



PITQUHIRNIKKUT
ILHAUTINIQ

KITIKMEOT HERITAGE SOCIETY

2021-22

ANNUAL REPORT





PITQUHIRNIKKUT ILIHAUTINIQ

LEARNING THROUGH CULTURE

The Pitquhirnikkut Ilihautiniq / Kitikmeot Heritage Society focuses on the priorities of Inuinait—a distinct regional group of Inuit living in the Central Canadian Arctic. We are reawakening our language, reclaiming our identity, and finding our voices in Inuinnaqtun once again, so that generations to come will inherit the connection to our ancestors and their knowledge, values, and worldview.

We operate the May Hakongak Community Library & Cultural Centre in Cambridge Bay (Iqaluktuuttiaq), Nunavut—a local hub with a museum space, regional archives, gallery, and community library that welcomes visitors from all over the world. We develop exhibits, create resources, and design programs that communicate our culture and heritage within our community, and beyond our walls. We foster long-term relationships with partners and collaborators to uncover the past, and build towards our future.

With fewer than 500 speakers of Inuinnaqtun remaining, we are working alongside Elders, knowledge holders, linguists, and other partners to reconnect generations, share our knowledge, and empower the next generation of speakers. Through immersion-based programs, land camps, traditional workshops, and cultural activities, we have been rekindling the flame for over 25 years.

MISSION

To preserve and renew Inuinait knowledge, language, and culture for the benefit of all Inuit.

VISION

To concentrate and connect the resources, expertise and technology critical to Inuinait cultural and linguistic survival.



THIS YEAR, WE CELEBRATED 25 YEARS OF...

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

INTERGENERATIONAL
RECONNECTION

KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

LANGUAGE REVIVAL

COLLABORATION & PARTNERSHIPS

We launched the Akhuuqhimajara Inuinnaqtun / I'm all in for Inuinnaqtun campaign with a goal to raise \$250,000 for Inuinnaqtun revitalization.

Thank you for jumping all in for our 25th year and helping us exceed our goal.

Between March 2021 and March 2022, 99 individuals and businesses were inspired to give \$296,314.30 in support of programs that are creating and sustaining language carriers and knowledge holders. With gifts, hope, and well wishes, we felt your encouragement, cheering us on from all over the world this past year.

Every dollar directed to the Akhuuqhimajara Inuinnaqtun campaign continues to support critical initiatives and activities that are empowering Inuinnait to find our voices and reconnect to our ancestors and their worldview. A worldview that is now ours to steward and pass on to the next generation.

This past year, your support helped build momentum for Inuinnaqtun, both inside and outside of our communities. With a big push to kickstart intensive efforts by our organization and our partners, we're hopeful for our future.

As you turn the pages of this Annual Report, we invite you to recap not only our last year, but the last 25 years, and your part in supporting the growth of the Pitquhirnikkut Ilihautiniq / Kitikmeot Heritage Society.





A FEW 25TH YEAR HIGHLIGHTS

We welcomed founder and long-time Board member Emily Angulalik to the role of Executive Director in September 2021 – bringing her wealth of knowledge, expertise and leadership to the everyday activities of our organization. We were thrilled to celebrate her as she received Indspire’s Culture, Heritage and Spirituality Award in June 2021, for her outstanding achievements and work to revitalize Inuinnaqtun.

We created two new positions dedicated to language and culture revitalization: Elder Coordinator, and Inuinnaqtun Revitalization Coordinator.

We launched Nunamiutuqaq on May 17, 2021 – announcing our partnership with the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology’s Green Building Technologies Lab to design and build a new cultural workspace with sustainable solutions at its forefront, and pilot technologies and innovations in the Arctic.

We worked with Indigenous designer Mark Bennett to rebrand and create the artwork for Kaapittiaq’s new environmentally-friendly packaging.

We raised awareness of our long-term archaeological work and partnership with Dr. Max Friesen through a successful Top 10 Archaeological Discoveries social media campaign in July 2021.





179 gifts were made by
99 supporters

for a total of **\$296,314.30** raised

Leading up to March 6, 2021, our social media campaign
#25YearsIn25Days reached 39,791 people over 25 days.



2,400 people tuned in to the **Livestream Anniversary
Launch on March 6, 2021.**

Over the course of our 25th year,
our social media following **grew by 30%.**





A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I am delighted to share news of a successful 2021 year at Pitquhirnikkut Ilihautiniq/Kitikmeot Heritage Society. Despite the challenges presented by keeping our Elders, colleagues and community members safe during the pandemic, we managed to get a lot of important work done. I was so pleased and honored to have the community return in great numbers to the cultural centre in the second half of 2021. The staff and I understand that we are providing an important space in our community, and we are committed to providing service to our community.

I was also very touched by the fact that through such hard times we have been so well supported by our individual supporters, our funders and our long-term partners. The essential work that the PI/KHS Elders and staff are doing would not be possible without you. Thank you for making a path for Inuinnaqtun.

I feel privileged to now be in the position of Executive Director for the PI/KHS. My long history with the organization goes back to the very beginning to my time as a founding board member. Over the years, I have continued to contribute and support the organization sometimes as a board member and sometimes by working directly with the Elders during projects. I come to the position from a career as an educator specializing in Inuinnaqtun teaching and curriculum development, and so I am highly motivated to deliver on our organizational priorities of Inuinnaqtun revitalization and knowledge transmission.

Elders-in-Residence Annie Panak Atighioyak and Mabel Pongok Etigik, once gave me this advice – “we need to work together in order to move forward as an organization”. This past year we have strengthened as a team. I have been working very closely with the PI/KHS board whose members are providing me with invaluable direction. Our Elders in Residence are busy and engaged passing on their knowledge, providing an immersion environment in the centre, and providing me with their guidance on a daily basis. We now have cultural centre programming staff who are becoming more and more confident and engaged in the delivery of revitalization and knowledge transfer programs, and who are personally committed to improving their Inuinnaqtun. Through working together, we are moving forward and closer to our vision of being an organization that will make a difference to the future of our language, to the future of our traditional knowledge, and to the wellness of our community.

The PI/KHS organization, with support of so many, has come through a difficult time stronger and more focused on our vision. This annual report will give you a taste of the major initiatives we were engaged in last year. I invite you to read through the report and to join us in both celebrating what we have accomplished and dreaming of the important work to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emily Angulalik". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'E' at the beginning.

Emily Angulalik



INUINNAQTUN LANGUAGE SURVIVAL

This year, we prioritized the creation of immersion opportunities and language learning resources.

◀ IMMERSION DAY CAMP

Over two weeks in August, our day camp welcomed a number of families. Whether we were inside the May Hakongak Cultural Centre, or outside on the land, our Elders and fluent speakers created an Inuinnaqtun space and immersed participants in our language through activities and games rooted in Inuinnaqtun culture.

IMMERSION TRAINING

While how to immerse oneself or others might seem obvious, there are strategies and approaches that increase success. This year, our team took part in a week-long Inuinnaqtun Language Immersion training session by Tamalik & Associates to build capacity in this area. We're applying this knowledge as we foster a strong Mentor-Apprentice Program, empower Silent Speakers, build language nests, embed immersion in all programming and activities, and develop the best possible revitalization resources and tools.



▶ DOCUMENTING THE NATURAL WORLD & OUR LIVED EXPERIENCES

We have been working with linguists, Elders, and knowledge holders, to document terminology and phrases surrounding the natural world. This work is helping to share the wealth of Inuinnaqtun knowledge around the Arctic, all of the interactions and histories across the land and sea, and our changing climate, so that we may all better understand the complexities we face.





INUINNAUJUNGA CURRICULUM

We began development of Inuinnaujunga, a multi-level Inuinnaqtun curriculum. Starting with Beginner Level, our team collaborated to develop the first 10 modules. It is fully grounded in Inuinnaqtun as it is spoken in Inuinnaq communities, as well as the unique aspects of our culture. Inuinnaqtun learners will focus on the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills of the Inuinnaqtun language.

MENTOR-APPRENTICE PROGRAM

This year, 7 teams participated in one-on-one Inuinnaqtun immersion, spending over 690 hours total engaged in the program over 12 months.



KNOWLEDGE RENEWAL & TRANSFER

Knowledge is passed on by watching and learning from each other. It's a natural and social process, with each generation working together to prepare the next generations for stages of our lives. We're working to restore this process, bringing people together and exploring the power that knowledge transfer once had, and will have again.



KAKIVAK WORKSHOP

Over the course of a week, Elders and knowledge holders transmitted their knowledge and supported participants to make two styles of kakivak (fish spears).

We fashioned a kakivak from modern materials including plastic cutting boards, doweling, metal and sinew. We were also introduced to traditional techniques for making fish spears using hand-tools to shape wood and muskox horn, braid sinew, and create seal-skin rope from hides.

INTER-COMMUNITY TRANSFER

In December, we travelled to Ulukhaktok to learn from some of the last remaining Elders to hold the knowledge of how to make tuaturallak—a special crimped sealskin shoe that Inuinait wear with the rest of their best drum dance clothing. ▶

Tammy Omilgoetok, Eileen Okhina, and Julia Ogina spent the week with Elders Mary Kudlak, Kate Inuktalik, and Margaret Notaina. They observed and mirrored the artistic process, learning hand stitching techniques and listening to stories. They documented all of the Inuinnaqtun terminology to do with the artistry, manufacture, materials, and use of tuaturallak. Some of the words had been out of use so long that the Elders had to dig way back into their memories to reach them.



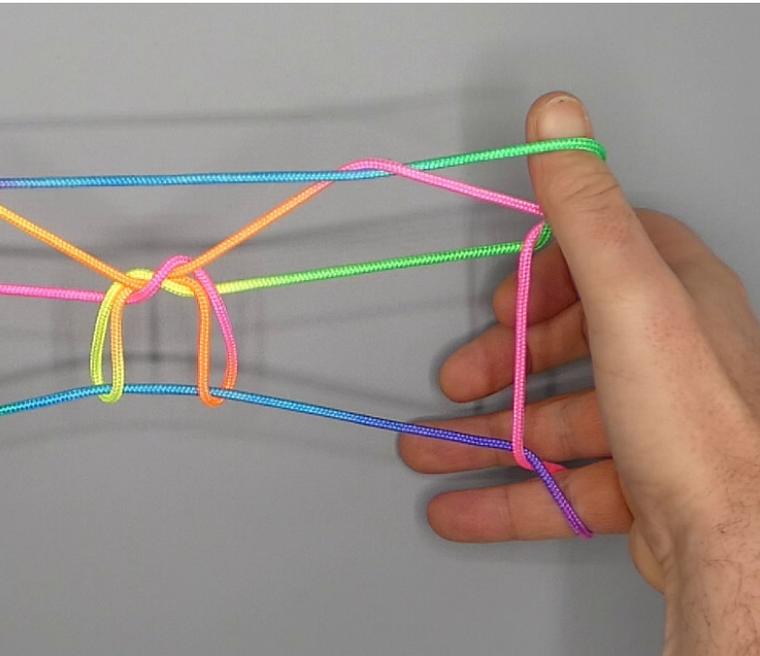


PARKA MAKING

In October, our Elders and expert seamstresses shared their knowledge of parka making with 12 local women. Participant artists learned the history and traditions behind parka manufacture, the Inuinnaqtun terms for parts of a parka and the process of making it, and reconnected to skills long-held by generations of women who came before them. And just as they did, each woman brought her own style to a timeless design.

DIGITAL STRATEGIES

For decades now, we have been using and developing technologies to help us revitalize and maintain our language and culture.



MAKING CULTURE ACCESSIBLE

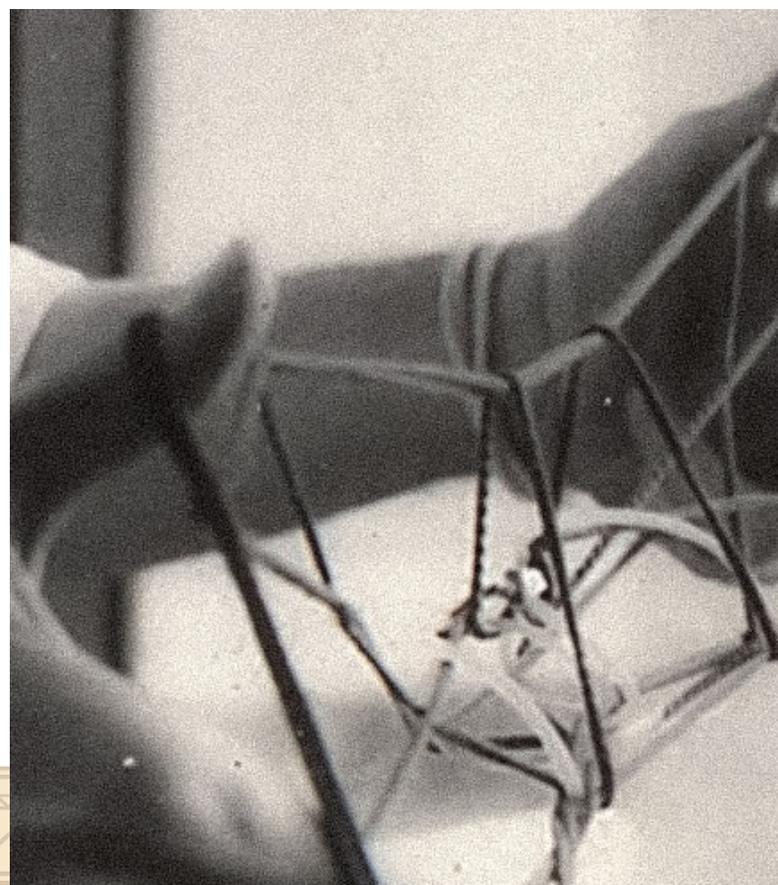
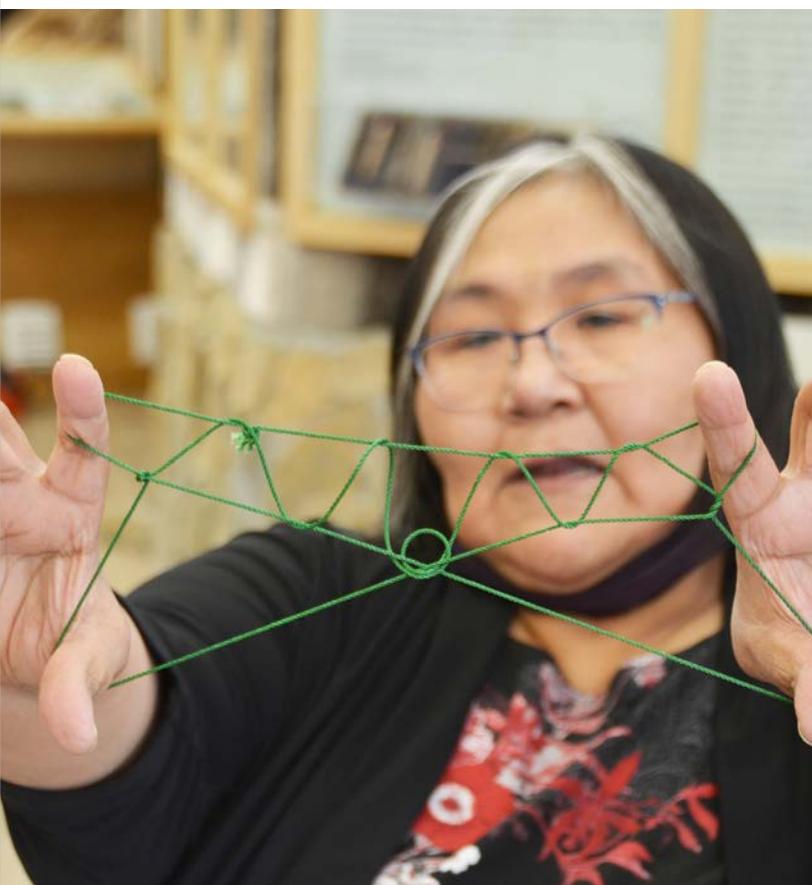
We worked with the Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre at Carleton University to develop and use a digital tagging system that allows Inuit users to contribute metadata to existing document records to assist with their identification, searchability, prioritization, and licensing. We were aiming for a way to culturally redefine our digital content, while still maintaining the integrity of non-Inuit institutional collections' metadata and licensing. We tested various stages of the tagging functionality's development in Cambridge Bay and Taloyoak, refining it for ease of use and Inuktitut language compatibility. The beta version of the tagging functionality is currently being used by PI/KHS staff to categorize our vast collection of newly digitized archives content, and increase the level of Inuit-attributed metadata associated with the records.

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF ART

In 1972, a grassroots craft collective called Arnaqarvik (a place of women) began in Taloyoak. It was a venue for local women to creatively hone their skills and tell their stories through forms of artistic production. In just two years, Arnaqarvik craftwork and fashion was being sold across North America. To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the collective, we brought together the founders and key members to compile and document Arnaqarvik's vast impact. Multiyear efforts culminated in the development of a [website](#) and database dedicated to sharing the collections, the artists, and the collective's enduring legacy.

INUINNAIT STRING FIGURES

String figure making is practised by people around the world, including Inuit. Our designs are traditionally made by weaving braided sinew or seal skins into intricate designs around the fingers of one or multiple people. It's a form of entertainment, but also a way to tell stories and pass on knowledge to younger generations. With the help of string figure expert Stephan Classen from the Netherlands, we de-constructed a series of string figures. Based on historic footage, these [step-by-step tutorials](#) offer a split-screen, showing both the original maker, and the slowed down easy-to-learn version.



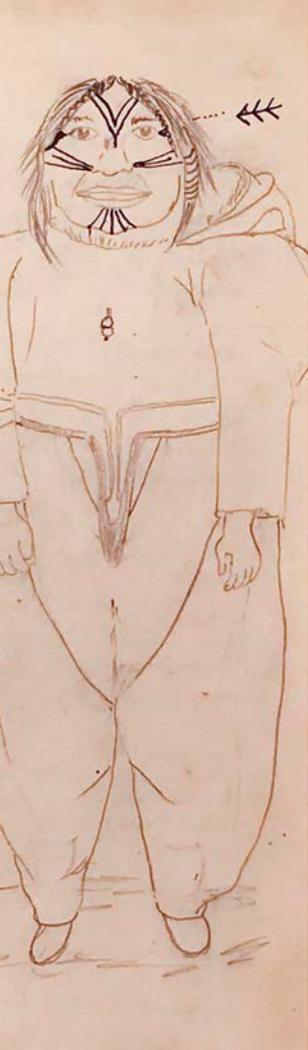
INUINNAIT ARCHAEOLOGY

While archaeological fieldwork was postponed due to COVID-19, we re-directed our energies to other methods of uncovering the Inuinait past.

EXCAVATING THE VILHJALMUR STEFFANSON POLAR COLLECTION

In 1910, Canadian anthropologist, Vilhjalmur Stefansson, became the first significant encounter for Inuinait with the western world. Until 1918, Stefansson would continue to live among and document Inuinait lives, recording a trove of information about their language, technologies and beliefs prior to the onset of rapid cultural change. Through the Fulbright Canada program, we were granted a 6-month opportunity to work with Stefansson's vast repository of original fieldnotes, censuses, photos and other recordings currently housed at Dartmouth College. Our work focused on locating and waking up the valuable Inuinait knowledge and language that slumber in these records, with the goal of renewing their circulation in Inuinait communities. Watch a presentation about this work [here](#).





VOICES FROM THE PAST

Our oral history collection grew significantly this year through the donation of roughly 300 Inuit interviews by former Arctic resident, Janet Diveky. Recorded on reel-to-reel cassettes by her husband, George Diveky during the 1970s, this phenomenal collection is primarily in Inuinnaqtun and explores the personal histories and memories of Elders, alongside a wide range of traditional stories from the communities of Kugluktuk and Kugaaruk. We are currently digitizing the collection and hope to have it publicly accessible in the coming year.



DEFINING HISTORICAL INUIT ARCHITECTURE

As part of the design process for Kuugalak, our new cultural workspace, we worked with long-time archaeology partner Max Friesen to review our region's 4500-year history of constructed dwellings, and to distill Inuinnaqtun architectural principles that could be integrated into our new building. In meetings with Max and Elders, we discussed the methods and materials of traditional Inuinnaqtun housing, and their innovative solutions for ensuring their residents' comfort alongside key factors such as light, temperature, humidity, and ongoing maintenance. We had a particular focus to identify how Inuinnaqtun architecture has changed over time in response to environmental and social change.



BUILDING FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

We're taking leadership to build a strong future for our organization and our community, from fostering long-term stability through our very own social enterprise, to piloting the latest green energy technologies in a new cultural workspace.

KUUGALAK

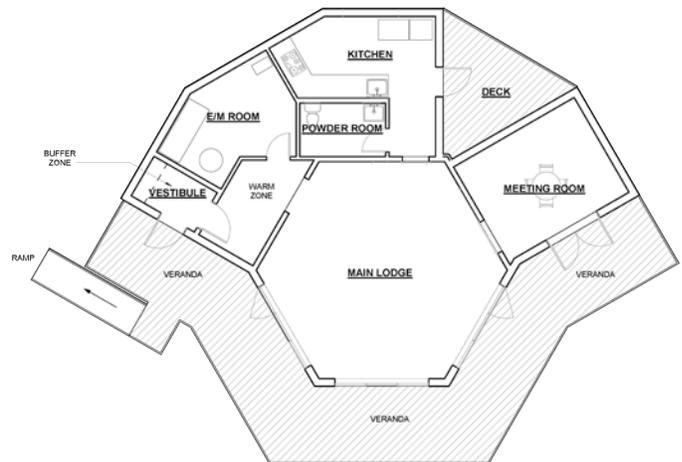
For over two years now, we have been working with the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology's (SAIT) Green Building Technologies Lab to develop a culturally-informed, sustainable, and scalable model for building in the Arctic. Since then, we have partnered with Cambridge Bay companies, including Qillaq Innovations, CHOU Consulting & Development, and Aurora Energy Solutions, and Calgary-based ZS2 Technologies, to inform construction and design of a new cultural workspace that will be used for applied language and culture revitalization. This building both draws from traditional knowledge and uses experimental materials and innovative green technologies.





A NEW LOOK FOR KAAPITTIQ

For all the coffee lovers out there, we have created the perfect blend through our social enterprise Kaapittiaq—the finest beans and a commitment to doing good. With four roasts to choose from, every purchase supports language and culture revitalization in the Arctic. This year, 75% of profits were donated to support Kuugalak, and the design and construction of the new space that will become the centre for our language and culture revitalization efforts.



SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Year ended March 31, 2022

ASSETS	2022	2021
Current		
Cash, bank accounts and short-term investments	1,081,476	992,231
Amounts receivable	338,810	260,904
Inventory	4,160	5,316
	1,424,446	1,258,451
Investment in Pitquikhainik Ilihainiq Inc	18,941	13,939
Equipment	83,818	69,683
	1,527,205	1,342,073
LIABILITIES		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	207,508	64,573
Government remittances payable	5,158	1,436
Wages payable	74,001	33,417
Deferred revenue	876,017	984,754
	1,162,684	1,084,180
Investment in Pitquikhainik Ilihainiq Inc		-
	1,162,684	1,084,180
NET ASSETS		
Equipment Fund	83,818	69,683
Unrestricted Fund	280,703	188,210
	364,521	257,893
	1,527,205	1,342,073

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

REVENUES		
Grants and contributions	1,838,389	1,345,298
Donations from other charities	149,735	30,617
Donations- tax receipted	13,797	-
Fundraising	44,684	19,502
COVID-19 wage subsidies	86,104	159,139
Other income	333,612	164,926
Social enterprise Pitquikhainik Ilihainiq profit	5,003	27,048
	2,471,324	1,746,528
EXPENSES		
Management and administration	183,113	167,451
Projects and charitable activities	2,149,237	1,393,793
Fundraising activities	11,171	4,875
	2,343,521	1,566,119
Excess revenue before the following	127,803	180,409
Amortization of equipment and exhibits	(21,175)	(16,379)
EXCESS REVENUES (EXPENSES)	106,628	164,030



OUR TEAM

Current as of October 2022

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bessie Omilgoetok
Ikhivautalik / Honorary Chair

Annie Atighioyak
Hivulliqtiuyi / President

Mabel Etegiq
Eva Kakolak
Noah Kuptana
Mary Kaotalok
Susie Maniyogina
David Amagainek
Anne Wingnek

STAFF & CONSULTANTS

Annie Atighioyak, Mabel Etegiq, Bessie Omilgoetok and
Mary Kaotalok, *Inirniit Havaktiit / Elders-in-Residence*

Emily Angulalik
Hivulliqpaam Aulapkaiyi / Executive Director

Kim Crockatt
*Atangujaq Kinauyaliqiyiningmun, Titikikiningmunlu / Chief
Finance and Operations Officer*

Darren Keith
Angayuqaanga Qauyibaqti / Senior Researcher

Brendan Griebel
*Munaqbiyi, Inuinait Pitqhubirnikkut Tutkuqhimajut /
Manager, Collections & Archives*

Tammy Omilgoitok
*Inuinnaqtunut Utiqtittinahuariniq Aulapkaiji / Inuinnaqtun
Revitalization Coordinator*

Helen Blewett
Inirnikhanut Aulapkaiji / Elder Coordinator

Bo Wallenius
Makpiraaqarviliqiyi / Community Librarian

Lyndsey Friesen
*Inuubittiarnigut Ikayuqtut unalu Tuhagakhanut Atannguyaq
/ Philanthropy and Communications Manager*

Elayne Merritt
Maniliqiyi / Senior Accountant

Alex Chen
Maniliqiyi / Accountant

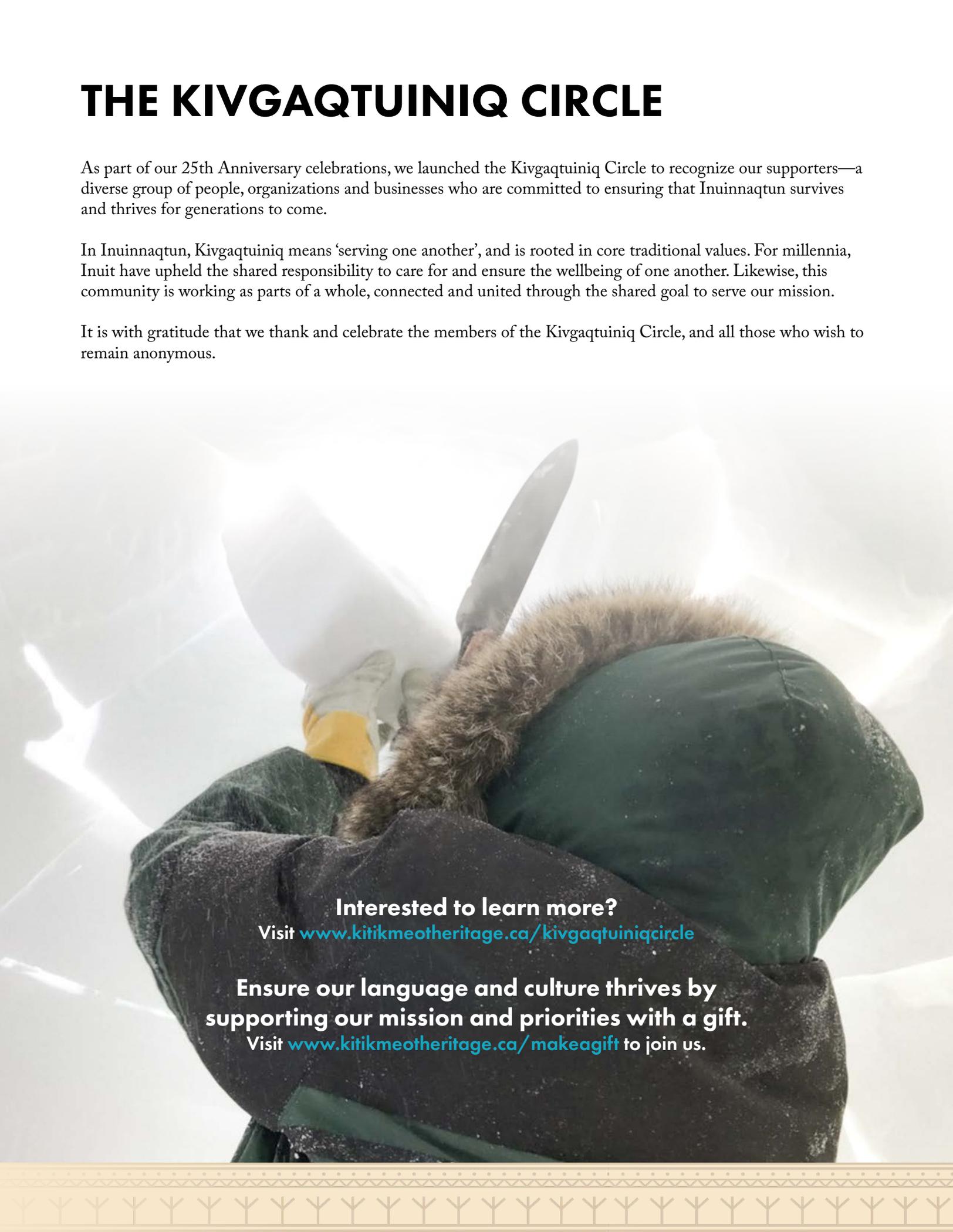


THE KIVGAQTUINIQ CIRCLE

As part of our 25th Anniversary celebrations, we launched the Kivgaqtuiniq Circle to recognize our supporters—a diverse group of people, organizations and businesses who are committed to ensuring that Inuinnaqtun survives and thrives for generations to come.

In Inuinnaqtun, Kivgaqtuiniq means ‘serving one another’, and is rooted in core traditional values. For millennia, Inuit have upheld the shared responsibility to care for and ensure the wellbeing of one another. Likewise, this community is working as parts of a whole, connected and united through the shared goal to serve our mission.

It is with gratitude that we thank and celebrate the members of the Kivgaqtuiniq Circle, and all those who wish to remain anonymous.



Interested to learn more?

Visit www.kitikmeotheritage.ca/kivgaqtuiniqcircle

**Ensure our language and culture thrives by
supporting our mission and priorities with a gift.**

Visit www.kitikmeotheritage.ca/makeagift to join us.



Abigail LaChapelle
 Amanda Buckiewicz
 Bálint Nagy
 Barb Moffat
 Bill Gibbons
 Bjaerni Henderson
 Brooke Benson
 Buffy Childerhose
 Catherine Cool
 Deron Engbers
 Dianne Lister
 Danielle Wendehorst
 Ellie Clin
 Eugene Peng
 Emma Reid
 Hana Semerad
 Hélène De Celles
 Janet Polivy
 Janet Power
 Jara Chotenovsky

Jetske Wessel
 John Dale
 John Hinkley
 Julia Adams
 Karen McFarlane
 Kathy Hearn MacKinnon
 Kevin King
 Lee Ann Wiseman
 Leora Courtney-Wolfman
 Lindsay & Evelyn Earle
 Matthew Ravenscroft
 Margaret Young

 In Memory Of
 Margaret Padloo Qutiaquq Oliver

 In Memory Of
 Lionel Frigault

 Mark Vonesch

Mary Sanborn-Barrie
 Michelle Keilhauer
 Mindy Willett
 Mirna Cheryl Garabet
 Natalie Carter
 Patricia Marchant
 Paul Richardson
 Peter Campbell

 In Honour Of
 Dr. Ronald Melzack

 Ryan Mizzen
 Sean Pond
 Susan Baum
 Tina Price
 Tracey Laughlin
 Valerie Côté
 Victoria Ruthven
 Ya Xiang Huang



READ MORE ABOUT
OUR WORK

www.kitikmeotheritage.ca

EXPLORE LANGUAGE
REVITALIZATION

www.inuinnaqtun.ca

LEARN ABOUT OUR
SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

www.kaapittiaq.ca

DISCOVER OUR MOVEMENT
TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY

www.nunamiutuqaq.ca

CHECK OUT OUR LATEST
EXHIBIT PROJECT

www.arnaqarvik.ca