#### Newsletter Spring 2015

#### WHAT'S INSIDE

## 2555 TUSARASSAT

## QIA Welcomes New President: P.J. Akeeagok



P.J. Akeeagok was born and raised in Grise Fiord (Aujuittug, "place that never thaws"), in the territory of Nunavut. With a population of approximately 150 residents, Grise Fiord is the northernmost community in Canada. He is the proud father of 2 beautiful children: Ryan and Jazmine. Since 2006, P.J. has been devoted to Inuit organizations. On December 8, 2014, at the age of 30, P.J. was elected President of the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA). From 2005 to 2007, P.J. studied Political Science and Aboriginal Studies at the University of Ottawa. He also is a graduate student of the well-known Nunavut Sivuniksavut College, where he obtained his diploma in 2004. From 2007 to 2011, P.J. has been extensively involved with the Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. where he started as the Cultural Policy Analyst-Social cultural Development and was soon promoted to

the Assistant Director-Corporate Service position. Among his major accomplishments, P.J. has been involved in documenting the story of Inuit self-determination for the Staking the Claim Documentary Guide, a project that required him to travel across the Arctic and meet with government and non-governmental leaders, former Inuit negotiators, elders and youth. P.J.'s vision for QIA is: to bring the Inuit Beneficiaries from the Qikiqtani Region closer to QIA by increasing QIA's accountability and transparency; increasing awareness on available programs and funding available through QIA, and increasing presence of QIA within the Qikiqtani communities. P.J. believes working with the community members will help shape its four year mandate.



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# Bereavement and Compassionate Travel Program

Since April 2014, the administration of the Bereavement and Compassionate Travel Program, provided by Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI) through a Contribution Agreement with QIA has been transferred to regional Inuit organizations. The program aims at providing financial support to the registered Beneficiaries of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) dealing with grief, bereavement and mourning associated with a family member who is in terminally ill and facing imminent death, or has died.

Since the administration has been transferred to regional Inuit Organizations, QIA is proud to have been able to assist hundreds individuals and is looking forward to continue supporting and assisting Inuit during this difficult and/or sensitive time for them. Renewal of funding for this program is subject to NTI's discretion which will be subject to review each fiscal year.

As of January 20, 2015	
Qualified Applicants	239
Bereavement	175
Compassionate	64
Total	\$503,930.00

## **FAQ's** Bereavement and Compassionate Travel Program

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#### Who is entitled to this program?

Registered Beneficiaries of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) from the Qikiqtani Region, and related to Àthe individual who is terminally ill and facing imminent death, or has died. The terminally ill or deceased person must be a family member.

Who is considered to be an eligible family member? Grandmother, grandfather, mother, father, daughter, son, aunt, uncle, sister, brother and grandchildren.

What can the financial assistance be used for? It can be used for air travel for a maximum of two [2] family members who wish to visit a terminally ill family member, or travel to attend the funeral of a family member in another Nunavut community.

Can I apply for financial assistance for both, travel of the human body remains and travel assistance for bereavement? No, you shall only apply for one of the above services.

What is the application process? You can find the Bereavement and Compassionate Travel Assistance Application Form on QIA website at www.qia.ca or ask for the application form to your Community Liaison Officer (CLO) by email or by phone. You can also contact directly QIA at 1.800.667.2742 or send an email to info@gia.ca. Make sure you send with your application the death certificate or a letter from a doctor indicating that the family member is terminally ill. Once your application form is completed, you can deliver your application form to your Inuit organization or scan it and send it by email to your CLO or fax it to QIA at 1.867.979.3228. Make sure you receive a confirmation of reception. If you did not received a confirmation of reception within 48 hours, resend your application form until you receive a confirmation of reception. This is to ensure that the technology you're using is functional and that your request is being processed.

How QIA decides whether my application form is approved? QIA is responsible to review your application for financial assistance on a case-by-case basis, in line with the Bereavement and Compassionate Travel Program Policy. The CLO will inform you of the decision. To follow up on applications, QIA Executive Committee reviews approved applications quarterly.

Who is responsible for making travel arrangements? If your application is approved, the Iqaluit CLO coordinates and makes travel arrangements for all successful applicants.

For further information, visit QIA website at www.qia.ca or contact your Inuit organization or CLO.

## **TUKISIGIARVIK:**

# Highlighting an inspirational wellness and cultural center in the Qikitani region

Tukisigiarvik is a wellness and cultural centre in Iqaluit. At Tukisigiarvik we provide counselling, wellness and healing programs, and cultural skills training for the people of Iqaluit, Inuit and non-Inuit, who want to learn important aspects of the Inuit language and culture. A key objective of the Tukisigiarvik Society is to ensure that Inuit societal values, beliefs and practices form the basis of the wellness and cultural skills programs that we offer, so

Inuit elders play a central role in our program planning and delivery. Our elder-advisors decided that our wellness and cultural skills development programs should be called lliqusittigut Makigiarniq, literally Gaining strength through our culture.

The basic services available each day at Tukisigiarvik are the Drop-in Program where

clients can relax in the comfortable, safe environment and avail themselves of free tea, coffee, breakfast cereals, and traditional foods harvested in our land skills program. We also offer counseling services and free bathing facilities. Counselors and elder advisors are available each day to discuss any issues clients might want to raise with them and to find solutions that are based on Inuit societal values

In addition, Tukisigiarvik offers a variety of Cultural Skills and Land Skills programs. The activities vary according to the season and include parka, amautiq, kamik and tent making; qamutiik making, small engine repair, ulu and tool making, hunting, fishing and gathering, way finding, weather prediction, and a summer camping program called the Nunamiut Care Camp. All of these programs are taught or led by Inuit who are recognized for their knowledge, skills and expertise in a particular area, and are free of charge to all participants.

Since 2010, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association has also provided funding for Tukisigiarvik's programs through its Nunalingni Aulajjagiaqtiit program. This support is truly appreciated. The Nunamiut Care Camp is a land program for families and individuals who otherwise have no means to spend time on the land in traditional camping, hunting and gathering activities. Participants spend six to eight days at the camp site at Illuluajuat, about 12 KM from Iqaluit, learning or re-learning Inuit cultural skills. The positive environment at the Care Camp allows individuals and families to get away from the negative influences that are common in our communities and encourages healthy lifestyles. Since 2004, 1299 individuals have participated in this program.

The beneficial results of Tukisigiarvik's programs and service are evident both in the number of participants and in their positive responses. During our first ten years of operation, 2004 – 2014, 56,600 clients dropped in at the Centre, many availing themselves of our counseling, bathing and breakfast and traditional food programs. During the same period, 4589 clients received counseling services at the Centre. In addition, Tukisigiarvik provides counseling services to inmates of BCC and

Through the CIP,

QIA contributed

\$112,150.00 to

**TUKISIGIARVIK** 

several federal institutions. A further 3679 individuals participated in our cultural skills, land skills and camping programs. Most participants react positively to the advice our counselors offer them, and to their own accomplishments in our cultural and land skills programs.

These programs are costly to run and, like most non-profit organizations, Tukisigiarvik can only offer programs when it receives funding from government departments, the private sector or Inuit organizations. Fortunately, Tukisigiarvik receives generous support from the Government of Nunavut, Health Canada, the City of Iqaluit, and NTI. Since 2010, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association has also provided funding for Tukisigiarvik's programs through its Nunalingni

The Nunalingni Aulajjagiaqtiit funding is available to all Qikiqtaaluk communities to support projects that promote Community Capacity Building, Inuit Culture, Economic Sustainability, Social Development, and Health and Well-being. The application process is not complicated and QIA staff are available to help with applications when needed. Basically, all that is required is a simple program plan and a breakdown of how much the program will cost. Naturally, it is important to keep good records and receipts for program expenses. This information has to be included in the short report that is required at the end of each program that QIA funds.

Aulajjagiagtiit program. This support is truly appreciated.

If you are interested in Tukisigiarvik's programs and services and you are visiting Iqaluit, you are welcome to drop in at the Tukisigiarvik Centre near the old hospital at any time. There will always be fresh tea, coffee and bannock on the stove and some kind of traditional food available, and our staff will be able to tell you more about our activities.

### DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL POLICY

## Community Initiative Programs

The Program with a total budget of \$503,258.51 aims at providing financial support for projects related to community capacity building; promotion of Inuit culture; economic benefit; social development; health and wellbeing, and/or environmental protection.

The CIP Committee has received and reviewed a total of 18 proposals from the communities of Pond Inlet, Clyde River, Arctic Bay, Iqaluit, Qikiqtarjuaq, Pangnirtung and Hall Beach in which 11 proposals were approved, totaling \$244,320.89.

QIA encourage the communities who did not applied for their community allocation to do so before March 31, 2015. If QIA does not receive proposals for the remaining balance of \$258,932.32, the balance will carried on to fiscal year 2015-16.

## Successful Recipients of the Community Initiative Program 2014-15

Arctic Bay - Tent Making	\$26,200.00
Clyde River - Ilisaqsivik	\$28,200.00
Hall Beach - Clothing and Survival	\$9,520.00
Pangnirtung - Tent Making	\$9,289.94
Pangnirtung - Inuit Iliqursinga	\$8000.00
Pangnirtung - Nunattini Tusaruminaqtut Radio Shows	\$7,455.00
Pond Inlet - Fishing in Winter & Wellness	\$14,500.00
Qikiqtarjuaq - Throat Singing	\$9,620.00
Large Project - Tukisigiarvik	\$112,150.00

TOTAL

\$224,931,94



When you need someone to talk to, call: **867.979.3333** or **1.800.265.3333** 7 days a week

## Aids line

7pm - 9pm EDT

## Help line

9pm - midnight EDT

## Kids Help Line

1.800.616.4011

## Alcoholics Anonymous

1.888.616.4011

## ILAGIIKTUNUT FUND: END OF FIRST ROUND

On July 9, 2014, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA) was pleased the launch of the Ilagiiktunut Fund. The Ilagiiktunut Fund is an element of the Mary River Project Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement (IIBA). The Ilagiiktunut Fund is jointly established by QIA and Baffinland Iron Mine Corporation (BIMC) and the Fund itself is administered by QIA. Each party has agreed to match annual contributions dollar for dollar up to a maximum of \$375, 000, for an initial period of six years.

QIA has committed to contributing the maximum amount to the Fund each year; this means that the Ilagiiktunut Fund will be set at \$750, 000 per year from 2014-15 through 2019-20. After the six year period, QIA and BIMC will examine the success of the Fund and will make decision about continuing it for successive three year terms.

The Fund has been established because QIA and Inuit have recognise the need to make important improvements in community capacity, particularly in this period of growth and change brought on by natural resource developments within the Qikiqtaaluk Region of Nunavut. "QIA works to ensure that communities have opportunities to be more prepared for the types of changes that are coming as a result of Major Projects Development within the Qikiqtani Region. This Fund will significantly improve services within the community for the Inuit." Said P.J. Akeeagok, President of QIA.

A proposal is currently under review for the allocation of the remaining balance of \$18,741.37 and QIA will communicate the successful recipient upon its final approval from the llagiiktunut Committee. The announcement of the second round of the llagiiktunut Fund will be announced in or before spring 2015.

Successful Recipients of the First Round

of the llagiiktunut Fund	
Ilisaqsivik	\$115,761.25
Qarjuk Elders	\$29,000.00
Qisilirniq	\$14,250.00
Hamlet of Pond Inlet	\$67,410.00
Hunters and Trappers Association	\$76,574.38
Pond Inlet Basket Ball Club	\$24,850.00
Embrace Life Council	\$124,413.00
Recreation Parks Association Nunavut	\$85,605.00
Artcirq	\$29,995.00
Nunavut Independent Television Network	\$138,000.00
Nassivik High School	\$25,400.00

TOTAL

# LETTER OF APPRECIATION TO QIA FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CO-FOUNDER OF ARTCIRQ



I am pleased to address you on behalf of the Artcirq Inuit Collective in Igloolik. Over the last 10 years, Artcirq has evolved from a youth suicide prevention project into a professional multidisciplinary collective. Most recently, the collective has been focussed on the establishment of a permanent multipurpose facility for arts and expression in Igloolik. Artcirq members proudly achieved this goal in early 2014, opening the Black Box to the Igloolik community for artistic development, training, and performances.

Artcirq organized its first official circus camp in the summer of 2014 with the generous support from the Hamlet of Igloolik and the Nunavut Department of Sport & Recreation. The event was a huge success for the trainers and the participants alike! With the desire to continue to expand this project throughout the year, the Artcirq Youth Development Program was born. This 6-month pilot project offered a schedule of after-school circus and music activities for youth, coordinated by Artcirq's local experienced members.

Artcirq applied for support from the llagiiktunut Fund last summer and received a positive answer by the fall. This was very exciting news, because this meant that for the first time young Inuit musicians and circus artists would be recognized for their expertise and paid a decent salary to share their knowledge with younger generations. The llagiiktunut Fund has allowed Artcirq to create actual employment opportunities, provide training to youth, and increase concrete possibilities for the Inuit youth of today, to define the Nunavut of tomorrow.

Thank you for supporting us.

All the best,

\$731,258.63



Guillaume Saladin, ARTCIRQ President and Co-Founder www.artcirq.org

# Suicide Prevention Strategy

The Embrace Life Council and their partners: Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated [NTI], the RCMP, QIA, KIAs and communities throughout Nunavut, have had a busy year with various initiatives such as: Suicide prevention strategy.

This is a strong partnership for the purpose of strengthening the continuum of mental health and service, especially in relation to the accessibility and cultural appropriateness of care.

- The partners will better equip youth to cope with averse life events and negative emotions.
- The GN will deliver suicide-intervention training on a consistent and comprehensive basis.
- The partners will support ongoing research to better understand suicide in Nunavut and the effectiveness of suicide prevention initiatives.
- The partners will communicate and share information with Nunavummiut on an ongoing basis.
- The GN will invest in the next generation by fostering opportunities for healthy development in early childhood
- The partners will provide supporting for communities to engage in community-development activities.

QIA is happy to partner with the Embrace life council who has continued to be a leader in the implementation of the action plan and will continue to work with all partners in developing an evaluation framework for the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy.

"We are committed to working with the partners and Nunavummiut in implementing the strategy and achieving our vision of a Nunavut in which the rate of suicide is the same or lower than the rate for Canada as a whole"



## Poverty Reduction Plan

QIA is one of the founding members of the Roundtable, and is represented by members of the Social Policy Committee and staff from the Social Policy Department.

The Nunavut Roundtable for Poverty Reduction met twice in 2014.

In May, the Roundtable met in Rankin Inlet, and spent three days discussing parenting and child development. The Inunnguiniq Task Group developed from this meeting, and will focus on how best to support parenting and child development initiatives as part of the Five Year Action Plan.

The Roundtable met for the second time in 2014 in Iqaluit, November 26-28. Over 80 participants from across the territory met to review and give feedback on the draft of the Five Year Poverty Reduction Action Plan; to respond to the work of the Inunnguiniq Task Group; and to strengthen our shared understanding of how we can support preventative care and healing for victims, offenders, families, and communities. There was a lot of interest in forming a Justice and Healing task group, similar to the Inunnquiniq group.

The next meeting of the Roundtable will take place in Spring 2015 and will focus on how the Roundtable can work with the Department of Family Services to improve the Income Support system, an issue which is very important to many Nunavummiut.

### First Annual Review Forum:

## Inuit Voices Are Being Heard

On October 27-29, 2014, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association and Baffinland have been successfully holding an Annual Information Forum at the Community Hall in Pond Inlet where approximately 50 people attended the meeting. The Annual Information Forum is and annual requirement of the Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement (IIBA). During this Forum, Elders, Youth and QIA Community Directors had the opportunity to voice their questions and concerns related to the Mary River Project (MRP). The Annual Information Forum aims at: identifying ways for the MRP to contribute to the well-being of Inuit; promoting cooperative relationship between Inuit, Baffinland and QIA; ensuring full participation of Inuit in the decision making process that influences the future of Inuit in the decision making process, and addressing matters that may impact Inuit throughout the life of the MRP. The event will be repeated on an annual basis in a different affected community by the MRP. OIA is taking the opportunity to thank all Qikiqtaalummiut for their exceptional contribution and participation to the discussions on the review of the MRP. Each comments and concerns are given great consideration in the implementation of the IIBA and life of the MRP. In the upcoming months, Qikiqtaalummiut will be provided with further updates on project developments. This is to ensure transparency and integrity with affected community members by the MRP; a key priority for QIA.

For further information, please visit QIA website at: www.qia.ca or contact us at: 1-800-667-2742 or [867] 975-8400



#### DEPARTMENT OF MAJOR PROJECTS

#### QIA MARY RIVER PROJECT

## GRIEVANCE POLICY

As part of its ongoing efforts to implement the Mary River Project Inuit Impact Benefit Agreement (MRP), QIA has created way to receive and address any complaints from Beneficiaries related to the project. The process is designed to deal with all types of complaints related to the MRP, and its impacts related to Inuit, communities and Inuit Owned Land. If you have a complaint related to the MRP, you are encouraged to contact your local QIA Community Director, QIA Community Liaison Officer or contact the Inuit Employment and Training Coordinator with the Department of Major Projects at QIA's Head Office. You will be asked some questions about the nature of your complaint, and you answers will be sent to the appropriate QIA staff. Once you complaint or grievance has been received by QIA, it will be investigated by QIA staff who will gather all available information, make an assessment of the information, and look for the best way to resolve the issue. QIA will identify the actions that should be taken to address the complaint or grievance. QIA will keep you informed about how your complaint or grievance is being handled. It is important that Beneficiaries' voices are heard when it comes to impacts of resource development on Inuit Owned Lands.

For further information, contact Peter Autut, Inuit Employment and Training Coordinator, QIA, 867.975.8427 or 1.800.667.2742



#### Department of Lands and Resources

# Seismic Testing and the Strategic Environmental Assessment

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In June 2014 the National Energy Board approved a proposal submitted by a group of companies [TGS-NOPEC Geophysical Company ASA, Petroleum GeoServices and Multi Klient Invest AS] to conduct a seismic survey off the eastern coast of Baffin Island in Baffin Bay and Davis Strait to evaluate the potential for oil and gas reserves. The permit was issued with 13 terms & conditions. In light of the time it will take to meet the T&C's, the company has indicated they will postpone the project to start in the summer of 2015.

Prior to the seismic survey project being approved, QIA and NTI had communicated with the AANDC requesting the federal government commit to not issuing any permits for oil and gas exploration until the completion of a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

The SEA is a planning tool that would help the Minister of AANDC determine whether Baffin Bay and Davis Strait should be open to oil and gas development in the future. An SEA would review the potential social and economic opportunities and challenges of oil and gas development, the traditional and scientific knowledge of the area and how oil and gas activities could affect the environment. QIA's role in the SEA will be to collect IQ in the communities and develop a map of important areas in Baffin Bay / Davis Strait to integrate into the final recommendations of the SEA.

Since the approval of the seismic survey project, QIA has reemphasized the importance of completing the SEA. However

> we are also focusing our efforts on ensuring that community input is incorporated into the seismic survey plans. As a prime example, QIA recently completed a set of IQ workshops in the potentially affected communities. goal of the workshops was to collect Inuit Qaujimajatuqanqit (IQ) to integrate into the design of the seismic survey as well as the SEA for oil and gas in Baffin Bay.

### Lancaster Sound

QIA has been conducting consultation in the communities adjacent to

the Proposed Lancaster Sound National Marine Conservation area for the past several years. These communities include Pond Inlet, Arctic Bay, Resolute, Grise Fiord and Clyde River.

As the boundary for the proposed conservation has not been finalized QIA has been spearheading consultations with the adjacent communities with the goal of developing a map of relative importance based on Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit [IQ] that highlights important areas outside the original boundary proposed by the Government of Canada.

The following map shows the areas of high importance to Inuit and the proposed boundaries of the conservation area: Parks Canada proposed boundary in green and QIA proposed boundary in black.

# Who is Kakivak Association?

Kakivak Association is a community and economic development organization serving Inuit, by providing business, employment and training services to enhance the strengths of communities in the Oikiqtani Region.

Kakivak Association is the non-profit economic development arm of the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA). Based in Iqaluit, Kakivak provides programs and services to thirteen communities in the Qikiqtani region of Nunavut. Kakivak Association is staffed with 18 people.

Qikqitani Inuit Association (QIA) Board of Directors appoint members to the Kakivak Association Board of Directors. Kakivak Association is a five [5] member board.

Kakivak Association has five departments:

#### Finance & Administration:

Administrative support for Kakivak Association in its daily operations, oversees budgeting and accounting, and develops and produces organizational analyses to assist in long-term strategic planning.

#### Childcare, Youth & Disabilities:

CYD is responsible for the following Childcare, Science & Technology program, Mentored & Information & Communications Technology Work, Career Promotion & Awareness, Summer Work Experience, Youth Training & Employment and Disability Assistance Program.

#### **Training & Employment:**

The Training & Employment Department provides assistance to the following; Individual Sponsorship Program, Wage Subsidy and Employment Related Training.

#### **Business Department:**

The Business Department has funding for; Small Tools Grants, Sivumut Grants to Small Businesses, Makigiavik Loans and Economic Opportunities Program.

#### **Career Services:**

In consultation with the Nunavut Arctic College, Kakivak Association provides Career Services Programs for beneficiaries that need assistance in finding a job. Kakivak can assist beneficiaries with Resume Writing, Job Search and other related programs.

Kakivak Association do community visits. They meet with the Hamlet Council, meet with the Hunter's & Trapper's Associations, visit the Arctic College students, make presentation to the High School students, visit daycare centers and hold Open House for the public.

Kakivak Association works closely with the Community Liaison Officers in the communities. For more information, please contact your local CLO in your community, or Joanasie Akumalik; 867-979-0911 or toll free number; 1-800-561-9011.





## Who is Qikiqtaaluk Corporation?

Qikiqtaaluk Corporation (QC) is a wholly owned Inuit birthright development corporation created by the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (formerly known as the Baffin Region Inuit Association). Created in 1983, QC's purpose is to provide employment and financial opportunities for Inuit in the region. QC has a remarkable track record in Inuit training, capacity building and employment successes.

Qikiqtaaluk Corporation was created to participate in the economic development in the Qikiqtani region on behalf of the beneficiaries of the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement. Since November 1983 the company has seen substantial growth as it manages successful subsidiaries and consistently completes significant projects. It is the first Inuit Organization to obtain bid and performance bonding coverage without external guarantors. This allows QC to bid as the main contractor for large projects.

#### Governance

Mission: QC's mission is "To create meaningful economic, employment and career development opportunities for Inuit."

The values of our organization are:

- To own and operate sound businesses that generate profit for today and wealth for tomorrow:
- To develop people, create employment and career opportunities;
- To contribute to community well-being and wealth generation;
- To uphold Inuit values and protect the earth, air and water;
- To participate successfully in the emerging global economy, and
- To foster a strong sense of pride in our businesses and our people.



#### 

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QC has concentrates its investments in the following key areas, which allows it to integrate Inuit knowledge, beliefs and culture, leading to new and innovative approaches. These key areas are:

- · Fisheries and marine services;
- Inuit employment and capacity building;
- Environmental remediation and hazardous waste management services;
- Expediting and camp/catering services;
- · Real estate development and management;
- Property assessment;
- Infrastructure development;
- Information technology;
- · Retail operations;
- Medical services and staffing;
- Transportation services (marine and aviation);
- · Petroleum distribution, and
- DEW Line maintenance and operation security services.

