

2007–2008  
ANNUAL REPORT



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PAUKTUUTIT  
INUIT WOMEN OF CANADA  
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*The National Voice of Inuit Women*



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## President's Message




**Rhoda Innuksuk**

Welcome to Pauktuutit's 2007–2008 Annual Report. I hope you enjoy reading the report and are able to gain an accurate impression of the many tasks and activities that have consumed our time over the past year. While the report attempts to cover all our activities, we could not cover all of them in the detail we would have like to. For those interested in greater details and to access some of our resources, please refer to our website at [www.pauktuutit.ca](http://www.pauktuutit.ca).

It was a great honour to be selected by the Pauktuutit Board and Executive for the position of interim-President. I have always been active in promoting Inuit rights and interests and look forward to using my new role to further benefit Inuit women and our communities.

I would like to thank out going President Martha Greig for the dedication and leadership she provided during her tenure. A long-standing staff and Executive member with Pauktuutit, Martha was very generous with her time and the sharing of her extensive experience and knowledge across a wide range of issues. My sincere hope is that Martha will continue to work with Pauktuutit and our partners to further our efforts to improve the lives of Inuit women and our families.

*“Inuit women form the core of our communities in many areas and work tirelessly to help make their communities the best they can be.”*



As former President of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK) and a former member of the Executive Council of the Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC), I established a number of initiatives that encouraged and enabled our youth to have a stronger say about issues that affected them. This was one of my proudest achievements during my tenure as ITK President. When I look at Pauktuutit's two youth Board members, I am reminded about how far our young people have come and how essential it is to have them as active and vocal participants in our organizations.

I have also had a strong interest in ensuring Inuit living in urban areas are not forgotten. As a long-time resident of Ottawa, I have continued to be active in supporting the local Inuit community and have maintained my seat on the Pauktuutit Board as one of the two urban representatives. Urban Inuit face many challenges in accessing services and programs many Inuit in Inuit Nunaat take for granted. Ensuring Inuit are able to lead healthy and productive lives in urban centres will continue to be a strong interest for me.

Finally, I am proud of the work Pauktuutit has undertaken towards building healthy Inuit communities. This is a role that Pauktuutit is uniquely qualified for as the only national Inuit organization that represents Inuit women. Inuit women form the core of our communities in many areas and work tirelessly to help make their communities the best they can be. I believe that our role, as a national Inuit organization, is to help support Inuit women in achieving this most important goal. To that end, I hope you find that our annual report reflects the strong and dedicated effort that our Board and staff members have made towards achieving that goal.

## Pauktuutit's Mission

Pauktuutit fosters greater awareness of the needs of Inuit women, advocates for equity and social improvements, and encourages their participation in the community, regional and national life of Canada.

Pauktuutit leads and supports Inuit women of Canada in policy development and community projects in all areas of interest to them, for the social, cultural, political and economic betterment of the women, their families and communities.



## Pauktuutit's Vision

Pauktuutit's vision is to be a dynamic, visible, influential and prosperous organization, supporting Inuit women and providing leadership, voice and excellence for the betterment of Inuit women, their families and communities.

Pauktuutit is the national non-profit charitable 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.

# *The National Voice of Inuit Women*

## **Pauktuutit's Aims and 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.

# Pauktuutit Board of Directors 2007–2008

## Executive Committee

- Rhoda Innuksuk** ..... President  
**Mary Matoo** ..... Vice-President  
**Annie Buchan** ..... Secretary-Treasurer

## Board Members      Regions and Communities Represented

- Annie Lidd** ..... Nunatsiavut: Nain, Hopedale, Postville, Makkovik, Rigolet and Happy Valley-Goose Bay
- Minnie Etidlui** ..... Nunavik – Ungava Coast: Kangiqsualujjuaq, Kuujjuaq, Kangiqsujjuaq, Aupaluk, Kangiqsuk, Quaqtuq and Tasiujaq
- Leena Metuq** ..... Nunavik - Hudson Coast: Salluit, Ivujivik, Akulivik, Puvimituq, Inukjuaq, Umiujaq, Kuujjuarapik
- Leese Qaqasiq** ..... Qikiqtani South: Kingait, Kimmirut, 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
- Martha Akoluk** ..... Kitikmeot: Kuugaaruk, Taloyoak, Gjoa Haven, Cambridge Bay, Bathurst Inlet, Kugluktuk, Umingmaktok
- Anita Pokiak** ..... Inuvialuit: Ulukhaktok, Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour, Aklavik, Inuvik, Tuktoyaktuk
- Ida Atagootak** ..... Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
- Elisapee Sheutiapik** ..... Iqaluit, Nunavut
- Rhoda Innuksuk** ..... Representing urban Inuit women
- Meeka Otway** ..... Representing urban Inuit women
- Jennifer Williams** ..... Representing Inuit youth
- Valerie Taqtu** ..... Representing Inuit youth

## Project Reports

During the fiscal year 2007/08, Pauktuutit's Board members and staff once again worked hard to address the priorities of the Inuit women of Canada. The primary areas of activity included abuse prevention, prenatal and maternal health care, sexual health, and building stronger and healthier Inuit communities. The following is a summary of the projects undertaken over this past year.



**ABUSE PREVENTION**

**HEALTH**

**SEXUAL HEALTH**

**OTHER HEALTH ACTIVITIES**

**SOCIETY, ENVIRONMENT AND JUSTICE**



# Project Reports

## ABUSE PREVENTION

### **National Strategy to Prevent Abuse in Inuit Communities**

Pauktuutit has been active in abuse prevention and building capacity to address abuse issues since its inception in 1984. Pauktuutit is in Year Four of the implementation of the *National Strategy to Prevent Abuse in Inuit Communities*. The action-oriented strategy and its companion guide – *Sharing Knowledge, Sharing Wisdom* – are filled with principles, best practices and resources to guide effective joint actions to prevent abuse and promote healing. Copies of the strategy can be downloaded from [www.pauktuutit.ca](http://www.pauktuutit.ca). The overall goal of the strategy is to encourage a steady reduction in incidents of violence and abuse in Inuit communities and the eventual predominance of caring and respectful relationships. This goal will be achieved through a number of initiatives undertaken by Pauktuutit and its partners.

The project *Supporting Communities to Achieve Wellness* is intended to take steps towards this goal by providing support to communities to design and implement effective, culturally appropriate services and programs to diminish the tolerance and incidence of abuse and family violence and to promote wellness and healthier relationships. A number of effective program models have been developed by Inuit communities to addressing the impact of abuse and its legacy.

Over the past year, the following workshops and programs have been delivered in workshops across the North:

- Couple Counseling Service Healing Model delivered in Cape Dorset, Nunavut;
- Family Counseling On-the-Land program developed in Hopedale, Nunatsiavut;
- Inukjuaq Healing Circle Model delivered in Inukjuaq, Nunavik;
- Somebody's Daughter Project, a holistic program developed by the Kivalliq Inuit Association and delivered by Pauktuutit in Paulatuk, NWT; and
- Somebody's Son, which took place in Tuktoyaktuk, NWT.

### **National Inuit Women's Shelter Association**

In 2006/07, Pauktuutit worked with shelter directors from across the Arctic to assist with the formation of the National Inuit Women's Shelter Association. The Association was formally incorporated during 2007/08, and its founding Board members hope it will help fill a gap in advocacy, service delivery and access to funding for shelters in Inuit communities that may be available in other parts of Canada.

*The overall goal of the strategy is to encourage a steady reduction in incidents of violence and abuse in Inuit communities.*

# The National Voice of Inuit Women

During a meeting of shelter directors that was held in Ottawa in March, 2007, one of the most pressing needs identified was training for staff. As a result of the direction provided by participants at that meeting, Pauktuutit worked with a national advisory committee to develop *Making Our Shelters Strong*. The training workshop was piloted in Rankin Inlet, Nunavut, in February, 2008, with 12 participants from Nunavut and the Inuvialuit Settlement Region of the Northwest Territories. This four-day workshop provides tools and supports to shelter workers and other front-line workers who work with victims in Inuit communities.



Pauktuutit was also able to provide technical support to the new association by developing draft by-laws, policies and procedures, and a three-year strategic plan for discussion by the shelter directors. Pauktuutit hopes to be able to continue to provide some technical support during 2008/09 until such time as the new association is fully functional.

## Sivumuapallianiq – Journey Forward

In 2004, Pauktuutit was approached by Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada (IRSRC) to establish a partnership that would enable Pauktuutit to undertake a substantive program to address the legacy of residential schools among Inuit. Phase One of the project focused upon the development of a Strategy to address the serious intergenerational impacts of residential schools upon Inuit in Canada. Input was gathered from Inuit through interviews, research and workshops, the first of which was conducted in Inuvik, Northwest Territories.



In 2005, Pauktuutit and IRSRC entered into a five-year commitment to ensure there was sufficient time to develop, establish and implement the Strategy. A project Advisory Committee comprised of six members including resource persons, experts, community members and IRSRC (as an *ex-officio* member) has been established to provide ongoing direction and guidance to the project.

In addition to the development of the Strategy, Pauktuutit anticipates other additional results from this work including:

- Increased awareness of the history and legacy of residential schools;
- Increased readiness to discuss the issues;
- Empowerment and healing;
- Identification of best approaches for healing and resolution;
- Increased readiness for action on issues related to the legacy of residential schools; and
- New and stronger linkages focused on the Strategy.

*The aim of Pauktuutit's current midwifery project is to develop an Inuit midwifery strategy that will facilitate the ability of Inuit midwives to practice in all Inuit communities.*

Pauktuutit has provided a letter of support for the re-union of the survivors from the residential school in Chesterfield Inlet. Organizers are anticipating up to 250 former students will attend this momentous event.

Pauktuutit has also gathered a number of success stories from former students concerning their healing journey. The gathering of these stories will have a large impact on the survivors who have been isolated from each other due to geography.

## HEALTH

### Maternal and Child Health

#### Midwifery

The aim of Pauktuutit's current midwifery project is to develop an Inuit midwifery strategy that will facilitate the ability of Inuit midwives to practice in all Inuit communities. The long-term goal of the project is to contribute to excellent maternal and child health care in the North.

During 2007/08 the objectives of this project included creating resources and providing technical support to a representative working group that will increase information and resource sharing among Inuit communities; and developing recommendations that will promote policy, program, legislative, and administrative changes. The Inuit Midwifery Working Group includes representatives from all Inuit regions as well as educational institutions, the Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM), the Nunavut Association of Midwives (NAM), and other invited guests

An additional objective of this project is to initiate discussion about the design and development of appropriate and relevant midwifery training material that will integrate traditional birthing knowledge from Pauktuutit's 1990s midwifery research project, which was gathered through more than 70 open-ended interviews with traditional Inuit midwives, into a viable, culturally appropriate training module.

Pauktuutit also made a presentation to the Canadian Association of Midwives conference held in Vancouver, British Columbia from November 1–3, 2007, discussing Pauktuutit's knowledge in the area of traditional midwifery and how that knowledge is being still being used to promote healthy pregnancies. In addition, Pauktuutit staff participated in planning meetings for the Invitational Gathering of Midwives scheduled for Washington, DC in May 2008. Additional activities included ongoing discussions with organizations such as Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada (SOGC) and the Québec Midwifery Association to discuss possible joint activities and partnerships that could benefit Inuit maternity care.

# The National Voice of Inuit Women

## **Pregnancy Calendar: “Born on the Land with Helping Hands”**

Pauktuutit was proud to release “Born on the Land with Helping Hands: The Inuit Women’s Guide to a Healthy Pregnancy” during the 2006/07 Annual General Meeting. The bilingual calendar was developed to meet the specific needs of Inuit women in regards to midwifery and healthy pregnancies. The calendar includes information on a wide range of topics including traditional midwifery knowledge, the developmental stages of the baby, nutritional information with an emphasis on Inuit foods, and important medical information. Combined with beautiful original illustrations and photographs, the calendar is an exceptional resource developed to meet the unique needs of Inuit women. In 2007/08 this calendar was translated, printed and distributed in the Nunavik dialect. The calendar will also be translated into Inuinnaqtun.



## **Aboriginal Health Transition Fund (AHTF) – Pre-Natal Health Resource Development**

This project focused on the finding the gaps in prenatal resources available and used in Inuit communities. An advisory committee was formed with representatives from all the Inuit regions and various content experts. A literature search of available resources was conducted, and phone interviews with 70 key informants were completed. These interviews included representatives from all Inuit regions and various sectors such as pre- and post natal women, spouses, community health representatives, nurses, CPNP workers, elders and midwives. Regular teleconferences with the members of the advisory committee were held and a face-to-face meeting is planned for September, 2008.

## **Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)**

During 2007–2008, Pauktuutit delivered three advanced FASD training workshops – *Katujjiqatigiitsuni Sannginiq: Working Together to Understand FASD (KS)* – in Inuvik, Northwest Territories, Cambridge Bay, Nunavut and Kuujuaq, Nunavik. The Kuujuaq workshop was conducted in Inuktitut only and the response from the participants was very positive. Pauktuutit also formed a partnership with the Department of National Defence and the Canadian Junior Rangers to develop and conduct an advanced FASD training workshop for their trainers, and assisted with the development of a module for their Preventing Harassment and Abuse through Successful Education (PHASE) program. In addition, in 2007/08 Pauktuutit staff attended various meeting with national and regional stakeholders as well as the Canadian Association of Pediatric Health Centers to discuss and evaluate FASD screening tools for potential use with Inuit.





### Early Childhood Development

Pauktuutit completed and distributed *Piaranut For Our Children: Quality Practices in Inuit ECE*. In 2007/08 Pauktuutit also worked with ITK on the planning for the April 2008 Nation Inuit Education Summit, to be held in Inuvik, Northwest Territories. In 2008–2009 Pauktuutit will gather promising practices on early childhood development delivery for children affected by FASD to add a chapter focused specifically on FASD to *Piaranut*

### Prenatal Tobacco Cessation

In 2007/08, Pauktuutit received funds to develop a workshop for prenatal women dealing with smoking cessation. This was focus-tested in Nunavik with midwives and prenatal women participants. The revised and bilingual workshop structure and accompanying handbook has been made available to front-line workers.

## SEXUAL HEALTH



Pauktuutit became actively involved in addressing HIV/AIDS in approximately 1995 in response to the growing concern over this disease within the Inuit community. Since then, Pauktuutit has expanded its approach to incorporate all aspects of sexual health, including but not limited to prevention and awareness on HIV/AIDS. As with many other facets of Inuit health, sexual health must be approached holistically. For example, related factors such as the absence of condom use (as indicated by very high Inuit birth rates) also contribute to the spread of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) like gonorrhea, Chlamydia and HIV.

For Inuit communities, there is also cause for concern in relation to resource extraction. The influx of transient workers and the increase in economic prosperity may come at a cost to social and physical well-being for some Inuit. The mining industry and pipeline development offer huge economic potential for Canada's territorial governments, northern Aboriginal governments and Aboriginal community members. However, this activity is also changing the social dynamics of northern communities. Many of these exploration and development activities that rely on transient workers also place a strain upon traditional community values and practices. Pauktuutit believes that there must be an increased awareness about the impacts of resource extraction activity on the overall sexual health of community members.

At the 2006/07 Annual General Meeting, Pauktuutit's Board of Directors and delegates passed a resolution directing Pauktuutit to explore the implications of resource extraction activity in Inuit regions on the sexual

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health of community members. The *Resource Extraction and Inuit Sexual Health Conference: Sexual Health is Everyone's Responsibility*, held in Inuvik, NT, in February 2008, was a unique and ground-breaking conference bringing together front-line workers and community members, industry stakeholders and researchers. The event provided an opportunity for those working directly in health promotion throughout the North as well as representatives from the oil and gas and mining sectors to engage in a frank dialogue about how to minimize the negative impacts of industry activity, while maximizing the benefits to individuals and communities. The research component of the conference provided an empirical basis to the dialogue as well as an opportunity for skills-building and the sharing of wise practices.

The conference also featured a one-day workshop for Inuit youth. The youth participants indicated that they would like to have a youth only sexual health conference, and that Pauktuutit should involve more youth in all stages of the conference. Pauktuutit will seek funding to hold such an event in the near future.

The bilingual conference report is available online at [www.pauktuutit.ca](http://www.pauktuutit.ca).

## **HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis-C**

Pauktuutit is dedicated to raising awareness about preventing the spread of sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections among Inuit. To this end, efforts are ongoing to ensure that Inuit who are living with serious diseases such as HIV/AIDS and/or Hepatitis-C are able to access the services and support they need in the communities in which they live. Pauktuutit staff worked hard over the past year in a number of areas to achieve this objective.

During 2007/08, Pauktuutit staff participated in a number of conferences and meetings related to sexual health including the Aboriginal Women and HIV/AIDS Gathering in Toronto in February 2008, and plan to attend an HIV/AIDS research conference with the Canadian Association for HIV Research and the Canadian AIDS Treatment Information Exchange Learning Institute in attendance in Montreal, Québec, in April 2008.

Pauktuutit is also working on developing a documentary-style DVD resource detailing the risk of north/south travel for Inuit. The DVD will demonstrate the way of life in remote communities where Inuit live, in contrast to urban life for many Inuit – specifically Inuit living with HIV leaving their home communities for specialized care and treatment. In addition, an introductory “HIV/AIDS 101” segment will be developed to ensure Inuit living with HIV/AIDS have adequate information to make appropriate and healthy decisions.

*Pauktuutit believes that there must be an increased awareness about the impacts of resource extraction activity on the overall sexual health of community members.*



### **Ajjigijaunngittuq – Addressing the HIV Needs of Inuit in Urban Centres**

This year Pauktuutit completed a needs assessment looking at the HIV-related needs of Inuit in seven urban centres: Vancouver, Yellowknife, Montreal, Winnipeg, St. John's, Halifax and Ottawa. Inuit living with HIV/AIDS in urban areas experience significant isolation and front-line service workers want to learn how to work more effectively with Inuit clients. There is a need for a wide variety of services, and each city presents unique challenges. The findings of this needs assessment identify gaps in Inuit-specific supports and services, and provide recommendations intended to support the development of appropriate and effective tools to assist front-line workers meet the needs of Inuit infected or affected by HIV/AIDS.

As a result, a directory of services is being developed and will be made available to front-line workers as well as volunteers in urban centres. An initial directory list is being developed and efforts will continue to provide a more complete listing in the future. Pauktuutit is also in the process of designing a knowledge exchange workshop for front-line workers, participants of the needs assessment study, and representatives of the four Inuit land claims organizations.

### **Staff Cross-Cultural Training and Inmate Sexual Health Workshop (with Correctional Services Canada (Atlantic Region))**

In 2007/08, Pauktuutit delivered a pilot program at the Westmoreland Institution/ Dorchester Penitentiary through the support of Correctional Services Canada, Atlantic Region. The program was a combination of Inuit cross-cultural training (with a focus on sexual health) for staff and a sexual health workshop (with a focus on prevention of STIs including Hepatitis-C and HIV) for Inuit inmates incarcerated at Dorchester/Westmoreland. Plans are in place to build upon the pilot and implement more workshops in other institutions across Canada once funding is secured.

### **HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis-C Arctic Youth Fairs**

During 2007/08, Pauktuutit again provided funding and support for youth fairs to be held in schools. Successful fairs were held in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador; Kimmirut and Iqaluit, and Nunavut.

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## OTHER HEALTH ACTIVITIES

### Injury Prevention

In 2007/08 Pauktuutit formed an advisory group to guide this project, which reached consensus on the three main areas and key messages for injury prevention:

- Floater suits save lives: everyone in the boat needs one;
- Speed causes injury: drive responsibly, drug free and alcohol free; and
- Where is a safe place for your rifle?

A poster with these messages and relevant images was designed and distributed to the communities.

Pauktuutit staff also facilitated the *Journey to the Teachings* workshop at the Pauktuutit Annual General Meeting in January 2008. The workshop was intended to be a communication/promotional tool to get communities interested in the injury prevention journey. More than 30 participants provided valuable information about the current status of injury prevention activities in the communities.



## SOCIETY, ENVIRONMENT AND JUSTICE

### Culturally Relevant Gender Based Analysis (GBA)

Pauktuutit completed work on culturally relevant GBA and health indicators for Inuit women. The draft report – *Inuit Gender Based Analysis Framework and Culturally Relevant Inuit Health Indicators* – was submitted to Health Canada in March 2007.

The Culturally Relevant GBA Framework is based on a review of current and past literature, a preliminary assessment of existing resources related to an Inuit-specific culturally relevant gender based analysis framework, and an effort to formulate an approach to developing information to inform policy and decision-making that reflects the unique needs, priorities and perspective of Inuit women and their families.

*The Culturally Relevant Inuit Health Indicators Report* attempted to capture the differences between existing health indicators for Inuit women and mainstream





Canadian women and other Aboriginal women such as mortality, breast cancer and smoking. However the report also included culturally-specific indicators that may not be comparable to indicators for other women in Canada.

In 2007/08 an initial consultation and validation process took place with Inuit women for this work to ensure that Pauktuutit's work in this area fairly represented the views and priorities of Inuit women. Three national meetings were convened to test and validate the assumptions in the reports and to begin the creation of a ground-up Inuit-specific CRGBA framework.

### **Environment**

Pauktuutit has completed the development of a number of resources to raise awareness about waste and contaminants and their detrimental effects on communities and campsites. Posters and radio public service announcements are planned for distribution to Inuit communities in early 2008.

### **Justice and Corrections**

Pauktuutit has worked for many years for the improvement of services and programs for federally sentenced Inuit and their communities. Pauktuutit is partnering with Correctional Service Canada (CSC) to develop CSC's capacity to provide increased support for Inuit incarcerated in federal penitentiaries.

### **National Aboriginal Women's Summit**

The Native Women's Association of Canada and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, co-hosted the first ever National Aboriginal Women's Summit (NAWS) in June 2007 in Cornerbrook, Newfoundland and Labrador. This landmark meeting brought Aboriginal women from across the country to meet and discuss issues of concern along with a number of provincial and federal government representatives.

Pauktuutit was a proud participant in the meeting and sat on the planning committee. Overall, Pauktuutit sent nine participants to ensure the priority issues of importance to Inuit women were heard and considered at this national Aboriginal women's event. Pauktuutit's *Keepers of the Light – An Action Plan For Inuit Women* was presented at the meeting and distributed to participants.

Pauktuutit also produced a number of policy papers for the Summit on issues including language and culture in approaches to programming, urban Inuit women, poverty, abuse prevention and sexual health. The full list of documents available for downloading can be found at <http://www.laa.gov.nl.ca/laa/naws/policy.htm>.



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NAWS II will be convened in Yellowknife, NWT on July 29–31, 2008. The focus of the second summit will be to develop a plan for implementing strategic actions stemming from the NAWS I recommendations.

## Economic Development

Pauktuutit has long identified economic self-sufficiency as a key tool in enabling Inuit women to improve their lives and the lives of their families. To this end, Pauktuutit has developed the *Inuit Women in Business* strategy that builds upon the strengths of Inuit women and their communities. *Inuit Women in Business* is part of Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada's comprehensive strategy to enable more Inuit women to become self-employed and thus increase economic self-sufficiency for themselves and their families.

*Inuit Women in Business* delivers workshops to help direct and empower women to be active leaders in their communities. The workshops also have a one-day intensive program that encourages participants to explore their facilitation abilities and skills. The companion *Train-the-Trainer Workshop* inspires participants to:

- Deliver the *Inuit Women in Business* workshop;
- Manage a workshop process;
- Manage a workshop group and individuals in that group;
- Identify suitable techniques to use and assess their effectiveness; and
- Share the information with their community members, family and friends.

In 2007/08, Pauktuutit staff conducted workshops in Hopedale, Nunatsiavut, Clyde River, Nunavut and Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, with a total of 25 participants from across the North.

## Suvaguuq

Another edition of Pauktuutit's popular *Suvaguuq* newsletter was produced and distributed in March 2008. The newsletter provides Pauktuutit Board and staff with an important communication tool to inform community members about the issues that affect them and to keep them updated on Pauktuutit's activities. The most recent edition introduced readers to Rhoda Innuksuk, Pauktuutit's new President. As well, an update on the Annual General Meeting and a review of current and upcoming projects and activities is provided. To view of the most recent copy of *Suvaguuq*, please visit our website at [www.pauktuutit.ca](http://www.pauktuutit.ca).





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# *The National Voice of Inuit Women*

## **Report from the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**

Pauktuutit's 24<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held January 2008 in Ottawa. Once again, Pauktuutit's Board of Directors and delegates representing Inuit communities, youth, and urban Inuit women convened to participate in this unique forum. For 24 years, Pauktuutit AGMs have provided the only forum for Inuit women from across Canada to get together to discuss common issues and challenges they face, and to develop priorities and direction for Pauktuutit to follow over the next year. Although Pauktuutit always strives to raise sufficient funding to hold the AGM in a northern community, fund raising to support the event is a constant challenge. The selection of Ottawa as the site of the 24<sup>th</sup> AGM also reflects the importance of the relationship between Inuit women and the federal government. Highlights of this year's AGM included the election of Rhoda Innuksuk as interim-President to complete the last year of outgoing President Martha Greig's term of office.

For nearly a quarter century, Pauktuutit's AGMs have maintained their unique atmosphere. At times, they have tended to resemble more of a family gathering – a chance for friends to catch up on news, refresh friendships and to settle down for intense discussions concerning the most pressing issues of the day affecting Inuit women and their communities. This year more than 45 Inuit women attended the meeting as delegates, participants, and special guests.

One of the more popular elements of every AGM is the announcement of the winner of the Inuit Woman of the Year Award. The award is given each year to an exceptional Inuk woman in recognition of her outstanding contribution to her community and to Inuit women. This year Pauktuutit's Woman of the Year Award was bestowed upon Barbara Archie from Aklavik, NWT for her dedication and hard work to improve the lives of Inuit women and her community.

As has become a tradition at Pauktuutit AGMs, workshops are often held during the first days of the meeting. These workshops provide an excellent opportunity for both government and non-government agencies to consult with Inuit women from across the country. As well, the workshops provide an important learning opportunity for delegates on a range of topics they may not otherwise have access to.

## Workshops

This year's first workshop provided delegates with an opportunity to learn about and discuss an issue of critical concern to Inuit women. "Stronger Tools for Decision-Making: Culturally Relevant Gender-Based Analysis (GBA)" was facilitated by Wendy Cornet and Pauktuutit's Lynda Brown. Pauktuutit had been working to develop a culturally relevant GBA tool to help the federal government develop more effective and appropriate programs and services for Inuit. As the delegates listened intently, the facilitators described a method of analysis that focused upon the unique cultural differences between different groups of females and males. Participants were informed that Inuit-specific culturally relevant GBA looked at both the unique cultural differences between Inuit females and males as well as the unique cultural differences of females and males within Inuit communities.

After the initial presentation, delegates broke into groups to discuss the analytic method and provide feedback. Common themes discussed were the changes occurring in many areas of Inuit life – nutrition, language, elders, culture, country food, economic development activities, climate change, the environment, etc. and how these elements affect each other and the people in Inuit communities. In general there was a sense of concern over many of these changes and the lack of control and influence that Inuit have over important elements of their lives. The facilitators thanked the delegates for their participation and assured them that their input would inform the development of the Inuit GBA tool.

The second workshop was entitled "Injury Prevention – Journey to the Teachings." Facilitated by Pauktuutit's Geri Bailey and Rebecca Clodd from Health Canada, the workshop focused upon gathering information on injury prevention that would be forwarded to the federal government and incorporated into federal programming. Ms. Clodd described "Journey to the Teachings," a training manual developed specifically for service providers working in First Nation and Inuit communities. She noted that one of the challenges to understanding injuries among Inuit was the lack of Inuit-specific data.

The delegates broke into discussion groups to discuss injury prevention in their communities. Their comments focused upon various methods of preventing injuries and the need to collect more Inuit-specific data.

This year's AGM also saw the presentation and release of a long-anticipated special project – *Born on the Land with Helping Hands – The Inuit Women's Guide to a Healthy Pregnancy*. Delegates were very pleased to see the final version of this beautiful and practical resource for Inuit women. The calendar incorporates important nutritional and medical knowledge

*The facilitators described a method of analysis that focused upon the unique cultural differences between different groups of females and males.*

# The National Voice of Inuit Women



about healthy pregnancies but what makes it truly unique is the inclusion of the rich traditional midwifery knowledge of Inuit women. Special attention was paid to nutrition and diet that reflected Inuit preferences and lifestyles in the development of the content for the calendar. The calendar was recognized by all delegates as being an important, useful, and unique resource for Inuit women.

Every year special guests are invited to address the delegates both to inform the participants about various issues and developments of importance, and to maintain and build bridges between organizations. This year's special guests included Beverly Jacobs, President of the Native Women's Association of Canada. Ms. Jacobs stated that there were a number of important similarities between the two organizations including the challenges associated with core funding. As well, both organizations worked for families and communities, not only women. She noted that the National Aboriginal Women's Summit (NAWS) held in Newfoundland and Labrador in June 2007 was successful and urged Pauktuutit to be an active participant in the planning for the second NAWS to be held in July 2008 in Yellowknife.

Catherine Carry, from the Ajunnginiq Centre of the National Aboriginal Health Organization (NAHO), made a presentation on the Aboriginal

Youth Role Model Program. She described some of the Inuit role models who had been selected over the year. She encouraged delegates to nominate more role models and forward their nominations to NAHO.

Leonie Qaumariaq, CEO/President of the Kakivak Association, gave an overview of the organization's mandate and activities. She stated that the focus of the organization was the economic development and training of people in the communities in the Qikiqtaaluk region. Some of the questions posed by the delegates included how Kakivak provided assistance to Inuit living in southern urban centers and the distribution of their funding programs based on gender.

Mary Akpalialuk, Women's Director of Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA), described her role and activities within the QIA. She worked with the Qullit Status of Women on a number of initiatives to support Inuit women in Nunavut. As well, she participated in a number of programs that recognized Inuit women who had suffered from violence and worked to develop new laws that supported Inuit women. Overall, she stated that QIA was aware of and strong supporters of Pauktuutit's work.

Rosemary Cooper, on behalf of Mary Simon, President of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, reviewed some of the areas of activity that ITK was involved in that had a special interest for Inuit women. She mentioned that ITK was developing an education summit in the future and had just completed a health summit in Kuujjuaq in January. Climate change was also a major area of activity for ITK as it affected all Inuit. Ms. Cooper mentioned the fact that ITK and Pauktuutit had worked closely together on the National Aboriginal Women's Summit and that the organizations were planning to work together on the upcoming NAWS II to be held in Yellowknife.



## Elections

This year, half of Pauktuutit's Board member seats were up for election. The election was notable in part by the acclamation of three board members:

- **Anita Pokiak**—Inuvialuit region
- **Elisapee Sheutiapik**—Iqaluit
- **Anne Curley**—Qikiqtani North

As well, the following members were elected to the Board:

- **Minnie Etidlui**—Nunavik, Ungava Coast
- **Lena Metuq**—Nunavik, Hudson
- **Meeka Otway**—Urban Inuit women
- **Valerie Taqtu**—Youth
- **Jennifer Williams**—Youth
- **Iga Atagootak**—Yellowknife

## 2007–2008 Resolutions

Each year, resolutions developed and approved at the AGM provide a 'to do' list for Pauktuutit to accomplish in the following year. This year, delegates approved resolutions on the following topics. For a complete description of the resolutions, please visit [www.pauktuutit.ca](http://www.pauktuutit.ca).

- 2008–01—Elders' Needs in Inuit Communities
- 2008–02—Healthy Pregnancy Promotion
- 2008–03—National Aboriginal Women's Summit
- 2008–04—Culturally Relevant Gender-Based Analysis
- 2008–05—Health Indicators for Inuit Women
- 2008–06—Sexual Health and HIV-Positive Urban Inuit
- 2008–07—Sexual Health and Community Mobilization
- 2008–08—Sexual Health and Community-Based Research Academic Partners
- 2008–09—Pauktuutit Communications
- 2008–10—Parenting Training



## Funders

Each year, Pauktuutit relies on a wide range of funding agencies to help support the important work it carries out. These agencies vary from various federal departments to private foundations. While the degree of support may differ between our funders, they all contribute to improvement in the lives of Inuit women and their communities, and for this, Pauktuutit extends its sincere appreciation. Funders for this year's many activities include:

- Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
- Correctional Service Canada
- Environment Canada
- Government of Nunavut
- Health Canada
- Heritage Canada
- Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
- Indian and Residential Schools Resolution Canada
- Justice Canada
- Public Health Agency of Canada
- Status of Women Canada
- The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation

*Pauktuutit's vision is to be a dynamic, visible, influential and prosperous organization, supporting Inuit women and providing leadership, voice and excellence for the betterment of Inuit women, their families and communities.*

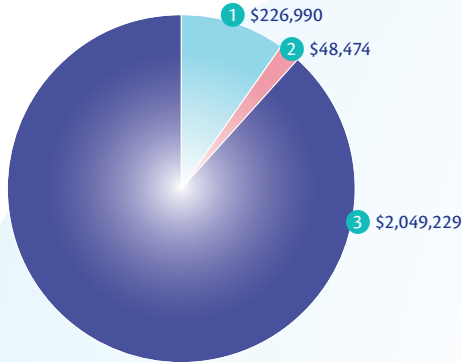


# Financial Report

## Revenues and Expenditures 2007–2008

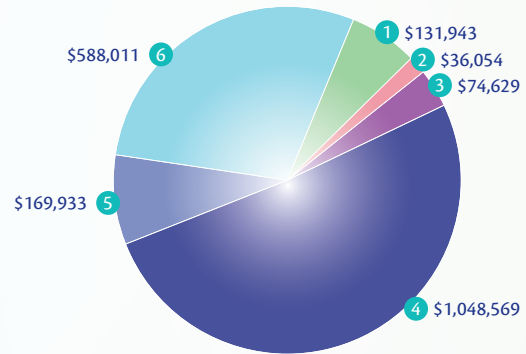
### Revenues

Where the Money Comes From



- 1 Heritage Canada—Aboriginal Women's Program
- 2 Other (Core)
- 3 Special Projects Funding

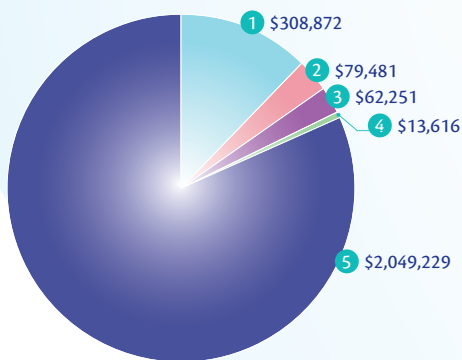
### Consolidated Categories of Special Projects



- 1 Abuse Projects
- 2 National & International Engagement
- 3 Policy & Program development
- 4 Health Programs
- 5 Residential School Resolutions
- 6 Socio-Economic Projects

### Expenditures

Where the Money Goes



- 1 Administration (salaries/rent/office exp/equip rental)
- 2 Policy & Program Development
- 3 Board Meetings/AGM
- 4 Amortization of Capital Assets
- 5 Special Projects

**Consolidated Financial Position**  
As of March 31, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>2008</b>	2007
Cash and other working capital	<b>890,772</b>	932,409
Capital Assets	<b>41,684</b>	55,300
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>932,456</b>	987,709
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	<b>627,661</b>	687,279
Deferred Revenue	<b>94,065</b>	43,738
	<b>721,726</b>	731,017
Leasehold Inducements	<b>8,264</b>	11,019
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted	<b>160,782</b>	190,373
Invested in capital assets	<b>41,684</b>	55,300
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>932,456</b>	987,709

**Consolidated Statement of Operations – Core Funding**  
Year ended March 31, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2008</b>	2007
Heritage Canada—Aboriginal Women's Program	<b>226,990</b>	326,990
Other	<b>48,474</b>	37,624
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>275,464</b>	<b>364,614</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Administration	<b>308,872</b>	383,351
Policy & Program Development	<b>79,481</b>	83,717
Board Meetings/AGM	<b>62,251</b>	110,969
Amortization of Capital Assets	<b>13,616</b>	16,507
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>464,220</b>	<b>594,544</b>
Deficiency of Revenue over Expenses – Core Funding	<b>464,220</b>	594,544
Project Recoveries	<b>145,549</b>	187,230
<b>Deficiency of Revenue over Expenses</b>	<b>(43,207)</b>	<b>(42,700)</b>

**Consolidated Statement of Operations – Special Project Funds**  
Year ended March 31, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>2008</b>	2007
Deferred Revenue, Beginning of Year	<b>43,738</b>	204,858
Contributions	<b>2,099,556</b>	1,957,202
Deferred Revenue, End of Year	<b>(94,065)</b>	(43,738)
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>2,049,229</b>	2,118,322
Expenses		
Consolidated expenses	<b>2,049,229</b>	2,118,322
	<b>2,049,229</b>	2,118,322
<b>Excess of revenue over expenses</b>	<b>—</b>	—



*The National Voice of Inuit Women*



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