empowering Inuit women.



Celebrating 40 Years of Empowering Inuit Women

Then President Gerri Sharpe welcomed attendees to Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada's 40th Annual General Meeting, celebrating four decades of empowering Inuit women. Thanking past presidents and delegates for shaping Pauktuutit's enduring legacy, she emphasized our increasing impact and growth to over fifty staff members. Reflecting on Pauktuutit's historical journey, Gerri highlighted milestones and achievements, recognizing past leaders' wisdom, leadership, and dedication.



Honouring Pauktuutit's Past Presidents: The History Project

Former board member Anita Pokiak presented the History Project, a commemorative book for Pauktuutit's 40th year, focusing on the organization's history and achievements through the recollections of past presidents. She highlighted the efforts of Inuit women in establishing Pauktuutit, with special mention of Mary Sillett and Lizzie Ittinuar's foundational roles. Anita emphasized the project's significance in honouring past presidents' courage, perseverance, and wisdom in addressing the needs of Inuit women. The book will be available in digital and printed format later this year.



Empowering Indigenous Rights: UNDRIP Presentation and Discussion

Shelagh Roxburgh from Pauktuutit's Policy team presented on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), emphasizing the rights to self-determination, recognition as distinct peoples, and free, prior, and informed consent. Attendees discussed challenges and opportunities in implementing UNDRIP, highlighting the importance of including women's associations like Pauktuutit in decision-making and resource allocation.



Empowering Indigenous Rights: UNDA Presentation and Discussion

Janine Stingel presented on the United Nations Declaration Act (UNDA), integrating the UN Declaration into Canadian federal legislation. The discussion emphasized the importance of Indigenous women's voices in understanding and implementing UNDRIP and the need for inclusive and accessible approaches to rights and resources for Indigenous communities.

Building Bridges: Minister Gary Anandasangaree's Address

Minister Gary Anandasangaree, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations, joined us the second day and reflected on his journey since being elected in 2015, emphasizing the strides made towards rebuilding trust with Indigenous communities. He highlighted the changing dialogue since 2015, viewing calls to action and justice not as aspirational documents but as crucial for real-life changes. The Minister stressed the evolving relationships with Indigenous communities and the need to address persistent issues and oppression.



Board Elections and Departing Member Recognition

In addition to the regular business proceedings, board elections were conducted to fill vacant positions. The new board announcements can be found here: www.pauktuutit.ca/about-us/board-of-directors/.

Conclusion

At Pauktuutit, our 40th Annual General Meeting was a heartfelt celebration of our dedication to empowering Inuit women and gender-diverse individuals, advocating for their rights, and honouring their achievements. Looking forward to the next forty years, we are filled with a renewed sense of purpose and determination to carry on our crucial work in advancing the rights and well-being of Inuit we represent.



40th Anniversary Community Event

We recently celebrated our 40th anniversary with a community gathering with the Ottawa Inuit Community. The event, held at Assumption Church in Vanier, was a wonderful opportunity to honour our past and present leaders and the work we have done together.

Filled with fun, the evening included traditional Inuit games the Best Bannock contest, a Parlak celebration to recognize those who caught their first wildlife in the past year, samples of country food, seal carving and music.

Thanks to everyone who joined us to celebrate. Your presence made the event truly special, and we were thrilled to see so many members of our community come together.



Best Bannock competition

Congratulations! Jeannie Okalik was named Best Bannock Maker at the Ottawa Inuit Community Event. Thank you to our major sponsor, Canadian North, for donating a return ticket to Iqaluit as the prize. President Sharpe presented the award to Jeannie Okalik, along with Jason Kilabuk from Canadian North.

We will be including Jeannie's winning Bannock in the upcoming Pauktuutit cookbook.





40th Anniversary Gala



Our 40th anniversary gala, held on February 15 at the Ottawa Art Gallery, was a remarkable evening dedicated to celebrating four decades of advocating for Inuit women. One of the highlights was having Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon, Governor General of Canada, as our guest speaker. Before becoming our first Inuk Governor General, Her Excellency played a crucial role in the early days of Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada. We are grateful for her continued support.



Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon Governor General of Canada greets Pauktuutit founding member Lizzie Ittinuar.

During the gala, we unveiled our History Project, reflecting on the achievements of our past presidents. It was a touching moment to celebrate these remarkable women for their dedication and leadership. We were honored to have past presidents and even a founding member join us, reminding us of the solid foundation on which our organization was built.



We were pleased to welcome President Natan Obed from Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK), President Aatami from Makivik Corporation, Lori Idlout, MP for Nunavut, the Honourable Gary Anandasangaree, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations, Melanie Omeniho, President, Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwa, Indigenous Leader Sylvia Maracle, and other esteemed guests. We also thank Lisa Qiluqqi Koperqualuk, President of the Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada, for her exceptional leadership as the MC.



MC Lisa Qiluqqi Koperqualuk

The evening was filled with cultural performances, including the Inuksuk drum dancers from Iqaluit, who shared their talents with us. We were also delighted to serve country food, showcasing the rich culinary traditions of our community.



Overall, our 40th-anniversary gala was a night to remember, filled with celebration, reflection, and a reaffirmation of our commitment to advocating for Inuit women and gender-diverse individuals. Special thanks to all our guests and attendees for their support and for making this event truly memorable.

Images on left:

Top: President Gerri Sharpe, Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon, President Aatami from Makivik Corporation, His Excellency Whit Fraser, and President Natan Obed from Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK), Middle: Inuksuk drum dancers Bottom: Lori Idlout, MP for Nunavut



Recent Initiatives

Health

Since its establishment in 1984, Pauktuutit has prioritized enhancing the well-being of Inuit women and their families. Today, the Board and staff continue to actively address various aspects of Inuit health and well-being.

Mental Health

In October 2023, Pauktuutit participated in the National Summit on Indigenous Mental Wellness in Ottawa. We were honoured to join the Indigenous Youth Mental Wellness Panel to share our Youth Gender Equality work.



Additionally, in November, Pauktuutit travelled to Iqaluit for the Knowledge Exchange Forum on Men and Boys Programming, hosted by ITK and members of the National Inuit Suicide Prevention Strategy working group. The forum gathered participants from across Inuit Nunangat to discuss programming in their communities and learn from others.

Midwifery

The National Inuit Midwifery Forum in March 2023 reaffirmed Pauktuutit's commitment to bringing birth back to Inuit communities. The forum aimed to revitalize Inuit culture, language, and traditional birth practices while reclaiming Inuit sovereignty over reproductive health and birthing.

The 'What We Heard Report' from the National Inuit

Midwifery Forum has been completed, with plans to release it in Spring 2024, discussing the forum's learnings and providing a pathway forward for midwifery in Inuit Nunangat.

Sexual and Reproductive Health

Pauktuutit is actively engaging with federal, provincial, territorial, and Inuit organizations on several sexual health concerns, including HPV and Hepatitis C elimination, and the emerging crisis of syphilis and congenital syphilis. We attend meetings and conferences to advocate for actions to combat these health issues and improve outcomes for our communities.

Sexual Health in Young Adults

This season, Pauktuutit continued regional engagement sessions with youth and service providers on the Ungava and Hudson coasts of Nunavik. Youth provided insights on Inuit sexual health services and information needs, leading to discussions with Pauktuutit staff on developing ideal Inuit sexual health resources for youth. Pauktuutit is now adapting this information into youth-centered sexual health supports.

Pauktuutit is also planning the first meeting of the Innasaat Katimajit- Sexual Health Youth Committee, comprised of Inuit youth across Canada, to guide messaging and sexual health resource development.

INNASAAT KATIMAJIIT

Join our Sexual Health Youth Committee!

Are you an Inuk aged 14-29 interested in helping shape sexual health for Inuit Youth?

Join our Youth Committee to provide your personal insight, review sexual health materials, create content and more!

2-4 hours per month | Honorarium included

If interested, please email:
mknickelbein@pauktuutit.ca



Pauktuutit hosted a land, culture, and arts retreat for Montrealmiut in Oka National Park.

CheckUp! Project

The CheckUp! project is an Inuit-specific initiative focused on preventing sexually transmitted blood-borne infections (STBBI) in Inuit youth. Through social media interventions, the project empowers youth to navigate the healthcare system and normalize testing.

In February, Pauktuutit partnered with Native Montreal to host a land-based culture and arts retreat in Oka National Park. Activities like sealskin sewing, throat-singing, and qulliq lighting helped participants connect sexual health, body image, identity, and our relationship to the land. The weekend aimed to promote healthy relationships, discuss gender, and reduce the stigma associated with sexual health.

Cancer

In November, Pauktuutit visited Inuvik to engage community members about their experiences in seeking

care for cancer and discuss the support available through our Inuusinni Aqqusaaqtara – My Journey toolkit. Objectives included providing an opportunity for Inuvialummiut (Inuvialuit Inuit) and Inuvialuit service providers to engage in knowledge transfer, brainstorming, and advocacy, as well as creating a space for cancer patients and their care providers to share experiences.



Social and Economic Development

Pauktuutit's Social and Economic Development team has a broad mandate that covers a range of social and economic issues.

Inuit Women in Business Network

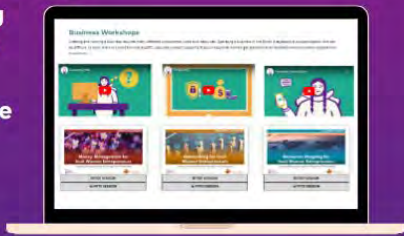
Pauktuutit's Inuit Women in Business Network (IWBN) continues to deliver community-specific programming, both virtually and in person. New project deliverables, including resources on finding and applying for grants, employment practices, and technical training on federal procurement opportunities are being finalized now and will be available on the [IWBN website](#) soon.

These resources, along with other research deliverables, were presented to the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor) during their national retreat in Ottawa in January 2024. Look out for the release of new resources on budgeting, operations, and marketing, as well as a research report exploring access to federal procurement opportunities for Inuit businesses.

Inuit Women in Business Network

Resources include:

- Facebook Business Basics
- Getting Ready to Etsy
- Online Banking
- Business Plans
- E-Payments
- And much more



Inuit Women in the Resource Extraction Sector

Pauktuutit has been actively participating in national forums related to the resource extraction industry, providing insights that align with Pauktuutit's GBA+ framework. We continue to be consulted at these forums based on our project work, which highlights the need for increased Inuit women's participation in the sector at the community, regional, and national levels.

Inuit-specific Shelters and Transitional Housing

Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada successfully advocated for federal funding, leading to the commitment to build and operate shelters and second-stage transitional housing for Inuit women, children, and gender-diverse individuals escaping gender-based violence in both urban areas and Inuit Nunangat.

Inuit Nunangat

Inuit-specific shelters and transitional housing initiatives are progressing across Inuit Nunangat, with approvals and applications underway. In Nunavut, approvals have been granted for shelters and transitional houses in Sanikiluaq, Pangnirtung, Baker Lake, and Gjoa Haven. Similarly, Puvirnituq in Nunavik has received approval for a shelter and transitional housing project. In Inuvialuit, applications for shelters in Aimayunga and Ulukhaktok and a transitional house in Tuktoyaktuk, NWT, are under review. Additionally, Nunatsiavut has submitted a shelter application for Makkovik and for a transitional housing project in Nain, which is currently under Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) review.

Pauktuutit has highlighted the challenges posed by southern timelines on northern projects, advocating for flexibility as the project sunsets on March 31, 2026, which may not align with the needs of projects in Inuit Nunangat.

Urban Areas

Urban areas are also advancing shelter and transitional housing initiatives, with applications from Ottawa, Montreal, and Winnipeg under review. Winnipeg has also applied for a transitional house, while CMHC is reviewing Edmonton's transitional house application.

Pauktuutit has emphasized the need to support urban Inuit groups' capacity for applications and infrastructure development during the Indigenous Shelters and Transitional Houses Steering Committee meetings. healthy behaviours among youth, contributing to safer and more inclusive communities.



Violence, Abuse Prevention & Justice (VAP&J)

Pauktuutit is dedicated to addressing a wide spectrum of issues affecting the safety and well-being of women, children, and gender-diverse Inuit.

Realigning Policy Focus

Pauktuutit has recently realigned its VAP&J policy focus under two main areas: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG), and Policing. These areas serve as entry points that address intersecting issues, such as child welfare, family violence, housing (under MMIWG), and violence prevention, criminalization, and over-incarceration (under Policing). This realignment includes additional staffing, including a manager with over two decades of experience in policy, research, and advocacy, and new policy analysts.

Continued Focus Areas

Pauktuutit remains committed to its key areas of focus. We have provided briefings on initiatives like the Red Dress Alert and contributed to submissions for

the United Nations Council on the Status of Women, advocating for Inuit women, girls, and gender-diverse Inuit at every political level.

Engaging Young Men and Boys: Challenging Gender Norms in Addressing Gender-based Violence

This project is a crucial step towards fostering healthy conversations around masculinity, relationships, community, and violence among Inuit boys and young men. This initiative aims to address issues related to sex, sexuality, and sexual violence by engaging with the younger generation. As part of this effort, the project delivered the Ajuqiqtuq Parenting Life Skills workshop in Ulukhaktok, NWT, providing valuable insights and tools for parents and caregivers. The Parenting Life Skills toolkit will be distributed as soon as it is completed.. This project highlights Pauktuutit's commitment to promoting respectful and healthy behaviours among youth, contributing to safer and more inclusive communities.



Pauktuutit hosted a workshop to engage young men and boys in discussions about managing emotions, healthy coping skills, self-worth, self-respect and self-esteem.



Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence and the Family Justice Systems Response

Pauktuutit's project, "Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence and the Family Justice Systems Response," is dedicated to improving support for survivors of intimate partner violence (IPV) within the family law system. The project aims to achieve this by increasing access to training, guidance, and resources that promote trauma-informed practice among family law practitioners, including legal aid professionals and court workers.

Targeting law and community worker students at Toronto's George Brown College, the project delivered its first workshop. Valuable insights and tools were offered to future practitioners to support survivors of IPV. Watch for the upcoming Saimaniik training toolkit, which will further enhance support systems for survivors across the nation.



The Spotlight Initiative: Gender Equality Community Dialogue

Pauktuutit's "The Spotlight Initiative: Gender Equality Community Dialogue," will foster community understanding of gender equality and the rights of Inuit women in leadership. Through dialogues, it will gather recommendations on gender issues like violence, access to justice, stereotypes, and healthcare. The project will empower Inuit youth to advocate for gender equality, reflecting our commitment to empowering communities to address systemic challenges.

GBA+ Framework

To complement our Inuit-specific GBA+ Framework, we are currently developing culturally responsive GBA+ learning modules. These modules will be used for staff training, focusing on both workshop-based and online self-guided learning. We aim to complete this work before our June board meeting to enhance our commitment to gender-based analysis plus in an Inuit context.

Additionally, there have been ongoing efforts to collaborate with government partners, including recent training sessions with Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) to showcase Pauktuutit and its GBA+ Framework.



Board Members Update

Following the Board of Directors meeting on February 16, 2024, we are pleased to confirm our newly elected leadership team:

- Interim President: Nancy Etok from Nunavik, Ungava
- Interim Vice-President: Lois (Looee) Mike from Qikiqtani South
- Interim Secretary-Treasurer: Paige Kimiksana-Kreps representing Youth, Urban

We are also happy to welcome our new board members, who join our esteemed team alongside our existing members:

- Nunatsiavut: Vanessa 'Sissy' Webb, acclaimed new board member
- Kivalliq: Nancy Uluadlauk-Gibbons, elected new board member
- Kitikmeot: Josephine Tucktoo, acclaimed returning member
- Iqaluit, Nunavut: Elisapee Sheutiapik, elected, returning member
- Yellowknife, NWT: Pauline Saturgina Tardiff, acclaimed new board member

Outgoing Members:

- Gerri Sharpe
- Iselena Natsiapik

We express our gratitude to the outgoing and incoming members for their dedication to advancing the rights and well-being of Inuit women. We especially thank President Gerri Sharpe, an invaluable leader for Pauktuutit during a time of great change and growth for the organization.



Pauktuutit board members: back row (left to right): Kourtney Wolkie, Elisapee Sheutiapik, Paige Kimiksana-Kreps, Sara Idlout, Catherine Mitsuk, Lillian Lundrigan. Front row (left to right): Martha Flaherty, Gerri Sharpe, Charlotte Wolfrey, Nancy Etok and Looee Mike



Looking forward

As we close this special edition of our newsletter, we recognize our 40th anniversary is an important milestone in our shared journey. More than a reflection of our past; it is a testament to our ongoing commitment to empowering Inuit women and gender-diverse individuals.

Looking ahead, we have several significant events and initiatives on the horizon. We will soon be sharing the National Inuit Midwifery Forum Report, renewing our focus on the vital role of midwifery in our communities. Additionally, we are embarking on the first phase of our strategic planning process, which will guide our efforts for the next decade, ensuring that we remain responsive to the evolving needs of Inuit women across Canada.

Our recent move to a new office signifies a new chapter for Pauktuutit, one filled with opportunities for innovation and collaboration. We are also gearing up for another Annual General Meeting in September, where we will reflect on the past 40 years while looking forward to new challenges and opportunities.

As we celebrate this milestone and look toward the future, we reaffirm our commitment to empowering Inuit women, children, and gender-diverse individuals. Together, we can continue to make a meaningful difference in our communities and beyond.



Pauktuutit's new office at 350 Sparks Street, Ottawa.



Join our Team!

Choose Pauktuutit to take an active role in changing the lives of Inuit that we represent

Grounded in Inuit societal values, we partner with Inuit women, communities and organizations to advocate and provide guidance for improvement of health, economy, safety, justice, and ultimately empower Inuit women to have greater opportunities to thrive.

We offer

- An inclusive, and respectful work environment
- Flexible work arrangements including remote work
- Paid personal well-being days, vacation and sick leave
- Health and dental benefits
- Cell phone and Internet allowance
- Language allowance (Inuktut)

and more



Visit our website for available job openings and to apply:
www.pauktuutit.ca/careers/

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 we are 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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