



ANNUAL REPORT  
2011

# SATURVIIT INUIT WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF NUNAVIK

P.O. BOX 402 INUKJUAQ QC J0M 1M0

## MEMBERSHIP

Saturviit Inuit Women's Association offers membership to women aged 16 and over who are JBNQA beneficiaries and who have an affiliation with Nunavik. Women currently not living in Nunavik are still eligible for membership, which is free to all. Associate membership is also available, for regional and national organisations with inuit interests. Membership allows the Association to maintain a contact list with which to inform about events and to enlist members' participation in activities. In 2011, Saturviit had 150 members.

## DIRECTION

Saturviit's Board of Directors are elected for a 3-year term, with a distribution to represent all women of Nunavik: 2 from Hudson Coast communities, 2 from Hudson Strait, 2 from Ungava Coast, and 1 from the south. The most recent election (May 2010) brought to the Board: Lizzie Tukai (Inukjuak) as president, Kitty Pearson (Kuujjuaq) as vice-president and treasurer, Eva Gunn (Montreal) as secretary, with Minnie Etidloie (Kangiqsujuaq), Elisapie Kanayuk (Puvirnituk), Annie Arnatuk (Quaqtaq), and Janice Grey-Scott (Aupaluk). Early in 2011, Eva Gunn and Kitty Pearson resigned. In May, Lizzie Tukai stepped aside as president, yet stayed on the board. Vacancies were filled by invitation until the next election: Lisa Koperqualuk (Quebec City) and Aputik Angnatuk (Kuujjuaq). Executive positions at year end were: Lisa Koperqualuk, president; Minnie Etidloie, vice-president; Janice Grey-Scott, treasurer; and Annie Arnatuk, secretary. Geela Echalook was hired in December 2011 as executive secretary for the board.

Directors met in April (Ottawa), August (Puvirnituk), September (Kangiqsujuaq) and December (Montreal). The balance of the year (4 times), the Board met by teleconference.

Matters considered by the Board dealt with: operations of the Association; budget and funding agreements; representation to outside organisations; requests received from community groups for funding; and regional-level projects.



Photo: Peggy Large

# REPRESENTATION

In its role as the voice for women of Nunavik, Saturviit ensured representation at many meetings and events:

- KRG's Regional Council meetings throughout the year were attended by Lizzie Tukai (February and May), Minnie Etidloie (September), and Lisa Koperqualuk (November).
- Lizzie Tukai represented Saturviit at a Plan Nord information session in Kuujuaq (February).
- Minnie Etidloie represented Saturviit at the annual meeting of Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada (February).
- Lizzie Tukai met with staff of Pauktuutit Inuit Women Canada, with Senator Landon Pearson, and with the Arctic Child Advocacy Group in Ottawa, as background to developing a child advocacy project (March).
- Janice Grey-Scott attended the annual general meeting of Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services in September. She represented Saputiit Youth Association and Saturviit at the same time.

Saturviit also worked to ensure a voice for women within projects and interest groups with a regional scope:

Directors participated in a variety of advisory groups and working committees of the Clinical Project organised by Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services (NRBHSS): Lizzie Tukai chaired the youth advisory group from September 2010 until March 2011. When Lizzie stepped aside as Saturviit's president, Minnie Etidloie took Saturviit's place on the youth advisory group, but not as the chair. Lizzie also participated in qiturnavut working group; and when she stepped aside, Annie Arnatuk took Saturviit's place at qiturnavut sessions. Elisapie Kanayuk attended mental health advisory group meetings. Kitty Pearson participated in the addictions advisory group. Aputik Angnatuk attended sessions on FASD (foetal alcohol spectrum disorder), one of the addictions working groups.



Photo: Maxime Ladoucer

The Clinical Project ran a busy schedule, with meetings about every 6 weeks and extra sessions for its chairs.

When Saturviit signed its first contribution agreement on entrepreneurship for Inuit women (June 2010) with Filaction Fonds de développement and the Ministère du Développement Économique Innovation et Exportation (MDEIE), Lizzie Tukai represented Saturviit while Lisa Koperqualuk represented Regroupement des femmes entrepreneures du Nord-du-Québec, an association created to administer the contribution agreement. Following Saturviit's introductory entrepreneurship tour (February), Lizzie and Kitty Pearson met with Filaction (March) to further the entrepreneurship project. When Lisa Koperqualuk became president (September) she represented both Saturviit and the 'Regroupement' for the entrepreneurship project. In connection with the entrepreneurship project, Lisa also represented Saturviit at the provincial conference of Femmessor network in Montreal (November).

Early in 2011, Lizzie Tukai sat on the advisory group for the agreement on equality between women and men in Nunavik. Members of the advisory group represented the Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine (MCCCF), KRG and Saturviit. The advisory group met once by phone in January. Later in the year, Lisa Koperqualuk became Saturviit's representative to this group. Lisa also represented Saturviit at MCCCF's presentation of Equality Action Plan 2012-2015 held in Quebec City (October).

## EQUALITY

Saturviit signed a 1-year (2011) contribution agreement with the Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine (MCCCF) to continue work done during the prior 3-year (2008 - 2010) specific agreement with MCCCF and KRG. The 2011 agreement was a bridge until another multi-year agreement could be put in place involving KRG and MCCCF in support of Saturviit's work.

During 2011, Saturviit's work under the equality project had many facets:

- efforts were made to reorganise and strengthen the Association. Although Saturviit was conceived as a member-driven organisation, a focal point for women's issues, and an advocate for women, children and families, in reality its board of directors was tasked with doing far more travel, representation, and work than an advisory board would typically be expected to do. Saturviit directors chose to continue their active involvement, but they took the time to reorganise, to better share the workload, and to hire or contract project resources as needed.
- the Association renewed its commitment to representing the voice of Nunavik women to regional and external organisations, among other activities, by participating in the Regional Health Board's Clinical Project which brings together interests of many organisations working towards solutions to health issues in Nunavik.
- for the second year, Saturviit was an active member of the Regional Organising Committee for November 25 -- Nunavik Day for Elimination of Violence (ROC-EV). The committee planned a variety of regional activities, published a calendar of students posters and essays on the topic of eliminating violence; distributed keychains and wallet-size cards with phone numbers for help-line, women's shelters and other resources. ROC-EV also encouraged and supported locally organised events including marches, games, feasts, and speeches.
- Saturviit supported two (one younger and one elder) Nunavik woman to travel to the Aboriginal Young Women's Leadership conference in Saskatoon in November.
- Saturviit directors emphasized the need for improved services for children and young parents: after-school programs, child advocacy, parenting and family services, and began planning a regional project on child advocacy and family services.
- to assist local groups in taking actions that benefit women, a community project fund was established, offering up to \$3,000 per community per year for locally-initiated projects of a positive nature that benefit women, their families, their community, or that raise awareness to issues of importance to women. During 2011, the fund was publicised. Projects in Umiujaq and Kangiqsujuaq were approved.



Credit: Mary Palliser & Innalik Grade 3

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Saturviit is partnering with Filaction Fonds de développement and the Ministère du Développement Économique Innovation et Exportation (MDEIE) on a project promoting entrepreneurship for Inuit women. Although late in getting started on a 2-year (2009-2010) contribution agreement which gives Saturviit funds to coordinate the promotion of entrepreneurship amongst Nunavik women, the project was launched in February 2011 with a 9-day visit to Salluit, Kangiqsujuaq and Kangirsuk. Two trainers from Master Entrepreneur

International, an Ottawa-based business coaching company, travelled with Lizzie Tukai and Kitty Pearson to introduce the project and lay the groundwork for women who want to start or improve their businesses. Up to \$25,000 of repayable investment funds from Filaction and MDEIE, are available for women wanting to pursue entrepreneurship. The 3-community tour was funded in part by KRG Employment & Training. 38 women attended 10 hours of training in each community. Participants came to find out how to access business development funds; how to write a business plan; to learn about legal aspects of starting and operating a business in Nunavik, about marketing and general business management. Trainers were mandated to compile a list of training needs for potential entrepreneurs from amongst the participants. Future training sessions to be based on the training needs identified.

With positive responses from women who envision the possibility of starting their own businesses; and with promise from Filaction and MDEIE to sign a further 3-year agreement for Saturviit to coordinate the investment fund, Saturviit directors began the process to hire a coordinator for the entrepreneurship project.

MDEIE created the Femmessor network to promote entrepreneurship for women by supporting regional coordinating bodies such as Saturviit. Saturviit is linked with Femmessor Jamésie and the Cree Women of Eeyou Istchee to share access to investment funds designated for northern Québec. In November, Lisa Koperqualuk represented Saturviit at a general conference of the Femmessor network in Montreal. The network explored common goals, communication and other regional strategies, plus progress and achievements of individual member organisations.

## LEADERSHIP

Following the success of its partnership on the 2010 Governance Training project, Saturviit collaborated with Group Femmes, Politique et Démocratie and École nationale d'administration publique (ENAP) to participate in a 3-year research project called *Inuit women: Tracking the wind of change*. The project, designed by ENAP's Natalie Rinfret and University of Moncton's Ann Beaton, would identify factors that help and hinder Inuit women's participation in politics. Saturviit's interest was principally to better understand social and economic factors as they affect Nunavik women, especially respecting their participation in leadership, politics, and other decision-making roles. Unfortunately, funding from Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council was not granted, and the future of this project remains uncertain. Saturviit, however maintains a priority to encourage and support Nunavik women who want to take on the responsibilities of leadership, whether political or not.

## WEBSITE



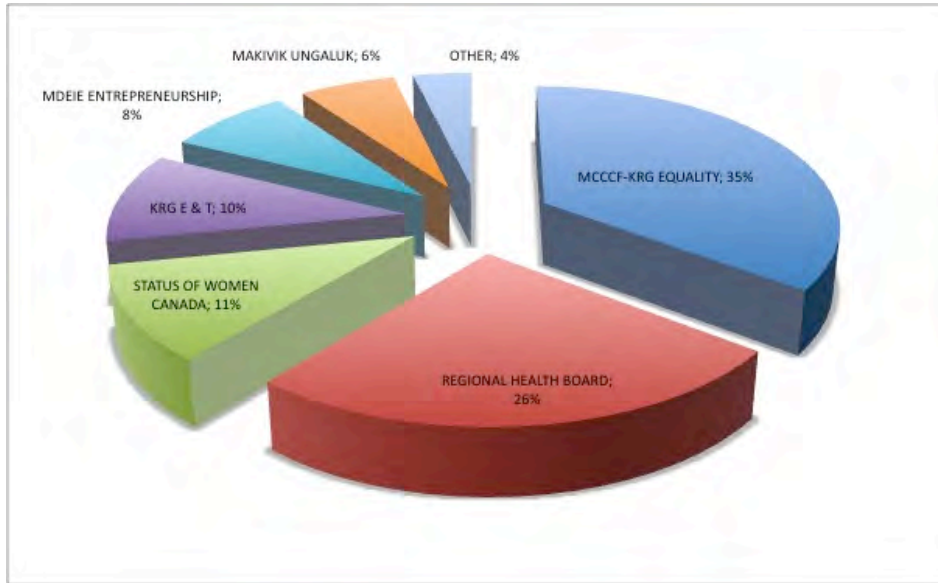
Design: Pirnoma Technologies

Saturviit contracted design and implementation of a web site, [www.saturviit.com](http://www.saturviit.com), to Pirnoma Technologies, a Nunavik company based in Ivujivik. The site was to serve two functions: a public side, to disseminate information on the Association, its projects, membership news, useful links, and to invite input from the public; the internal side was designed to facilitate communication, scheduling, document sharing, amongst directors and staff. During 2011, the site was installed and functioning, but not intuitively user-friendly by either public or internal users. It will be overhauled in future.

# FINANCES

Accountants from Raymond, Chabot, Grant, Thornton (RCGT) compiled Saturviit’s annual financial statements since incorporation (August 2006) until December 2011. Summary information on revenues and expenses from 2007 through 2011 are shown in the following charts. Detailed financial statements for the year ending December 31 2011 are appended.

Saturviit Revenue Sources, 2007 - 2011



Saturviit Expenses, 2007 - 2011

