

ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017



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Institut culturel Avataq
Avataq Cultural Institute



2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT

AVATAQ CULTURAL INSTITUTE

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MANDATE

Mandated since 1981 by the Nunavik Elders Conference, and now joined by fifteen Local Cultural Committees, Avataq is dedicated to protecting and promoting the language and culture of the Inuit of Nunavik. Over the years, Avataq's Museology, Archaeology, Research, Archives, and Documentation services have acquired, analyzed, and catalogued a wealth of information, which is available in various media for both the Inuit and non-Inuit populations to consult. Our services are also available to local, provincial, and federal government agencies.

Since 1981 Avataq has constantly improved its information resources and methodology, as well as its dissemination and communication infrastructure, in order to deliver services that address the needs of a young and growing population that is eager for more information about the Inuktitut language, culture, and local and regional history of Nunavik.



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(as of March 31, 2017)

Jeannie Nungak, President (Kangirsuk)

Solomonie Alayco, Vice-President (Akulivik)

Josepi Padlayat, Secretary-Treasurer (Salluit)

Minnie Etidloie, Director (Kangijsujuaq)

Eva Quannanack, Director (Salluit)



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

First, I would like to thank those who served on the Avataq Board of Directors with me over the past three years. I want to express appreciation for Minnie Etidloie and Eva Quannanack, who were not re-elected at the Inuit Elders Conference in Kuujuaraapik in September 2017.

Avataq Cultural Institute has a tremendous amount of work to do. Having to do this work is made more difficult by constantly dealing with meagre budgets. The duly mandated tasks and projects have to be carried out within the bounds of available resources.

One of the difficulties we went through recently was the departure of the head of Archaeology services, which left a void in the department's direction and work. One other disappointment we shared was the failure of Avataq Board members' planned trip to Kangiqtugaapik (Clyde River), Nunavut, to visit the Piqqusilirivvik Inuit Cultural Learning Centre. Bad weather caused the cancellation, but a lot of planning and expense had been committed to this trip. We have not yet given up on this intention, and next year's plans still include an Avataq Board of Directors' trip to Piqqusilirivvik.

This past year, we devoted a lot of effort to finding resources and the ways and means to start working on Inuktitut language issues, to pursue the recommendations made in the *//lirijavut* report. We have very actively promoted this language work with the heritage and

cultural departments of both the Quebec and federal government. We haven't been successful yet with either government on this file, but we never give up. Meanwhile, we made a request to Makivik Corporation and succeeded in getting some funding for this work. Finally, we are searching for alternatives for Avataq's present major office location, which is simply too expensive to maintain. This is an ongoing activity that will be addressed in the next fiscal year.

Once again, *nakurmiimarialuk* to all at Avataq who helped me carry out my responsibilities during my time as president over the past three years.

Respectfully submitted,

— Jeannie Nungak
Past President
January 2018



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Avataq Cultural Institute was created in hopes of saving the Culture and Language of Nunavik Inuit. “Saving” is an ambitious term, as we know that we cannot entirely go back how our Ancestors lived. Hence, it is more appropriate to say that Avataq was created to promote and protect the Culture and Language of Nunavimmiut. This is a mandate we have attempted to accomplish since 1981, and I must say that Avataq has been quite successful with available and less than comprehensive resources since its birth.

The highlight of 2016–2017 was to correct this situation and come up with secure, ongoing funding in order to better serve Nunavimmiut and meet their cultural needs. Despite financial setbacks, Avataq has managed to become an outstanding organization and to produce high-quality products. It is also noteworthy that we have an impressive climate-controlled reserve that houses more than two thousand pieces of Inuit tools, clothing, and art, which we are safekeeping for Nunavimmiut. Our Documentation and Archives Centre is rich with photographs, books, recordings, periodicals, magazines, and an oral history collection.

To address the lack of secure funding, we have been working with Nunavik’s Parnasimaut-ilirijiit team, which consists of representatives from regional organizations that oversee Nunavik needs in response to Quebec’s Plan Nord announcement to explore Nunavik’s rich mineral resources. Our aim is to have secure,

ongoing funding in place so that we can concentrate more on Nunavik Communities and their cultural aspirations. Thus, our goal is to react positively to Nunavik’s voice to better serve them in their pursuit to protect Inuktitut and the culture of Nunavimmiut.

— Rhoda Kokiapik
January 2018



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

The signing of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement in 1975, and the real, fundamental upheavals that resulted from it, created a sense of urgency for the preservation of traditional ways of life, which led to the creation of Avataq. Thus, for more than thirty-five years, our organization has devoted a great deal of energy to safeguarding, preserving, and protecting the tangible and intangible culture of the Nunavik Inuit.

Today, encouraged by the work that has been accomplished, our Board of Directors believes that it is time to update our actions in accordance with the needs and aspirations of the twenty-first-century Inuit. This desire is dictated by the observation of a marked loss of identity, especially among younger generations. We must now devote more effort to promoting and enhancing this unique culture in Quebec. This implies a sustained effort focused on the dissemination of our collections and the knowledge accumulated over the years.

Following a consultation conducted in the fourteen communities of the region over almost three years, representatives of Avataq participated in the ongoing Parnasimautik table, which brings together the six most important organizations in Nunavik. These meetings helped develop a common approach to Inuit language, culture, and heritage, which is described in the first chapter of the Parnasimautik report, “Culture, Language and Iden-

tiy.” Avataq is actively working to implement the report’s recommendations, as well as other language-specific recommendations, such as those in the *Illirjavut* report, thanks to the financial support of Makivik.

Due to workforce requirements and travel costs between the northern villages of Nunavik, and also to ensure efficiency and economy, Avataq has a space in Montreal in addition to the Inukjuak office. Nevertheless, the current reality forces us to reconsider this situation, which is why we will actively work to relocate some services to the North.

The Avataq Cultural Institute is not lacking in dynamism and is constantly renewing itself by updating its actions in accordance with its original mandate. We are working tirelessly to consolidate our financial position to ensure the sustainability of our operations, and to allow the efficient conduct of long-term projects that we hope will contribute to improving the Nunavimmiut’s quality of life.

— Robert Fréchette
April 2018



ADMINISTRATION

The Avataq Cultural Institute is a non-profit organization incorporated in 1981. The members of the corporation are the fifteen Local Cultural Committees. The Institute is governed by a five-member Board of Directors, elected every two years during the Nunavik Inuit Elders Conferences. Any person who is of the age of majority and a James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement beneficiary is eligible to submit his/her candidacy for election as Director or as President of the Institute's Board of Directors. Voting members are delegates from Local Cultural Committees and municipalities present at the Nunavik Inuit Elders Conferences.

The Avataq head office is located in Inukjuak, Nunavik, and the Institute has an administrative office in Westmount (Montreal) as well.

2016-2017 FINANCIAL REPORT

Avataq Cultural Institute Inc.
Audited Consolidated Operations
Year ended March 31, 2017

	Budget (unaudited)	2017-03-31	2016-03-31
REVENUES			
Contributions			
Indigenous Services Canada			
Cultural activities	\$ 142,510	\$ 142,510	\$ 148,350
Canadian Heritage	\$ 10,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 120,000
Ministry of Culture and Communications (Quebec)	\$ 752,485	\$ 692,189	\$ 399,841
Makivik Corporation	\$ 168,162	\$ 203,052	\$ 272,585
Kativik Regional Government	\$ 578,900	\$ 570,995	\$ 628,260
Kativik Local Development Centre	\$ 66,406	\$ 85,738	\$ 63,869
Sanarrutik Funds	\$ 910,000	\$ 908,376	\$ 917,900
Kativik Ilisarliniriniq	\$ 127,982	\$ 110,464	\$ 55,000
Air Inuit Ltd.	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada			\$ 10,805
Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec	\$ 42,500	\$ 42,500	\$ 26,832
Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux			\$ 88,452
Hydro-Quebec	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,550	\$ 9,254
Canada Council for the Arts	\$ 15,700	\$ 77,700	\$ 5,000
Inuulitsivik Health Centre	\$ 76,000	\$ 76,000	
Regroupement des Centres d'amitié autochtones du Québec	\$ 99,778	\$ 100,000	
Northern Village		\$ 129,947	
Other	\$ 221,971	\$ 125,770	\$ 249,450
Total contributions	\$ 3,414,394	\$ 3,517,791	\$ 3,195,598
Sale of cultural products and promotional material	\$ 21,000	\$ 24,683	\$ 17,992
Management fees			\$ 27,700
Amortization of deferred contributions related to tangible capital assets	\$ 34,500	\$ 33,688	\$ 33,385
	\$ 55,500	\$ 58,371	\$ 79,077
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 3,469,894	\$ 3,576,162	\$ 3,274,675

	Budget (unaudited)	2017-03-31	2016-03-31
EXPENSES			
Salaries and benefits	\$ 1,688,045	\$ 1,523,621	\$ 1,697,947
Travel and accommodation	\$ 322,448	\$ 321,051	\$ 330,123
Professional fees and honorarium	\$ 656,512	\$ 668,847	\$ 498,464
Rent, insurance, municipal taxes, and maintenance	\$ 302,314	\$ 301,548	\$ 294,350
Office expenses, postage, and public relations	\$ 126,560	\$ 103,204	\$ 135,204
Printing, publications, materials, and supplies	\$ 91,858	\$ 130,981	\$ 116,949
Equipment rental and purchase	\$ 10,000	\$ 156	\$ 752
Telecommunications	\$ 39,020	\$ 38,407	\$ 40,209
Contributions	\$ 64,428	\$ 127,415	\$ 58,792
Contributions to Northern Villages	\$ 159,100	\$ 151,300	\$ 149,570
Northern products acquisition	\$ 17,849	\$ 14,599	\$ 3,518
Bank charges	\$ 7,100	\$ 7,091	\$ 7,034
Mauvaises créances	\$ 112,127	\$ 777	\$ 98,298
Amortization of tangible capital assets	\$ 61,600	\$ 61,758	\$ 62,784
Royalties	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,250	
Other	\$ 9,133	\$ 3,047	\$ 3,384
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 3,673,094	\$ 3,457,052	\$ 3,497,378
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	(\$ 203,200)	\$ 119,110	(\$ 222,703)

***Relations on Ungava Bay : An Illustrated History of Inuit, Naskapi and Eurocanadian Interaction, 1800-1970*, de Toby Morantz**

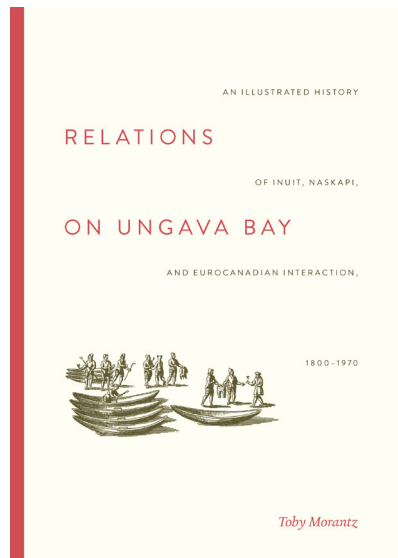
Relations on Ungava Bay, the second part of Nunavik's history, after *Relations on South-eastern Hudson Bay* (2010), was edited and formatted this year. Using both the oral history and archives of fur trading companies, religious missions, and governments, this book reveals how Inuit and Naskapi have lived through the last centuries while adapting to environmental and economic changes as well as directives imposed by governments. Written by an experienced ethno-historian, this publication includes an impressive photo-story, and was published in December 2016.

Inutuinnauvugut, We are Inuit, edited by Putulik Ilisituk

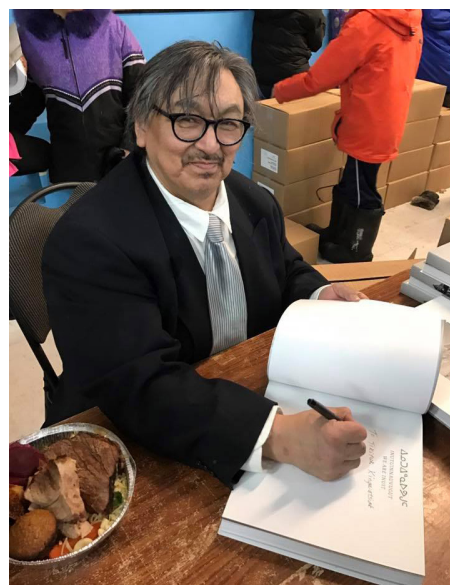
This large volume of over 400 pages, published in original Inuktitut language and in English translation, tells the story of the village of Salluit through short excerpts from interviews and numerous historical photographs. The book has been published and the launch took place in Salluit.

The Reverend E.J. Peck and the Inuit of Nunavik (1876-1919), edited by Frédéric Laugrand and Jarich Oosten

An edition of Reverend Edmund J. Peck's diaries and letters is also in production. Peck played an important role in the dissemination of the Inuit written language (syllabic). This manuscript has been revised and corrected.



Book cover page of *Relations on Ungava Bay : An Illustrated History of Inuit, Naskapi and Eurocanadian Interaction, 1800-1970*
©Avataq



Putulik Ilisituk signing a copy during the book launch
©Paulusie Saviadjuk

The layout will begin in July 2017 and printing is expected in the course of 2018.

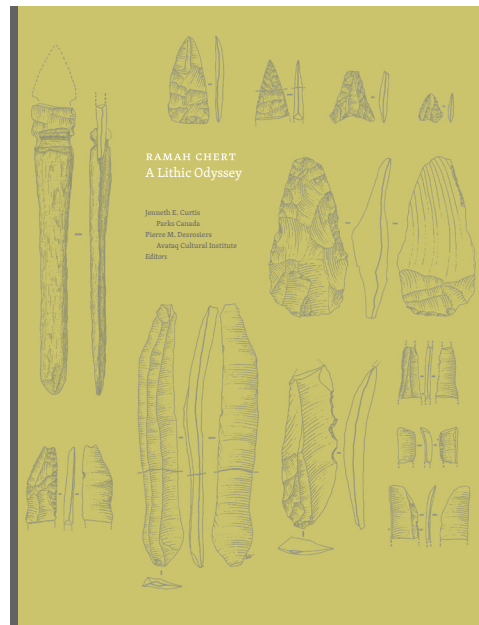
Publication on the Ramah chert

The project of editing a monograph on Ramah chert, a stone from Labrador used for making arrowheads across America, is coming to an end, and the book is at the final proofreading stage. Some corrections need to be made and the manuscript is scheduled to be printed in October 2017.

Teaching manuals for Kativik Ilisarniliriniq

This year we collaborated on two teaching manuals for Kativik Ilisarniliriniq. The first one will group traditional songs and stories, and will include traditional clothing as well. Presented as collections, these elements of tangible and intangible heritage were chosen as memorabilia to encourage youth to relearn forgotten history. The book is in the layout stage and printing is planned for November 2017.

A history textbook project was also initiated, and an archaeologist from Avataq has been commissioned to write the book, while a school board advisor drafts the study guide. Following many meetings, a table of contents has been developed, covering the earliest period of Nunavik occupation to recent political history. In the fall of 2016, our archaeologist drafted a more comprehensive table of contents, which provides a more accurate overview of the material to be covered in each chapter. The writing of the first chapter began in the winter of 2017.



Cover page of *Ramah Chert, A Lithic Odyssey*
©Avataq

GRAPHIC SERVICES

The Publications service team produced internal graphic tools for the Institute and especially for the Nunavik Inuit Theatre Company. In addition, many external layout contracts were done this year:

Module du Nord du Québec

In early 2016, the Avataq Cultural Institute was commissioned to create the interior design of Ullivik, the new Module du Nord du Québec (Northern Quebec Module) accommodation centre in Dorval. The Museology and Aumaa-ggiivik services proudly selected works mainly from Inuit artists to decorate the rooms and common spaces of the centre. We were also invited to decorate the corridors of the building's three upper floors with giant stickers made from reproductions of three Nunavik artists. Two timelines of Nunavik history and a giant place names map of Nunavik were installed in common areas on the ground floor. A large wooden reproduction of a Joe Talirunnili print was also placed in the lobby. Outside, a *qaggiq*, created and made by Avataq, and an *inukshuk* (courtesy of Makivik Corporation) were installed.

Pituvvik Landholding Building in Inukjuak

One very interesting request this year was from Pituvvik Landholding Corporation, which was looking to decorate its large building with visual documents related to Alakkariallak, the actor who played Nanook in the movie *Nanook of the North* by Robert Flaherty. The project gave way to a permanent exhibit realized by a professional photographer and mounted on a support different than the usual photo reproduction: brushed aluminium. To that end, the photographs were professionally rescanned, retouched with a lot of care, printed, and cus-

tom-installed throughout the building for a long-lasting presence. In all, over forty photographs were printed (most on aluminium panels, and some were framed for the conference room), including a large image at the entrance of the building.

Other achievements

- Creation of printed material for the Journées de la persévérance scolaire (Hooked on School Days) of February 2017 (activity sheets, poster, stickers), for the Esuma project
- Layout of children's books for the Nunavik Child Care Services, whose illustrations and stories were created by daycare educators
- Layout of children hardback books with illustrations and stories created during workshops led by Qumaq Mangiuk Iyaituk and Kathryn Delaney
- Printing of Nunavik timelines in four languages (Ungava Bay dialect, Hudson Bay dialect, French, and English) for various Inuit organizations

publicationsnunavik.com



The Ullivik Centre hall
©Élodie Parriaux - Avataq



Qaggiq outside Ullivik Centre
©Élodie Parriaux - Avataq

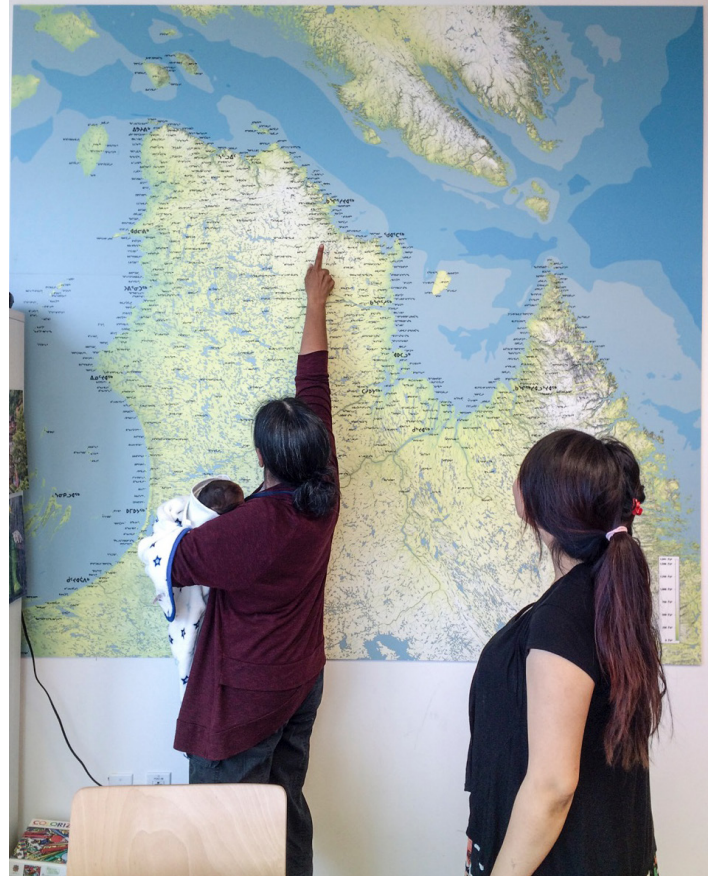


Photographs exhibited in the new Pituvik Landholding Corporation Building in Inukjuak
©Caroline Hayeur

NUNATOP PROJECT

The Nunatop Project was launched in 1981 to provide a tool that would enable land users to keep alive Inuit place names through the publication and distribution of place name maps and a gazetteer of Nunavik and offshore islands place names. This ambitious project, relaunched in 2012 in collaboration with Makivik Corporation, and in 2014 in partnership with Air Inuit, was achieved through the collection of information, interviews, and validation of data with Elders and hunters.

Long-term work on the project continued this year to improve the database (corrections of place names and improving readability of place names on the maps, etc.) Some maps were commissioned, especially by Quaqtac's landholding corporation. We also produced and installed two large-format Nunavik maps: one at Ullivik, the Module du Nord du Québec's new accommodation centre, and the other at the Nunavik Sivunitsavut premises.



Residents looking at a place names map at the Ullivik Centre
©Robert Fréchette - Avataq

LOCAL CULTURAL COMMITTEES

Local Cultural Committees (LCC) were created following a request by the Elders at the Aupaluk Elders Conference in 1998. The LCC are members of Avataq and participate in its general meetings as well as the Nunavik Elders Conferences. The fourteen Nunavik communities and Chisasibi, where more than 150 Inuit live, have a Local Cultural Committee.

The LCC support the preservation of the Inuit way of life through the practice of cultural activities and the promotion of Inuktitut in daily life. They are dedicated to maintaining the traditional know-how and skills in their communities, and to providing youth opportunities to enhance their knowledge of Inuktitut language and traditional skills.



Umiaq making in Inukjuak
©Nancy Palliser - Avataq

2016–2017 PROJECTS IN THE COMMUNITIES

Ipirautaq Chisasibi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parka making and <i>ulu</i> making courses • Fishing, berry picking, and picnic trip to LG1 hydroelectric dam with the Elders
Pituutaq Kuujjuaraapik	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caribou leg skinning • Tent making and picnic with Elders • Parka and mitts making • Duffle sock embroidery course
Kakautik Umiujaq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly radio show on language, land, camping, and anything to do with culture
Pukik Inukjuak	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renovation of the <i>qarmaq</i> • <i>Umiaq</i> making • Set up a tent to be used by the Elders • Made an <i>umiaq</i> out of sealskin • Traditional cultural activities during the International Inuit Day • Caught two caribous and hired two guys to show how to butcher them and keep the skin for a <i>qulitaq</i> parka
Itsanitakkuvilirijiit Puvirnituaq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made an igloo • Renovation of the <i>qarmaq</i> • Purchased materials for the local museum
Irqaivunga Akulivik	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Puurtaq</i> and <i>misiraaq</i> made using seal fat • Radio show where they read stories from a book, from <i>Tumivut</i> or small stories • Held a feast for the Elders with storytelling
Quayautiit Ivujivik	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly radio show on language or stories of how the Inuit used to live • Held three feasts where people were hired to go hunting and cook the meat • Indoor games on National Aboriginal Day • Games for the Elders on Christmas Holidays • Trip with Elders to Kuujjuaraapik • Purchased <i>tallurunnaq</i> for the community
Uartaq Salluit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundraised for activities • Language retention radio show • Monthly gathering for the Elders • Hired people to make an igloo

<p>Itsanitait Kangijsujuaq</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biweekly radio show on language retention and book reading • Star navigation and ancient astronomy • Radio contest on language retention • Throat singing for younger children • Feast during Christmas and games on language retention for 55 & up • Made clothing with two youth for the local committee • Sealskin rope making at the school • Sealskin cleaning and scraping and taught how to make the leg part of the <i>kamik</i> (<i>kanaaq</i>) • Monthly visit of the President of the local committee to talk to the students, with handmade gift to a student who is the best at Inuktitut
<p>Uivvamiut Quaqtaq</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sewing course on parka, <i>amautik</i> and purse with sealskin and beads • Taught how to sharpen <i>uluk</i> by two Elders • Fundraised for the Elders to go and attend the Elders Gathering in Iqaluit • Elders community feast during Christmas • Fundraised for an igloo to be built and to run cultural activities throughout the year • Showed historical photos from various people • Assisted Johnny Oovaut and Elisapi Angnaturk special educational presentation on Inuit Culture by supplying Uivvamiut's traditional clothes
<p>Ukammamiut Kangirsuk</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held Christmas activities over the radio, where they were doing games
<p>Ilirusilirijiit Aupaluk</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beluga meat feast • Held a square tent making and an <i>amautik</i> making course • Sealskin cleaning and scraping to make <i>kamik</i> out of them
<p>Piqalujait Tasiujaq</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Qamutik</i> making for men and tent making for women • Summer camp for youth • Sealskin cleaning and <i>kamik</i> making
<p>Kuujjuaq Ilirusirijingit Kuujjuaq</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radio show on genealogy with documents from Avataq's genealogist • Took Elders out fishing • Radio game on language retention • <i>Qarmaq</i> building where Elders can go to
<p>Asimautaq Kangijsualujjuaq</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Went on a tent with the Elders to have tea and do some storytelling • Took Elders fishing with the help of the guides from the Kuururjuaq Park • Show and do some activities when they have the visitors at the Park • Participated in the local Parnasimautik meeting

facebook.com/groups/lccofnunavik
avataq.qc.ca/en/Institute/Departments/Local-cultural-committees

TRADITIONAL SKILLS PROGRAM

Since 1997, traditional skills workshops have provided training in several areas, including traditional clothing, tanning techniques, butchering, and handicraft making. The objective of these workshops is to keep traditional skills alive while helping to develop a craft industry supported by increased tourism and local demand.

This year, over 195 participants from nine communities benefitted from thirteen training activities. The Traditional Skills Program is very successful and more and more young people are participating each year.

Traditional Skills Program - 2016–2017 Activities

Communities	Workshops	Number of participants
Inukjuak	• Small sled making	6
	• Throat singing	26
	• <i>Kamik</i> making	11
Ivujivik	• Snow pants making	16
Kangiqsujuaq	• <i>Kamik</i> making	7
Kuujjuaraapik	• Seal skin tanning	17
Puvirnitug	• Throat singing	5
Quaqtaq	• <i>Kamik</i> making	19
Salluit	• <i>Kamik</i> making	31
Tasiujaq	• Beading	8
	• Seal skin cleaning	8
	• <i>Kamik</i> making	28
Montréal	• Sewing courses	13

RESEARCH, ARCHIVES, AND DOCUMENTATION

INUTTIGUT PIRUSIIT DOCUMENTATION CENTRE – NUNAVIK NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The mission of the Avataq archives is to protect documentary information, which is done according to archival standards, and to make this information accessible to the region as a priority, as well as to other users. Over the years, the documentation centre has become a substantial resource, accessed by many users. With the help of new staff this year, the inventories have undergone several phases of revision and improvement.

The Archives and Documentation Centre is consulted by different kinds of users, and their numbers have grown again this year: Inuit individuals, representatives of regional organ-

izations (Kativik Ilisarniliriniq, Makivik), university researchers and students, curriculum designers and writers, media representatives, including filmmakers. This fiscal year, 84 formal requests and visits have been recorded and many more visits took place without being recorded. Numerous consultation sessions involved the photo collection, and over half were from Inuit, including the various departments of Kativik Ilisarniliriniq, which is frequently using the documentation centre's resources. The documentation centre's library now has more than 6,500 documents, including 1,500 newspapers and periodicals, 4,600 monographs, and 351 CDs, DVDs, and VHS cassettes.

HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS COLLECTION

The historical photographs collection is still popular at Avataq and continues to grow. Several new photo collections have been added or completed. In 2016–2017, archiving of the Makivik Corporation's photo collection continued. A summary catalogue has been completed and storage equipment has been upgraded for almost all the material (90 archive boxes).

The historical photographs collection has now close to 30,000 documents from four different holdings, and covers the fourteen Nunavik communities as well as Killiniq, which was abandoned in 1978.

ORAL HISTORY COLLECTION

In the oral history collection, a series of 120 reels was received from CBC North Kuujuaq, and were inventoried, digitized, and will soon be indexed. This series adds to the 459 audio cassettes that have already been digitized. That work not only protects an important part of the radio heritage of Nunavik, it makes accessible excellent recordings realized by professional Inuit interviewers with a variety of informants, many of whom have now passed. This part of the archives comprises well over

3,000 hours of recordings and other material that are split into four collections, including material that Avataq has realized or commissioned, information collected by visitors to the region, institutional holdings like Taqramiut Nipingat Inc., CBC, and researchers' holdings such as Bernard Saladin d'Anglure's material.

PROJECTS IN COLLABORATION WITH PUBLICATIONS SERVICE

The painstaking work of archiving documents and other materials finds its reward when they are used in publications and other projects. This year, for example, two volumes were printed and distributed after years of editing, revision, and translation: the Salluit community history book *Inuinnauvugut, We Are Inuit; and Relations on Ungava Bay: An Illustrated History of Inuit, Naskapi, and Eurocanadian Interaction, 1800–1970*, the second volume of Nunavik history by Toby Morantz. Furthermore, both books use oral histories as well as historical photographs, and they have both received an enthusiastic response from the Inuit public. Another production of the documentation centre is the *Tumivut* magazine, which also makes use of archival information.

A few other books are in preparation and will see the light next fiscal year: reprint of two reports by Susan Lofthouse, the *Richmond Gulf Memorial Project*, and the *Cape Hope Islands Project: A Short History of Inuit in Southern James Bay*. A manuscript about the history of Killiniq, written by a long-time resident Mike Keelan, has been edited and is being translated into Inuktitut. Our Publications service also coordinated the publication of five children's board books in Inuktitut, in collaboration with two book-making workshops facilitators in Ivujivik, Qumaq Mangiuk Iyaituk and Kathryn Delaney.

INUTTIGUT PIRUSIIT DOCUMENTATION CENTRE'S COLLECTIONS

LIBRARY	ORAL HISTORY AND WRITTEN ARCHIVES		
Periodicals: 1,500 items Books: 4,600 items Audio-visual: 350 items	ACI - Avataq Oral histories	28 sources	610 hours of recordings 1,200 drawings One meter of documents
Total 6,500 items approx.	IND - Individual funds <i>Yves Michaud/G. Filotas</i> <i>Mitiarjuk Nappaaluk</i> <i>Daniel Weetaluktuk</i> <i>Mary Cowley</i>	28 sources	600 hours of recordings Written documents
	INS - Institutional funds <i>TNI</i> <i>CBC North</i> <i>HBC archives</i> <i>Library and archives of Canada</i>	15 sources	1,150 hours or recordings Several meters of documents
	RES - Researchers <i>B. Saladin</i> <i>William B. Kemp</i> <i>Nobuhiro Kishigami</i>	23 sources	640 hours of recordings 110 manuscript notebooks Genealogies Over three meters of files

All figures are approximative, on the date of March 31, 2017

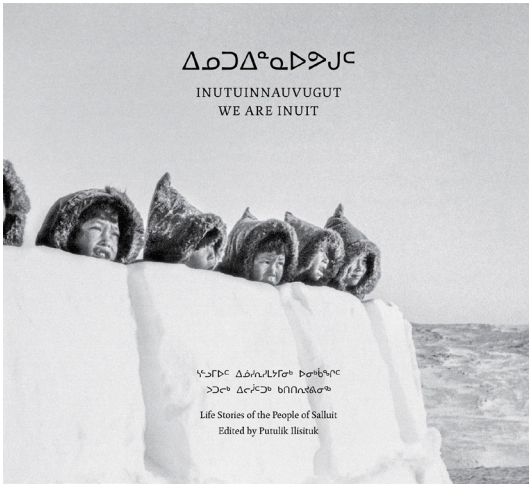
*Names in italics are examples of funds or collections

HISTORICAL PHOTO COLLECTION

A-Archives	38 sources	5,050 documents
IND - Individuals	81 sources	17,470 documents
NUN- Nunavimmiut	97 sources	3,400 documents
Avataq events		537 documents
Makivik historical photo archives		129,000 documents

Photographs with Nunavik location

Kuujuaraapik	1,027 items
Umiujaq	44 items
Inukjuak	3,163 items
Puvirnituq	2,961 items
Akulivik	75 items
Ivujivik	568 items
Salluit	994 items
Kangiqtujuaq	2,896 items
Quaqtaq	1,039 items
Kangirsuk	347 items
Aupaluk	37 items
Tasiujaq	213 items
Kuujuuaq	2,322 items
Kangiqtualujuaq	1,052 items
Killiniq	298 items



Cover page of the book *Inuinnauvugut, We are Inuit*
©Avataq



Cover page of the children's book *Kuuvik fishing*
©Avataq

PRESENTATION ON KANGIQSUALUJJUAQ HISTORY

From February 13 to 17, 2017, a team of three employees from Avataq – our genealogist and two archaeologists – prepared and gave a presentation on the archaeology and history of the village of Kangiqsualujjuaq, as part of a Parnasimautik local conference.



Genealogist Martha Palliser shows her work to children in Kangiqsualujjuaq
©Pierre Desrosiers

avataq.qc.ca/en/L-institut/Departements/Recherche-bibliotheque-et-archives

GENEALOGY

Genealogy research

As Inuit tradition is essentially oral, in 1987 Avataq began the important research of documenting Inuit genealogical data in Nunavik. The goals of the program were to reinforce family identity among Inuit and to prevent intra-family marriage. Since 1987, we have compiled over 23,000 Inuit family lines in Nunavik. This work is ongoing and we are constantly adding current and historical data.

Chart of kinship terms

Inter-family forms of address among the Inuit differ depending on one's status in the family. A person's age and sex determine the terms in which one addresses an older brother, younger sister, maternal uncle, maternal great-grandmother, etc. These terms are also chosen based on other criteria and may vary for adopted family members or if the person hails from the Hudson Strait, Ungava Bay, or Hudson Bay. These terms almost disappeared, but posters published in the past few years have greatly contributed to their preservation. A new version of the kinship terms was published this year.

Regular activities

The Genealogy service is still highly popular, and this year our genealogist responded to 114 requests for family trees. In addition, four large graphics were produced in Inuktitut and English for a presentation on the history of Kangiqsualujjuaq. We also worked on the Lee Gue-mple holding, which is about the community of Sanikiluaq, and made ongoing updates on the database taking into account the list of the actual beneficiaries.

**[avataq.qc.ca/en/Institute/Departments/
Research-Library-and-Archives/Genealogy/
About-genealogy](http://avataq.qc.ca/en/Institute/Departments/Research-Library-and-Archives/Genealogy/About-genealogy)**

NUNAVIK INUIT THEATRE COMPANY

Under the direction of the Inuktituurniup Saturtaugasuarninga language project, a theatre program began in 2009 to promote new communication tools in Inuktitut for Nunavik Inuit youth.

Most of the current year has been spent on a project requested by Kuujjuaq: a theatre production representative of the community. Financed by the municipality, the project has included several parts:

- the presentation of the play *Kaujjajuk* in May 2016, with the current actors from the Nunavik Inuit Theatre Company;
- the formation of a group of Kuujjuamiut to present the same play, which they did in June. The participants were between the ages of ten and fourteen; and
- the organization of a two-week summer camp, which included a professional opera singer. Again the participants were ten to fourteen years old.

Aimed at attracting older youth, who haven't participated as much as their younger peers in the theatre project, the group began work with the help of some adults on a new play called *Atungaq and the Hunters* in September 2016. In December, a public reading was performed at the Kattitavik Theatre. In January and February 2017, the play was revised, but

unfortunately the funding was not sufficient to stage the play publicly with set, costumes, and music. However, it will be published next fiscal year and will thus be available for future actors to use. During the whole fall and winter, theatre exercises workshops were offered to many classes of Jaanimmarik School students.

Other activities of the theatre group include the organization of a summer camp in Inukjuak; work on the radio version of the play *Kaujjajuk*; brainstorming about writing the next play, which will be about the Aukkautik story; and general lobbying to offer theatre workshops to schools and other organizations.



The *Kaujjajuk* play in Kuujjuaq
©Isabelle Dubois

ARCHAEOLOGY

The archaeological team is conducting extensive research on Nunavimmiut heritage. It conducts archaeological excavations, which also serve as archaeological field schools for Inuit youth, as well as research aimed at improving knowledge of Inuit culture and the culture of their predecessors. Each project includes an information and dissemination component targeting both the Inuit population and the public at large. Archaeological activities differ from one project to the next, but the educational component is a significant part of all projects.

2016–2017 ACTIVITIES

Current activities

The Archaeology service has been reorganized this year, following the departure of its Head of Department, Daniel Gendron, to whom we wish the best and success in his future projects. Nevertheless, we continued our usual activities, including acquiring new data and developing the database, writing field reports, responding to community requests, and ensuring the management of archaeological resources, an important activity during this period of natural resource development and exploitation. It should also be noted that an archaeologist from the service contributed to an article published in the scholarly journal *Arctic, Antarctic, and Alpine Research*.

Other activities

Tommy Weetaluktuk, our archaeologist in Inukjuak, participated in CBC's *Découverte* show in August 2016, where he presented an overview of archaeology in Nunavik. He also gave presentations on history and archaeology in Nunavik during the fall of 2016 and the winter of 2017 in Kangiqsualujjuaq, Kuujjuaq, and Umiujaq with another archaeologist as part of the Parnasimautik meetings, and to train guides in cultural tourism. The archaeology team was also consulted and collaborated on a project of *umiaq* making in Inukjuak.

2016–2017 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVENTORIES

Archaeological sites are often located near villages or even within villages. With the arrival of Plan Nord and increased development in Nunavik communities, it is essential to carry out salvage excavations before construction work begins. One way to address this urgency is to produce inventory of archaeological resources in Nunavik communities and to constantly monitor mining and construction projects in Nunavik.

This year, two archaeological inventories were carried out: the first on behalf of Nunavik Parks at Keglo Bay near Kangiqsualujjuaq, and another in the Kuujjuaq area for the landholding corporation and the municipality.

Keglo Bay

The inventory work revealed twenty-two new archaeological sites. Twelve known sites were also reviewed during this survey, covering a period of human occupation from 3,500 years to the very recent past.

Kuujuaq area

Several excavations have been carried out in the past in the Kuujuaq region, but the archaeological inventory of 2016 identified fourteen new archaeological sites dating from about 3,000 years ago to less than one hun-

dred years ago. Of these, six are of prehistoric origin, one is probably prehistoric, another is of Inuit pre-contact origin or early contact, and six have been occupied in the past one hundred years.

avataq.qc.ca/en/Institute/Departments/Archaeology



An arrowhead
©Robert Fréchette

MUSEOLOGY

The Museology service supports museums and other places meant to protect, conserve, and enhance cultural heritage and the arts in Nunavik. Particular attention is given to the in situ development of Nunavimmiut culture awareness and its preservation. Through acquisitions, Museology ensures the development of arts and cultural object collections that reflect the diverse cultural practices of Nunavik. It initiates and participates in training, conservation, preservation, documentation, analysis, dissemination, and enhancement activities of Nunavik Inuit arts and culture. Finally, it encourages and supports activities conducive to cultural transmission.

THE NUNAVIK INUIT COLLECTIONS

Qarmaq – Avataq’s Museum Reserve

In addition to advising the fourteen Nunavik communities and the Inuit communities of Chisasibi and the Montreal area on conservation and enhancement of their cultural and heritage assets, the Museology service operates the Qarmaq, a museum reserve that holds Avataq’s archaeology, archive, and arts and culture collections in Montreal. Beyond conservation, classification, and specific documentation activities of a museum reserve, the Qarmaq also offers tours, consultation periods, and tailor-made training in conservation and enhancement of heritage value to Nunavimmiut and people who show a keen interest in Inuit culture.

The Qarmaq has seen an increase of activities this year. We welcomed 130 visitors and offered 12 guided tours. In addition, 21 Inuit (mainly from Nunavik) and more than 50 non-Inuit students visited the reserve. Among them, a group of 22 students studying Museum Technique at Collège Montmorency worked at the reserve during the 2017 winter session as part of their training. Geoffrey Kelley, Minister Responsible for Native Affairs, also visited. The assistant curator and a museum technician now work at the Qarmaq four days a week.



Students from Quaqtaq visiting the Qarmaq
©Louis Gagnon - Avataq

Acquisitions in 2016-2017

In 2016–2017, we processed ten donations for a total of 277 Inuit art and artifacts, valued at more than \$145,000 (fair market value). It should be stressed that one of the donations has been approved by the Canadian Cultural Property Board. This was our first acquisition filed under our designation status as a museum.

Donation from individuals

Donators	Number of Items
Thérèse Vien Clermont	67
Sam Kligman	19
Thomas Kramer	62
Deborah Smith Sauvé	5
Johanne Turcotte	1
Martine Roussel	1
Mark London	58
Julie Trépanier	61
Faye LeGresley	2
Margareth Lynch	1
Total	277

Art works and artifacts lending

In 2016–2017, twenty-six ethnographic and archaeological artifacts were loaned for an exhibition to the Musée dauphinois de Grenoble. Avataq has been heavily involved in the iconographic research work, review of scenarios and vignettes, and writing of two texts for the exhibition catalogue.

SUPPORT TO CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURES AND FACILITIES IN NUNAVIK

Puvirnituaq – Arts and Culture Centre

The Institute’s curator made two trips to Puvirnituaq (December 2016 and March 2017), during which he was able to work with councillors and other leaders of the municipality. He also met with the architecture firm mandated to specify the future needs and programming for the redevelopment of a former community hall into a cultural centre. This project would, among other things, adequately relocate and enhance the important municipal heritage collection that is already in Puvirnituaq, and host new works and objects of material culture that are part of the collection administered by Avataq.

Kuujjuaraapik – Old Anglican St-Edmund’s Church

In early December 2016, with architect Marc Blouin and Nabil Abbas from the Kativik Regional Government, we visited Kuujjuaraapik to discuss issues related to the operation of the new cultural centre, which was under construction. During our meeting with the mayor and the municipal manager of Kuujjuaraapik, we were able to reactivate the old Anglican historic church preservation project. We confirmed an excellent collaboration after our second visit to Kuujjuaraapik in March 2017 with Anne-Marie Gendron, from the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications. Other meetings are coming, and the municipality will approach the Reverend Tom Martin so that the parish transfers the church to the municipality.

Inukjuak – Daniel Weetaluktuk Museum

In December 2016, we were able to discuss the Daniel Weetaluktuk Museum's file and do some planning. It was an opportunity to fill out a request for financial support, on behalf of the municipality, to hire an additional temporary employee, and to provide training in cultural activities and museum preservation.

Then there was the possibility of developing another cultural infrastructure project in Inukjuak, which would include the expansion of the current museum, a theatre, and various services (archaeology, library with resource centre, jewellery workshops, drawing or engraving studio, etc.) as well as a new Avataq office. This is a promising file to follow during the next fiscal year.

Kangiqsujuaq – Sainte-Anne Catholic Mission

Following major photographic documentation, counting property and resources left behind by Father Jules Dion, O.M.I., and taking stock of the contents of the Catholic mission, about ten copies of a trilingual document, illustrated with photos and plans, were produced and given to various community stakeholders. Then, a team of two went to Kangiqsujuaq to offer a sampling of cultural activities that may be offered in the former Catholic mission. The purpose was also to encourage meetings and discussions with the local people in order to collect proposals regarding the uses and possible functions of this cultural venue. Links have been maintained with Father Dion throughout this process. Also, insulation and consolidation work of this building are to be considered in the near future.



Some objects inventoried at the Sainte-Anne Catholic Mission
©Julie Graff - Avataq

ADVICE AND SUPPORT

Kuururjuaq National Park

While waiting for the major renovation work required after the fire that affected the Kuururjuaq National Park Pavilion in September 2014, we were asked to justify the unexpected extension of artifacts on loan from the Musée de la civilisation à Québec. Museum officials were particularly concerned about storage conditions since the fire. Also, with a view to create new exhibition systems, Nunavik Parks asked for our expertise to formulate recommendations for the preservation of some fragile museum artifacts.

Tursujuq National Park

In 2016, more than two hundred artifact condition reports from the Umiujaq collection were revised and updated. Then, the artifacts were returned to Umiujaq to be exhibited at the Tursujuq National Park Pavilion. We also performed revision and critical analysis of the scripts and vignettes for the permanent exhibition of Tursujuq National Park in Umiujaq.

avataq.qc.ca/en/Institute/Departments/Museology



Objects from the Umiujaq artifacts collection
©Louis Gagnon - Avataq

AUMAAGGIIVIK – THE NUNAVIK ARTS SECRETARIAT



A jeweller at work
©Michel Patry - Avataq

In the spring of 2009, Avataq Cultural Institute set up a new unit called Aumaaggiivik, the Nunavik Arts Secretariat. Established with the aid of funding from Kativik Regional Government, the Kativik Local Development Centre, Makivik Corporation, and the Conseil des

arts et des lettres du Québec, Aumaaggiivik was created to promote the development of the arts in Nunavik, and encourage economic development and the creation of long-term employment opportunities in the region's arts and culture sector.

ARTIST SUPPORT

Aumaaggiivik provides support to artists in every artistic discipline by boosting their careers through a program of three arts grants, four artist residencies (two in Montreal and two in Nunavik), and specialized training. Aumaaggiivik also aims to improve artists' professional competences, and supports the establishment of local infrastructures to provide workspace for artists and to promote the arts both within and outside the region. The Secretariat also provides technical assistance and professional consultation throughout the year.

NUNAVIK PROGRAM FOR ARTS AND LITERATURE

Of the nine files submitted to the program, eight artistic projects (Component I) received a total of \$66,000, while two grants of \$5,000 each were awarded to two applicants for an artist residency in Montreal (Component II). It should be noted that the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec acknowledged only four submissions for the two Nunavik residencies component. Special efforts will be made to promote this component of the program in the next edition.



Maggie Napartuk during her advance printmaking training in Montreal
©Marc Vachon

Component I: Artistic projects

Recipients	Community	Discipline	Grant
George Okpik	Gatineau	Music	\$10,000
Maggie Napartuk	Umiujaq	Fine arts	\$10,000
Adamie I. Kalingo	Ivujivik	Literature	\$5,200
Tanya Mesher Jones	Montreal	Fine arts	\$15,000
Johnny Akpahatak	Aupaluk	Fine arts	\$7,070
Aquujaq Qisiiq	Kangiqsujuaq	Dance	\$4,595
Nicoletta Mesher	Montréal	Fine arts	\$7,070
Lolly E. Annahatak	Kangirsuk	Literature	\$7,065

Total: \$66,000

Component II: Artist Residency in Montreal

In collaboration with the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, Aumaaggiivik provides a free apartment for two one-month artist residencies in Montreal and two creative residencies in Nunavik.

Exceptionally this year, an artist couple created a joint project during their residency in Montreal. Peta Tayara and her husband, Charlie Pinguartuk, from Salluit, enrolled in ceramics classes with Marie Côté, a former Aumaaggiivik grant holder. This training residency was a real success and allowed this artist couple to create a phenomenal number of pieces during their stay in Montreal. They plan to come back to Marie Côté's workshop, and they're now contemplating ways to cook ceramics in Salluit. A promising artistic development!



Charlie Pinguartuk and Peta Tayara with some of their original ceramic creations
©Louis Gagnon - Avataq

Component III: Artist Residencies in Nunavik

Also under the Nunavik Program for Arts and Literature, Component III consists of two artist residencies offered in two distinct villages in Nunavik. Each residency project is awarded a \$10,000 grant for a period of two months. In addition, accommodation is provided free of charge in a teacher's home that is unoccupied during the summer season, thanks to the valuable collaboration of Kativik Ilisarniliriniq.

Four artists from southern Quebec responded to the call for projects. Two were selected: Claudette Lemay, who did her project in visual arts (videography) in Ivujivik; and Camille Lavoie, who was able to focus on drawing, particularly

sketching local flora, for nearly two months in Puvirnituk.

AVATAQ ARTISTS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Among the nineteen Avataq Artists Assistance (AAA) support applications analyzed in 2016–2017, ten grants were awarded: five Component A (Community) grants totalling \$16,338.34 and five Component B for individual projects totalling \$11,384.91, for a total amount of \$27,723.25.

AAA Grant 2016-2017

Recipients	Community	Component	Project	Grant
Anna Ohaituk	Inukjuak	A	Sealskin purse with beads making	\$ 3,000
Bobby Aculiak	Inukjuak	B	Purchasing tools	\$ 1,384.91
Sarah Lisa Kasudluak	Inukjuak	B	Watercolour painting	\$ 2,500
Evie Mark	Montréal	B	Førde Traditional and World Music Festival	\$ 2,500
Bobby Patsauq	Inukjuak	B	Inukjuak studio	\$ 2,500
Charleen Watt	Kuujuuaq	B	Snow sculpture training	\$ 2,500
Etua Kaukai, NV of Kangirsuk	Kangirsuk	A	Arctic Char Music Festival	\$ 5,000
NV of Puvirnituk	Puvirnituk	A	Puvirnituk Snow Festival	\$ 5,000
Arqivik Landholding Tasiujaq	Tasiujaq	A	Iqaluppik Hotel art contest	\$ 1,300
Committee	Salluit	A	Christmas talent show and dances	\$ 2,038.34

Total: \$ 27,723.25

2016–2017 COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES

Song contest



Larry Thomassiah on stage singing his song “Aliasutta – Be Happy”
©Marc Vachon

In collaboration with Kativik Regional Government’s Esuma project, we organized a perseverance songwriting contest for Nunavik youth. Of the thirteen songs submitted to the contest, a jury selected Larry Thomassiah’s song, “Aliasutta – Be Happy.” Larry was awarded a \$1,000 grant and the opportunity to record the song in a professional Montreal studio, under the supervision of producer Josh “Socalled” Dolgin at Hotel2tango, in early May 2016. Larry was also invited on stage to sing his song at Cabot Square during the National Aboriginal Day festivities on June 21, 2016. The winning song was launched on Facebook, YouTube, Bandcamp, and SoundCloud.

Artist residency in France



Nancy Saunders, Mattiusi Iyaituk, and Qumaq Mangiuk Iyaituk in Paris
©Louis Gagnon - Avataq

From January 11 to February 9, 2017, three Nunavik artists – Mattiusi Iyaituk, Qumaq Mangiuk Iyaituk, and Nancy Saunders – went to Paris with the director of Aumaaggiivik to participate in an artist residency at the École des Beaux-Arts – an exceptional setting for all kinds of artists. This project was a complete success and inspired the Nunavik artists to experiment with new techniques and materials, which resulted in the production of several original works. During the residency, the group participated in three official meetings and two public events, including an evening of conferences and, at the end of residency, a group exhibition in one of the Beaux-Arts galleries.

Biennale de sculpture de Saint-Jean-Port-Joli



Mattiusi Iyaituk and Jusipi Kulula looking at Lucassie Echalook practicing with a chisel on Iqalullamiluuq's head (sea goddess) that Mattiusi is carving
©Louis Gagnon - Avataq

At the end of 2014, Aumaaggiivik began a collaborative project with the Biennale de sculpture de Saint-Jean-Port-Joli's Board of Directors for the 2016 edition of the biennale. The project consisted of matching seven visual artists from Nunavik with seven local artists from Saint-Jean-Port-Joli to co-create large outdoor sculptures. The finished pieces were then displayed outside during the festival, which had the theme Anirni Tarramit – The Spirit of the North. Beatrice Deer was the curator of the event and the selected artists were Charleen Watt from Kuujuaq, Jusipi Kulula from Quaqtaq, Mattiusi Iyaituk and Mary Paningajak from Ivujivik, Anna Ohaituk and Lucassie Echalook from Inukjuak, and Julie Grenier Di Ciero from Montreal.

Special Project: Regional policy for the development of arts

The Secretariat is exploring the possibility of drafting and proposing a regional policy for the development of the arts, to foster, coordinate, unite, and promote the arts in Nunavik. Without having formally produced an action plan for the development of the arts in Nunavik, we continued the process of improving the conditions of production, and professionalizing artistic practice in Nunavik. This year, many artists were invited to submit creation projects or proposals for artist residencies as part of our two grant programs. We have also increased the opportunities for Nunavik artists to promote and gain recognition of their art. During the second half of the year, we also held various consultations and group discussions aimed at renewing and, above all, improving the Nunavik Annual Art Workshops, which traditionally fell under the responsibility of Makivik Corporation. The challenge was successfully met.

Nunavik Artist Biographies

We have stayed the course for factual documentation of Nunavik artists by continuing to collect new data on artists for whom we already have records, and those with whom we are initiating contacts. This information was gathered progressively in artist files in accordance with good practices. During the year, we wrote about ten artist biographies. We also reviewed our paper files and created a summary table in which nearly two hundred artists' names were compiled in the field of visual and performing arts.

Nunavik Annual Art Workshops

After many consultations with Nunavik artists, we sought to revitalize the Nunavik Annual Arts Workshops. We managed to create an event targeting three communities where, under the direction of two trainers per community, a different specialized workshop was held simultaneously (for ten days) in each of these places: Ivujivik: drawing; Salluit: sculpture; and Kuujuaq: performing arts. This last discipline was a newcomer in the training offer. Note also the exceptional work of our team who, in record time, designed and organized the three workshops, in which twenty-three artists participated.

Networking and Diffusion

With more than 940 subscribers, the Aumaaggiivik Facebook page is regularly updated. It serves as much to announce the various grant programs as art contests for Nunavimmiut. The page also highlights art news and Nunavik artists' successes.

avataq.qc.ca/fr/node_189/Aumaaggiivik-Secretariat-des-arts-du-Nunavik

[facebook.com/ aumaaggiivik.nunavikartssecretariat/](https://facebook.com/aumaaggiivik.nunavikartssecretariat/)

PARTNERS

We sincerely thank our financial partners who support us and allow us to achieve our mission year after year.

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Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec
Indigenous Services Canada
Kativik Local Development Centre
Kativik Regional Government
Kativik Ilisarliniriniq
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