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I would like to thank the Board of
 Directors and welcome our new Board
 members elected this year. The rela-
 tionship between a President and
 the Board is an important one and
 can greatly enhance the work we do.
 I look forward to continuing to work
 hard with the Board and my fellow
 Executive Members as we proceed
 in our important work.

On a final note, I offer my sincere
 thanks and appreciation to our staff
 for their dedication and hard work.
 I realize that the many activities and
 projects we undertake often require
 long hours, travel, and time away from
 our families. Pauktuutit's staff assume
 their responsibilities with determination
 and perseverance and, too often, work
 in the background while congratulations
 and applause are received by others.
 All Inuit should be proud of their work
 and know that they are benefiting
 from the work this unique group of
 people undertakes on their behalf.
 They deserve both our thanks and
 our applause.

Veronica Dewar

President





2001-2002-ᑦ ᑲᑎᑎᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦ

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Among Pauktuutit's early efforts in HIV/AIDS was a 1995 CHR conference that brought together interested people to discuss Inuit needs and priorities in regards to HIV/AIDS. The first stage of the next project began in 1998 and produced a series of booklets on Inuit and HIV/AIDS. These received strong support from both Inuit communities and a number of organizations. Since these first resources were produced, the project has grown quickly in size and breadth.

The following sections provide a summary of some of the recent accomplishments of the project.

Early national aboriginal efforts to engage the HIV/AIDS issue tended to emphasize the perspectives and priorities of First Nations and largely ignored Inuit concerns. With the development of the National Aboriginal Council on HIV/AIDS (NACHA), however, Inuit achieved equitable representation on a national aboriginal advisory body and thus give a national voice to Inuit concerns and priorities in regards to HIV/AIDS. Inuit participation in NACHA allowed for greater access to funding and the opportunity to inform the policy





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inadequately consulted and considered during the development of a number of important INAC policies, programs and services. At times, this has had a negative impact on the ability of Inuit women to access programs and services to which they are entitled. The Minister's recognition of Pauktuutit will help ensure that Inuit women have a seat at the table when INAC is meeting with aboriginal peoples at the national level.

The organization has continued to live within its means and maintains strict financial control over its various budgets. While Pauktuutit's staff has been reduced by two positions over the past year, the remaining staff continues to provide a high level of competence and dedication in ensuring that important projects and other activities are handled in professional and efficient manner.

Workshops/Presentations

The 2001-2002 AGM also saw another tradition continued – the workshop. Federal and provincial/territorial departments have long recognized the benefits of funding workshops at Pauktuutit AGMs. The meetings offer



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stressed as a priority. Also reviewed were the existing regional women’s organizations, the Constitution, the Charter of Rights, the Canadian Human Rights Act and gender equality analysis commitments with specific attention to how each document outlined and protected the rights of Inuit women.

Tupiq Program Presentation

Pauktuutit staff member Daisy Saunders, along with Tupiq Program Inuit Facilitators Myna Ishulutuk, and Leena Evic-Twerdin from Fenbrook Institution, and Autumn Watson and Valerie Nichols from ITK, Law and Justice

Department facilitated the workshop on the Tupiq Program.

Inuit inmates in federal prisons face a number of challenges including being far from their home communities and families, and having a general lack of Inuit-specific services and programs available to them. Other needs identified include increased liaison services, access to interpreters, and





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