



Inuit Women's Association of Nunavik

Report of Activities – November 9 2011 to February 1 2012

Board of Directors

Saturviit Board of Directors met by phone in November, face-to-face in Montreal in December, and again by phone in February. Committee meetings and other business of the Association is conducted by phone and email as needed. Janice Grey-Scott and Aputik Angnatuk resigned their positions on the Board because of obligations with other organisations and family. The vacancies will be filled as soon as practical. Remaining Directors are: Lisa Koperqualuk (President), Minnie Etidloie (Vice-President), Annie Arnatuk (Secretary), Elisapie Kanayuk and Lizzie Tukai. Geela Echalook of Inukjuak, was hired as Executive Secretary to the Board.

Office

Saturviit is planning to rent space in an office building to be built by Pituvik Landholding Corporation in Inukjuak. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2012 and be ready for tenants in March 2013.

Women in Business

Lisa Koperqualuk represented Saturviit at a general conference of the Femmessor Network, November 10 in Montreal. Discussion included maintenance of the 14-regional member network, common goals, communication strategy, and upcoming project with Status of Women Canada. Quebec Ministers for Status of Women (MCCCF) and Economic Development (MDEIE) were in attendance.

The job of Coordinator for Saturviit's Entrepreneurship Project was posted in February. Saturviit is looking for a professional to work within its 3-year agreement with (MDEIE) designed to foster and finance Nunavik women in business.

Community Projects

In response to its announcement of up to \$3,000 per community for small projects which support women's activities, promote equality, or raise awareness of relevant issues, Saturviit has received requests from groups in Umiujaq (basic furnishings for a shelter), Kanqisujuaq (supplies for the Itsanitait Cultural Committee), and Quaqtac (Uivvamiut Cultural Committee to pay teachers and costs for a traditional sewing course), plus an enquiry on behalf of Sungirtuijiit in Puvirrituq. Community project funds are still available. Requests can be made to saturviit@tamaani.ca or to any of Saturviit's Directors.

Agreement on Equality

Saturviit is working with KRG and the Secretariat of Women's Programs (MCCCF) to complete evaluation of the 2007 – 2010 Specific Agreement on Equality. The 3-year funding agreement contributed about \$280,000 to Saturviit during its early years. Final Report of Management Committee on the Specific Agreement is expected by March 2012.

Saturviit is currently preparing activity and financial reports on the administrative agreement between MCCCF and Saturviit, signed as an interim funding mechanism while the next Specific Agreement on Equality is put in place. The administrative agreement, in effect to December 31, 2011, is valued at \$79,500.

Discussions are underway between KRG and MCCCF for a new Specific Agreement on Equality. In preparation, Saturviit is reviewing its goals and objectives for the next 3 years.

Research in Women and Governance

Saturviit is partnering with École nationale d'administration publique (ENAP) and University of Moncton (Intergroup Relations, Department of Psychology) to undertake a 3-year research project on Inuit women and governance. Funding for the project called *Inuit Women and Politics: Tracking the Winds of Change* has been requested from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (\$197,000). Other participating organisations are the Groupe Femmes, Politique et Démocratie and Wapikoni Mobile. Research associates from McGill University, University of Montreal, and University of Ottawa will be involved.

Representation

Lisa Koperqualuk represented Saturviit at the Provincial Conference of Femmessor Network, November 10 in Montreal.

Annie Arnatuk participated in the Qiturgnavut Working Group of NRBHSS' Clinical Project January 24-25 in Kuujjuaq.

Lisa Koperqualuk was invited to participate in the Nunavik Symposium on the Social Economy in Kuujjuaq February 6-7. The session was organised by the Social Economy Research Network of Northern Canada (SERNNNoCa) in collaboration with Makivik.



Inuit Women's Association of Nunavik

Report of Activities – February 1 to May 4, 2012

Board of Directors

Saturviit Board of Directors met each month by phone, and held a face-to-face meeting in Inukjuak, March 31 – April 1. Committee work and other business is conducted by phone and email as needed. Vacancies on the Board of Directors have been filled by Mary Thomassie of Kangirsuk and Annie Nulukie of Kuujuaq.

Staffing

Saturviit is strengthening its organisation by hiring or contracting staff to work in key areas. Four new jobs have been created since December 2011: Executive Secretary to the Board; Coordinator, and Assistant Coordinator for the Entrepreneurship Project; Communications Agent for the Association. Two of these jobs have been filled; the other two are being posted.

Entrepreneurship Project

Elizabeth Sample, from Inukjuak, was hired as Entrepreneurship Project Coordinator. She will lead this 3-year project, with funding support from the Ministry for Economic Development (MDEIE), to promote entrepreneurship and support Nunavik women, including those living in the south, developing their own businesses. Elizabeth Sample has worked closely with the coordinator at Filaction to prepare our Action Plan and budget for this year. This new position also links Saturviit with the growing Femmessor network which helps women to be business and to access investment funds. There are currently 13 Femmessor organisations, with plans to expand to all regions of Quebec over the next three years.

Agreement on Equality

Saturviit has signed a new multi-year agreement with the Ministry of Culture, Communication and Women's Affairs (MCCCF) and KRG, on *Equality between Women and Men in Nunavik*. Saturviit will receive \$450,000 by 2014, to support projects that focus on gender equality, projects advocating for children and benefits to young families, projects initiated by local women's organisations, and projects to support women's advancement to leadership roles.

Community Projects

One inquiry about funding was made on behalf of Sungirtuijiit, from Puvirnitug. Saturviit continues to offer funding up to \$3,000 per community for women's activities, projects that promote equality, that benefit children and families, or that raise awareness of relevant issues. Requests can be directed to any director of Saturviit, to the Saturviit Project Office in Inukjuak, or to saturviit@tamaani.ca.

Child Advocacy and Family Resources

Saturviit has declared one of its priorities, to speak out for children and families. The Association is planning a pilot project child advocacy and family resources centre in a Hudson Coast community within the next two years. Models of child advocacy work in other communities and provinces are being researched; and consultations closer to home have begun (notably, Youth Protection Services Director Marianne Martin, Kuujjuarapik; and former DYP Director for Cree Social Services, Bryan Bishop). Saturviit directors are proposing a *Charter of Rights for Nunavik Children*. Once published, the Charter will be used to inspire better solutions for the situation of Nunavik children, and to bring together resources to help young families. Following this, Saturviit hopes with its leadership, to coordinate the efforts of the many government agencies and organisations working for children and families throughout the region.

Research in Women and Governance

Saturviit was planning to partner with École nationale d'administration publique (ENAP) and University of Moncton on a 3-year research project concerning women in politics. Funding requested from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, was not approved, therefore the future of this project is uncertain. Saturviit is now looking to other means for research into Inuit women's situation, and work toward models of leadership amongst Nunavik women and to mentor young women towards future leadership.

Representation

Elisapie Kanayuk participated in sessions of the Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Working Group (part of NRBHSS' Clinical Project,) in Puvirnitug on March 12 and 13.

Lisa Koperqualuk was invited to participate in Pauktuutit's General Meeting and gathering in Ottawa in March. At this meeting Lisa made presented the main Saturviit projects and was well received by Pauktuutit president Elisapee Sheutiapik and a good basis for future collaboration has been started.

Although no official invitation was received from Makivik for Saturviit to attend Makivik's Annual General Meeting in Chisasibi, March 27 to 30, Saturviit Vice-President Minnie Etidloie attended as a representative of Avataq Cultural Institute. She brought news of the AGM to Saturviit's Board of Directors' meeting March 31.

Mary Thomassie attended the Quebec Mental Health Retreat, at McGill University on April 13.

Geela Echalook, on behalf of Saturviit, attended intercultural training sessions, organised by KRG Tourism and Unaaq Men's Association in Inukjuak April 16 and 17.

Lisa Koperqualuk represented the view of Inuit women at the Plan Nord Forum in Quebec City May 2 and 3. Forum, *The North Matters!*, is a collaborative effort of several civil and aboriginal organisations, wanting to give voice to social and environmental interests in the Plan Nord development.

In May 2012, the Qiturngavut Working Group is completing its mandate with a report and recommendations to the Youth Advisory Committee of NRBHSS' Clinical Project. Annie Arnatuk, Minnie Etidloie and Lizzie Tukai have represented Saturviit on this working group since June 2010.

Saturviit Inuit Women's Conference, Arnaliat Nipingit

A coordinator is being sought to help organise the Arnaliat Conference, a gathering of women, planned within the next year, with a deadline of May 16.

Social Economy

Unable to attend the Nunavik Symposium on Social Economy in Kuujuaq in February, Lisa Koperqualuk continues to be involved with research and programs focussing on social economy.

Radio Show

Saturviit hosted a radio show on TNI on March 9, in recognition of March 8, International Women's Day. Lisa Koperqualuk and Minnie Etidloie spoke with Ellasuk Pauyungie, radio journalist. The radio presentation and call-in part of the show were well received. Saturviit will try to schedule more regular radio shows to give a regular voice to women.

Web Site

Saturviit is requesting quotes to update and upgrade its website.



Inuit Women's Association of Nunavik

Report of Activities – May 5 to August 21, 2012

Board of Directors

Saturviit Directors met in Kuujjuaq, August 14 to 16. Since the Association has grown with more staff and projects, directors are taking on more committee work to share the load and be effective in leading the Association: human resources committee; planning committee for the upcoming Arnaliat Nipingit conference; and soon to be formed Children and Family Resources project committee. Other business of the Board is conducted by phone and email.

Staffing

Saturviit hired Jennifer May on contract to organise the Arnaliat Nipingit Conference planned for early 1013. Jennifer is working mainly from Chisasibi.

Saturviit hopes to hire a communications agent soon. Also, the job of Assistant Coordinator for the Entrepreneurship project is under review.

Representation

May 24 and 25, the Qiturngavut Working Group made its recommendations to the Youth Advisory Committee of NRBHSS' Clinical Project. Annie Arnatuk sits on the Qiturngavut Working Group and Minnie Etidloie sits on the Youth Advisory Committee. Saturviit has been represented at Clinical Project working groups and advisory groups since 2010.

July 31, Lisa Koperqualuk met with Nathalie Roy, from the Quebec Council on the Status of Women.

August 16, Dominique Maltais, from the Secretariat aux Affaires Autochtones, met with Directors at their meeting in Kuujjuaq.

August 22, Lisa represented Saturviit at DIALOG, the Aboriginal Peoples Research and Knowledge Network, meeting at Concordia University. Lisa's presentation dealt with public policy transformation, specifically re-empowering women.

September 5 and 6, Lisa Koperqualuk will attend the all organisations meeting in Kuujuaq hosted by Makivik and KRG to discuss Plan Nunavik, in effort to ensure a complete and unified response from Nunavik to the Québec government's Plan Nord.

Arnaliat Nipingit, Inuit Women's Conference

Conference organising committee members, Minnie Etidloie, Annie Arnatuk and Lizzie Tukai have been working with Jenn May to get conference planning underway: discussing themes, topics, presenters; schedule; special workshops; volunteers and budget; craft, talent and social activities; inviting participants to bring sewing projects to sell; planning legacy activities to follow the conference; spotlighting Nunavik women; updating Saturviit's web site and facebook page with conference info, and more. The conference will be held in early 2013 in Quaqtaq.

Entrepreneurship Project

Elizabeth Sample, Coordinator for the Entrepreneurship Project, presented a 3-year Action Plan to the Ministry for Economic Development and Innovation (MDEIE). She is planning a group training session in November for Nunavik women who are interested to start a business; and she is communicating with 2 or 3 Nunavik women who have already proposed business ideas and want to take them into operation. With assistance to prepare business plans and funding applications, these women are eligible for investment funds offered by MDEIE through its Femmessor program.

Child Advocacy and Family Resources

A Declaration of Rights for Children of Nunavik has been drafted. It will be used in community consultations with parents and organisations that have responsibility regarding children's rights. This is seen as a first step to focus the many issues and sometimes conflicting attitudes towards what is best for our children. Saturviit is committed to leading efforts for improving services and conditions surrounding care for Nunavik children.

Community Projects

Sungirtuijiit Justice Committee in Puvirnituk received a contribution of \$3,000. This brings the total to \$32,000 that Saturviit has contributed to regional and community projects: including \$15,000 for production of KSB's parenting skills video; \$5,000 for travel costs for two Nunavik women to attend a national conference, part of the Aboriginal Young Women's Leadership Project; \$3,000 each for Umiujaq's emergency shelter, cultural groups in Kangiqsujuaq and Quaqtaq, and Puvirnituk's Justice Committee. Saturviit continues to offer up to \$3,000 per community for women's activities, projects that promote equality, that benefit children and families, or that raise awareness of relevant issues. Requests can be directed to any Saturviit Director and to saturviit@tamaani.ca.

Research concerning Urban Inuit

Saturviit has been invited to sit on the advisory board of a research project being proposed by Concordia University, Department of Anthropology, in collaboration with Carleton University. The project called, *Urban Inuit Social History for Montreal*, will document the social history of Montreal Inuit as a first step in understanding Inuit life in the city, and in the long term to serve as a foundation for proposing policy and programs which will improve the sense of community and ultimately the quality of life for Inuit living the south.

Web Site

A contract for updating Saturviit's web site was given to Beat Studios of Ottawa. It is planned to premiere the new Saturviit web site at the Arnaliat Nipingit conference early next year.



Inuit Women's Association of Nunavik

Report of Activities – August 22 to November, 2012

Board of Directors

Saturviit Directors met in Kuujuaq, August 14 to 16, and by teleconference on October 10. At the August meeting, Saturviit's commitment to be involved with Parnasimautik and an organised response to Plan Nord was emphasized. Dominic Maltais, from the Secrétariat aux affaires autochtones, attended part of the meeting, as did Mark Beaulé, from Québec Enforme. Annie Nulukie accepted the position of Treasurer for the Association. Other business was conducted over the 3 days in August, including talk about making the best use of funds that Saturviit has available for its operations, regional activities and community projects that it supports.

Board Committees work primarily by email and conference calls. Treasurer Annie Nulukie met with finance staff on September 4. The Human Resources Committee met September 24 and October 29 to approve two new jobs. The Conference Organising Committee met October 2 and October 10.

Saturviit's next Board meeting is planned for early December in Montreal.

Staffing

The job of Assistant Coordinator for Saturviit's Entrepreneurship project is currently posted. A new position, Health and Wellness Coordinator, has also been created. Applications for both jobs will be reviewed after their November 23 deadline. It is hoped to hire both before the end of the year.

Although Saturviit is expecting to move into the Alakkariallak Office Complex, Pituvik Landholding's new building in Inukjuak, by early 2013, some staff and directors, will remain working from their homes in their own communities since Saturviit is still a regional organisation.

Representation

Lisa Koperqualuk attended the all organisations meeting on Parnasimautik – the consultation process for Plan Nunavik – in Kuujjuaq, September 5 and 6. Following the meeting, a position paper was presented to the consultation committee giving Saturviit's perspective on key issues and the consultation process.

Minnie Etidloie attended KRG's previous Regional Council meeting in Kuujjuaq September 11.

Lisa Koperqualuk has accepted to sit on the advisory board of the Urban Inuit research project, co-sponsored by Concordia and Carleton Universities.

Arnaliat Nipingit, Women's Conference 2013

Saturviit hired Jennifer May, on contract, to work with the Conference Organising Committee -- Minnie Etidloie, Annie Arnatuk and Lizzie Tukai. Jenn started work June 18. The Arnaliat Nipingit Women's Conference will be held February 5th to 7th, 2013, in Quaqaq.

The conference will highlight several themes – Inuutsiagasuarnik, Ilagiinniq and Qanuingngisiarnik. Speakers and workshops will focus on current issues: family ties, parenting, the causes and effects of substance abuse, women and politics, violence, child advocacy, Plan North, mining development, cultural oppression and equality. Throughout conference presentations, workshops, and social activities, the gathering will nurture traditions and values in our culture.

Arnaliat Nipingit 2013 will bring together women of all ages from Nunavik's communities including the south, to learn, celebrate, and highlight the best of who we are. Up-to-date information and registration forms are available from arnaliatnipingit@saturviit.ca, or by contacting Jenn May, Conference Organiser.

Community Projects

The women's cultural committee in Puvirnituq reported that it used Saturviit's contribution for traditional activities like sewing, and making bannock.

Saturviit is looking to improve the application process, decisions it makes for contributing to small community project for women, and the reporting back on benefits of community contributions. Saturviit continues to offer up to \$3,000 per community for women's activities, projects that promote equality, that benefit children and families, or that raise awareness of relevant issues. Requests can be directed to any Saturviit Director and to saturviit@tamaani.ca.

Web Site

Beat Studios, out of Ottawa, is updating Saturviit's web site. The public site will be online in the next few weeks. The private side of the site will be used by staff and directors to improve communication, document handling and scheduling.