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MESSAGE FROM ICC CANADA PRESIDENT NANCY KARETAK-LINDELL

Time seems to move very fast, like the changing seasons and the changes our Arctic is experiencing. Inuit are truly one family and our strength comes from our solidarity. As we face the changes in our Arctic environment and communities we have all been touched by challenges and tragedy, yet it is the strength of our culture, our community and our families that see us through - for this we are lucky. I would like to take this opportunity to report on the activities of the Inuit Circumpolar Council (Canada) over the past fiscal year, spanning April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017

ICC International Chair, Okalik Eegeesiak, and I, continue to work on behalf of Inuit internationally to highlight the strengths and challenges of our communities. Inuit are one people living in four countries. This unique relationship provides increased ability for advocacy and research opportunities for Inuit at various levels of government both domestically and internationally.

ICC celebrated our 40th anniversary this year. To mark this major milestone we developed a video to showcase the extraordinary leadership, history and advances we have made during this time. I encourage you to look at it on our website. The 13th ICC General Assembly will be held in Utqiagvik, Alaska July 14-19, 2018. This General Assembly will be guided by the theme "Inuit-The Arctic We Want". We will be working with Alaska, Chukotka and Greenland to develop the agenda and will keep you updated with the developments.

Towards the close of our fiscal year, which falls at the end of March, we were preparing for the Arctic Council Ministerial meeting in Fairbanks, Alaska. It marked a time to review the United States Arctic Council Chairmanship and look to the transition of the chairmanship to Finland. Earlier in the year we celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Arctic Council itself, and ICC as a Permanent Participant. We Inuit have much to be proud of within the Arctic Council, we have been leaders, and we have pushed for greater engagement, recognition of indigenous knowledge and continue to fight for the rights of Inuit on many fronts.

At the urging of ICC, the United States, during their Arctic Council chairmanship, expanded the role of the Council and the Permanent Participants. I hope, this signals a move from policy shaping to policy making and to this end, ICC believes the U.S. has made progress by supporting Arctic peoples. It's an ongoing evolution as each chairmanship moves the target forward as they bring new vision and life to the Council. We will work with Finland to enhance Indigenous issues and we will continually advocate for more meaningful engagement with the Permanent Participants and intend to build on this partnership.

A formal ceremony was held in Ottawa to mark the 20th anniversary of the Arctic Council in September of 2016.

I was pleased to attend and speak at the event, about our own Inuit history in the formation of our national and international organizations - the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada (ITC, now ITK), and the Inuit Circumpolar Conference in 1977.

Things were very tough for us in the 1970s. While Inuit were not fighting wars, we were losing our lands, resources, and our environment, as we could not assert our rights! We lacked a sustainable economy, proper education facilities, sanitation, health care, and basic infrastructure. Outsiders were developing the Arctic without ever speaking with us. That's why the creation of our Inuit organizations changed the channel on that kind of behavior, and why commemorating the anniversary of the Arctic Council was also important for me to highlight. We still have long way to go as these challenges are still very real in our communities and I am committed to continue to advocate for Inuit rights.

In my closing comments at that event I said that I was fortunate when I was a Member of Parliament to be present at the first Arctic Council ministerial, held two years after the Council's founding, in Iqaluit. It was a proud moment to be one of three women at a defining moment for the Arctic Council. Then Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Jane Stewart, Mary Simon, Canadian Ambassador for Circumpolar Affairs, and myself as the Member of Parliament for the new riding of Nunavut.

ICC is not only a central part of the Arctic Council, we also participate through many United Nations mechanisms. This requires great patience and resolve to make certain the 160,000 Inuit voices are heard around the world. Part of the progress we have made includes recognition of our rights in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). Last year we underlined Canada's reversal of position in formally adopting UNDRIP. This year we are working to ensure it is implemented in Canada. It is part of our toolkit, so to speak, in the ongoing struggle for our rights domestically and on the international stage.

During the past year there have been some changes to the ICC (Canada) board of directors. We welcomed the new President of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Ms. Aluki Kotierk, who is taking over from outgoing NTI President Cathy Towtongie. As well the President of the National Inuit Youth Council (NIYC), Maatalii Okalik has ended her term, and we welcome incoming NIYC President Ruth Kaviok as a member of the ICC (Canada) Board of Directors. Youth issues must be a focus of our work.

The Foreign Heads of Missions, Ambassadors and high ranking diplomats from many countries, travelled across the Canadian Arctic in June 2016 for an opportunity to meet and speak with Arctic peoples. The tour visited Inuit communities in our four Arctic regions in Canada from May 29 - June 6, 2016, in addition to communities in the Yukon and northern Manitoba. I was pleased to greet the participants in Rankin Inlet. Bringing Inuit issues and the realities of the Arctic to the world is an important activity as the Arctic is truly on the global consciousness whether we are discussing trade, the environment, resources or human rights.

Another important part of my work is to work with the scientists interested in the Arctic and the changes we are facing. One major program we work with is Northern Contaminants Program and ArcticNet. As ArcticNet which was established in 2003, prepares to sunset, the Canadian High Arctic Research Station (CHARS), managed by Polar Knowledge Canada (POLAR) will take over this research role. CHARs the research facility in Cambridge Bay is now largely operational and is preparing for its official grand opening in the fall of 2017. I am pleased to be on the POLAR Board of Directors, along with fellow Inuk Adamie Delisle-Alaku, Vice-President of Renewable Resources for Makivik Corporation. My role as a Board of Director for POLAR will be to make certain POLAR understands and respects the Inuit research program objectives and priorities, creates an atmosphere of meaningful partnerships in Arctic research and opens up opportunities for training and education in research fields for Inuit youth. In achieving these goals I will be working closely with my fellow board members, ITK, the Inuit regional organizations and you.

At the national level, ITK has signed the Inuit to Crown Partnership Agreement. As ITK Vice-President I am involved in this process, which hopes to address the severe gaps that exist for Inuit domestically, and potentially in the international arena. I work closely with Ministers such as the Indigenous and Northern Affairs, Environment, Fisheries and Oceans, International Trade, on global issues of biodiversity, fisheries, shipping and trade and issues such as climate change.

The Inuit to Crown Partnership Agreement was signed in Iqaluit in February 2017 following the ITK and ICC Canada Board meetings. From the Agreement the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee (ICPC) was created. Seven priority areas have been identified. They are: Inuit-Crown Land Claim Agreements; Inuit Nunangat Policy Space; Health and Wellbeing; Housing; Education, early learning, and training; Inuktitut revitalization, maintenance, and promotion; and Reconciliation Measures. This is a major milestone in reconciliation and building a respectful and equitable relationship with the Canadian Government.

Finally, I would like to thank the ICC Canada staff, our advisors and counsel, and ITK staff who collaborate with us in the advancement of our common cause on the international stage. To the Inuit, my family, across Inuit Nunaat who have expressed their support and engagement on our initiatives in many ways, thank you. Finally, I would like to thank the members of the ICC Canada Board of Directors for their continued leadership, guidance, continuing support and belief in the unity of Inuit through ICC and our work. We also thank our supporters in the global community who believe in the value of the Inuit culture and our rights as Arctic indigenous peoples. I look forward to our continuing partnership and solidarity in the work we are doing to preserve our way of life, and also to alert the world, from our perspective, about the changes taking place in our Circumpolar homeland.

Matna

Nancy Karetak-Lindell

HOSTING THE ICC CHAIR 2014-2018

This is the fifth time Canada has hosted the position of Chair in the 41-year history of ICC. Ms. Okalik Eegeesiak was sworn in as Chair at the 2014 ICC General Assembly held in Inuvik, Northwest Territories.

Providing ongoing support for the international Chair is our highest priority during the Canadian chairmanship from 2014-2018. ICC Canada manages all aspects of the Chair's activities including financial support, coordinating travel, fundraising, scheduling, project management, budgeting, communications support including the drafting of speeches, press releases, and reports as well as managing ICC's web and social media sites.

Beyond the events listed below, the Chair's office was significantly engaged in preparations for the Arctic Council Ministerial Meeting held in May 2017 in Fairbanks, Alaska. As well, we celebrated and commemorated the 40th anniversary of ICC, and created a short YouTube video to mark the event, released early in June 2017.

During 2016-2017, numerous activities and meetings have been undertaken by the Chair, with the support of ICC Canada. These include:

The 15th Session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues took place at the United Nations in New York, in May 2016. ICC Chair Eegeesiak spoke on behalf of the Arctic Caucus consisting of the Saami Council and ICC. In her statement she urged the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples within the six mandate areas of the Permanent Forum. The six areas are: economic and social development, culture, the environment, education, health, and human rights. Eegeesiak stated, "The Indigenous Peoples right to Free Prior and Informed Consent needs to be respected by states and third parties with commercial interests in Indigenous Peoples' territory, land, and resources."

Immediately following the Permanent Forum Meeting, the ICC Chair participated in several sessions at the Arctic Circle international conference held in Nuuk, Greenland from May 17-19, 2016. Okalik Eegeesiak was a speaker at the opening session, and on panels examining the Empowerment of Indigenous Peoples Across the Arctic, and Looking Ahead at Future Development in the Arctic.

In mid-August 2016, the ICC Chair attended the North Pacific Arctic Conference focused on Arctic Futures: Emerging Issues and Policy Responses in Honolulu. This Conference connects Inuit to important North Pacific partners on marine issues of climate, shipping and marine pollution.

An ICC Executive Council Meeting was held in Qaqortoq, Greenland, home of our Thule ancestors, from August 26-27, 2016 -. Discussion items included the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples, World Conference outcome document, Arctic Council, ICC Summits (Economic, Wildlife Management, and Education), Pikialasorsuaq Commission, reports on Uranium mining, White House Arctic Science Ministerial, and support for the Eskimo Walrus Commission in Alaska.

Following the ECM in Qaqortoq, the Chair joined the Pikialasorsuaq Commissioners (Eva Aariak and Kuupik Kleist) and travelled through the Pikialasorsuaq to Qaanaaq in Northern Greenland. The ship then travelled south holding Commission hearing in six Greenland communities associated with the Pikialasorsuaq. The testimony heard echoed that of the Canadian communities the Commission visited in the Spring of 2016. Inuit want to manage and monitor their marine areas and travel freely across the Pikialasorsuaq between communities in Canada and Greenland.

The ICC Chair attended the Northern Development Ministers Forum (NDMF) in Iqaluit, Nunavut in mid-September 2016 in Iqaluit, hosted by the Honourable Monica Eil-Kanayuk, Deputy Premier of Nunavut, and Minister of the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. Topics of discussion included relationship building between Indigenous and non-Indigenous governments and partners. An expert panel addressed ministers on the topic of northern food security. Ministers also received a report regarding benefit agreements between northern communities and resource industries.

In late September 2016, the ICC Chair attended the White House Arctic Science Ministerial meeting in Washington, D.C. It brought together ministers of science, chief science advisors, and other high-level officials from countries around the world, as well as representatives from Indigenous groups, to expand joint collaborations focused on Arctic science, research, observations, monitoring, and data sharing. A side event was also held focused on Arctic Science as a vehicle for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math), as well as an Indigenous leaders meeting. ICC Chair Okalik Egeesiak called on the leaders gathered to ensure research is conducted through equitable partnerships with Inuit, from inception to the communication of results.

Immediately following the Ministerial in Washington, a remarkable day-long event was held at Global Affairs Canada to mark the 20th anniversary of the Ottawa Declaration (September 19, 1996), which created the Arctic Council. On behalf of the Foreign Affairs Minister Stéphane Dion, Parliamentary Secretary Pamela Goldsmith-Jones welcomed officials to the event, attended by Arctic Council founders, and experts in Arctic policy from around the circumpolar nations. Through the Arctic Council, the governments of the Arctic States and the representatives of Arctic indigenous peoples have worked to address the pressing challenges facing the Arctic region.

In October, the ICC Chair was a panelist at the EU - Canada Arctic Conference 2016, held in Ottawa, marking the 40th anniversary of the EU in Canada. The theme of the conference was “Between Modernization and Tradition, Economic Development and Protection of the Environment”. Okalik Eegeesiak spoke on the panel, “Energy and Environment: Innovation and Opportunities”. Former NIYC President Maatalii Okalik also attended and spoke on the panel discussing the challenges of modernization for Arctic youth and culture.

In late October 2016, the 50th Annual Alaska Federation of Natives Convention took place in Fairbanks. The annual AFN convention is the largest representative yearly gathering in the United States of any Native peoples, attracting between 4,000 - 5,000 attendees. The anniversary theme was “50 Years: Reflect, Refresh, Renew”.

The ICC Chair attended the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties 22 (COP22) in Marrakech, Morocco, November 7-18, 2016. It was the first Conference of the Parties since the historic Paris Accord of 2015. ICC participated as a UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) official observer, as part of the Canadian Delegation, and with the Saami Council as part of the Arctic Delegation to the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC). COP22 resulted in the Marrakech Action Proclamation, a one-page document containing global calls to action, such as, “We call for the highest political commitment to combat climate change, as a matter of urgent priority.”

In early March 2017, ICC co-hosted the Rising Sun workshop in Iqaluit, Nunavut with the Government of Nunavut, and Government of Canada, in partnership with the Arctic Council. Rising Sun is a long-term project designed to build upon the Canadian-initiated mental wellness project of 2013-2015. It is compiling a common, science-based set of outcomes and measures to evaluate the key correlates associated with suicide prevention interventions, across Arctic states, including Canada, the Kingdom of Denmark (including Greenland and the Faroe Islands), Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden and the United States. Okalik Eegeesiak provided opening remarks, and spoke on a panel with ICC Vice-President Natan Obed titled, “Way Forward, Opportunity & Challenges”.

Reported in greater length further in this Annual Report, the ICC Chair attended the ICC Circumpolar Inuit Economic Summit in Anchorage, Alaska March 28-30, 2017. Following welcoming remarks from ICC Alaska President Jimmy Stotts, ICC Chair Okalik Eegeesiak made the Keynote address.

PIKIALASORSUAQ COMMISSION

In January 2016 the ICC Chair’s office and ICC Greenland created the Pikialasorsuaq Commission to consult with Canadian and Greenlandic communities most connected to the North Water Polynya (Pikialasorsuaq in Greenlandic).

The commission is led by three Commissioners - ICC Chair Okalik Egeesiak (International Commissioner); former Nunavut Premier Eva Aariak (Canadian Commissioner); and former Greenland Premier Kuupik Kleist (Greenland Commissioner).

The Pikialasorsuaq is an area of open water surrounded by sea ice. It is the largest polyna in the Northern Hemisphere and the most biologically productive ecosystem north of the Arctic Circle. It lies in northern Baffin Bay between Greenland and Canada's Ellesmere Island.

It is an area vulnerable to climate change. Inuit in the region have expressed a desire to have Inuit led management options and monitoring plans for this marine region in advance of increased shipping, tourism, fishing, and potential non-renewable resource exploration and development.

During 2016-2017 the Commission held hearings in Grise Fiord in late April 2016, and in Pond Inlet in early May, with representatives from Resolute Bay, Clyde River and Arctic Bay in attendance.

Additional hearings were held in Greenland in late August 2016, visiting Qaanaaq and Siorapaluk and 4 other communities of the most northern communities in the world and down along the coast of Melville Bay to the other Greenland settlements that depend on the Pikialasorsuaq.

The hunters of all communities generously shared with the Commission their knowledge. Recurring themes included: instability, changes in migration patterns, new species, and open water where there should be ice. Hunters also remember a time when they could travel freely from Umimmat Nunaat (Ellesmere Island) and Greenland.

The Commission has developed a set of key principles and recommendations, and has also called for accessible transit across the Pikialasorsuaq for Inuit. The Commission's report is nearing completion, and we expect to make it public in the fall of 2017.

Support for the Commission is provided by the Oak Foundation, The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, Oceans North Canada, and World Wildlife Fund Canada.

ICC'S 13TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

During the 40th anniversary year of the founding of the Inuit Circumpolar Council, we are going back to the community where ICC was born - in Utqiagvik, Alaska. In 1977, it was called Barrow. It's the most northern point in Alaska.

From July 16-19, 2018 on the shores of the confluence of the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas, 66 delegates from four circumpolar nations will gather for the 13th ICC General Assembly under the theme, "Inuit - The Arctic We Want".

ICC Chair Okalik Eegeesiak noted, “This General Assembly will see Inuit take stock of where we are and discuss the Arctic Inuit want. We will discuss policies and strategies that will guide the work of ICC for the upcoming 2018-2022 term under the upcoming Alaskan Chairmanship.”

ICC Alaska Vice-Chair Jimmy Stotts added, “We are looking forward to gathering in Utqiagvik next year to celebrate our community, solidarity and strength.”

ICC celebrated the 40th anniversary of its founding on June 15, 2017. During this time, ICC has become one of the most respected international Indigenous organizations and a trusted and compelling voice for Inuit in Arctic global issues.

MAXIMIZING ICC PERMANENT PARTICIPANT STATUS AT THE ARCTIC COUNCIL

SENIOR ARCTIC OFFICIALS (SAO) AND WORKING GROUPS

2016-2017 marked the final year of the U.S. Chairmanship, which was transferred to Finland at the 10th Arctic Council Ministerial Meeting held in Fairbanks, Alaska in the spring of 2017.

Through its work in Arctic Council working groups, ICC Canada was involved in projects during the two-year US Chairmanship, such as the *Circumpolar Local Environmental Observer Network (CLEO)*, *Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Network Toolbox: Area-based conservation measures and ecological connectivity*, and a series of health-related projects aimed at improving the health and mental wellness of Indigenous and Arctic communities.

Major reports released on or around the 10th Ministerial meeting in Alaska include “Telecommunications Infrastructure in the Arctic: A circumpolar assessment,” “Snow, Water, Ice and Permafrost in the Arctic” (SWIPA, 2017), the “State of the Arctic Marine Biodiversity” (SAMBR) report, and “Standardization as a tool for prevention of oil spills in the Arctic.”

During this fiscal year ICC Canada strengthened its partnerships with several Arctic Council working groups and task forces, as well as relevant Canadian bodies. This is partly due to a multi-year funding agreement with Global Affairs Canada (April 1, 2015 - March 31, 2018). This has arguably helped us in developing complementary agreements with Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada, and Health Canada.

Thus, we were able to substantially participate in and attend the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, notably COP22 in Marrakech, Morocco, in November 2016. We developed position papers and policy related to the Indigenous Peoples Platform as established through the Paris Agreement.

The eight member states of the Arctic Council are Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, and the USA. The Indigenous peoples in the respective countries have active participation and full consultation as Permanent Participants. They are ICC, the Arctic Athabaskan Council, Gwich'in Council International, Aleut International Association, Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North, and the Saami Council.

Since its establishment, the Arctic Council has produced many landmark studies on topics important in this unique region, including climate change, environmental pollutants, shipping, tourism, safety and search and rescue, biodiversity of flora and fauna, oil production response, human health, Indigenous languages, and much more.

Further, Ministerial Declarations signed in Nuuk (2011), Kiruna (2013), Iqaluit (2015), and Fairbanks (2017) recognize the common goals of the eight member states to maintain peace, stability, and constructive cooperation in the Arctic.

ICC Canada has continued its support of the Arctic Council through the Senior Arctic Officials, and participation in a large number of working groups, expert groups, and related forums. Some of the relevant meetings undertaken during this period are as follows:

- Senior Arctic Officials - Portland, Maine, USA; October 4-6, 2016.
- Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG) - Orono, Maine, USA; October 1-2, 2016; Kotzebue, Alaska, USA; February 7-8, 2017.
- Senior Arctic Officials - Portland, Maine, USA; October 4-6, 2016.
- Rising Sun Workshop - SDWG specific project. Canada organized an 80-person breakout session leading to a discussion paper - Iqaluit, Nunavut, Canada; March 1-2, 2017.
- SDWG Workshop *The Arctic as a Food Producing Region* - Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada; January 29-30, 2017.
- Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME) working group, and Task Force on Arctic Marine Cooperation - Copenhagen, Denmark; January 29-31, 2017.
- Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON) Executive meetings - teleconferences; October 18, 2016, February 24, 2017; and Board Meeting - April 7, 2017; Prague, Czech Republic.
- Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program (AMAP) Heads of Delegation meeting - January 30-31, 2017; Helsinki, Finland.
- Arctic Council Advisory Committee (ACAC) - February 2017;
- ICC Canada was part of the Canadian delegation in the Central Arctic Ocean Fisheries negotiations - March 15-17, 2017; Reykjavik, Iceland.
- Inuit to Crown Partnership Committee (ICPC) meeting. Resulting in the Inuit to Crown Partnership Declaration being signed - February 9, 2017; Iqaluit, Nunavut, Canada.
- Circumpolar Inuit Economic Summit, *Setting the Agenda for our Future* - March 28-30, 2017; Anchorage, Alaska, USA.

During this fiscal year, ICC Canada was active in the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program (AMAP), Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG), and the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME). ICC Canada also provided strong support to sister ICC offices in Alaska and Greenland in the working group Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF).

ICC Canada also played an active role in the various sub-groups and panels of experts of each of these working groups, as well as preparing for and attending Task Forces of the Arctic Council, such as the Task Force on Arctic Marine Cooperation.

In the course of its activities, ICC Canada promotes the Arctic Council at every opportunity. ICC's Permanent Participant status is continually used at each Arctic Council table, SAO Executive meetings, task forces, working groups, and expert groups. In particular, the Arctic Council was promoted at forums such as the Convention on Biological Diversity held in Mexico in December 2016; the Arctic Five Fisheries Meeting held in Reykjavik, Iceland in March 2017; the ongoing work of the Pikialasorsuaq Commission; meetings of the ICC Executive Council; and ArcticNet.

During the year, ICC Canada has consulted with Inuit to determine how policy needs can be enhanced in the Arctic Council. Usually, these meetings are held in conjunction with ICC Canada Board meetings. During the Rising Sun workshop, held in Iqaluit in March, 2017 ICC Canada held a specific session related to how the Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG) work related to mental health and suicide prevention can best support Canadian Inuit.

Finally, ICC Canada has developed, in consultation with and directed by Canadian Inuit, an annual policy priority plan in the form of a 2016-17 Operational Plan. The main sections of the plan are devoted to the policy priorities of Canadian Inuit for the Arctic Council.

MAXIMIZING ICC'S INTERNATIONAL NGO STATUS TO ADVANCE INUIT INTERESTS

On the Canadian domestic front, we experienced stability over the past fiscal year, with messaging from the Canadian Prime Minister consistently supporting what he described as his most important relationship - that of his government's relationship with Indigenous Peoples. For ICC Canada, that is of major importance in terms of supporting the ongoing international representational work we do.

It is of greater significance on the international stage when world leaders take positions the vast majority of nations consider regressive. Witness the decision by the President of the United States to withdraw from the Paris Accord in mid 2017.

Inuit were heartened to read the official Canadian response, “Canada is unwavering in our commitment to fight climate change and support clean economic growth. Canadians know we need to take decisive and collective action to tackle the many harsh realities of our changing climate.”

This section testifies to our resolve to continue our advocacy work on behalf of Inuit at the international level, with progressive partners who share our values, for the benefit of the global community.

UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC) - COP22

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties 22 (COP22) took place in Marrakech, Morocco, November 7-18, 2016.

The objective of the UNFCCC is to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous interference with the climate system. The modern narrative is to “limit average global temperature increases” on the one hand, and to cope with the increasing environmental impacts, on the other.

At COP22 ICC participated as a UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) official observer, as part of the Canadian Delegation, and with the Saami Council as part of the Arctic Delegation to the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC).

COP22 resulted in the Marrakech Action Proclamation, a one-page document containing several global calls to action. Five have been identified as being of particular interest to Inuit, notably the following: “We, unanimously, call for further climate action and support, well in advance of 2020, taking into account the specific needs and special circumstances of developing countries, the least developed countries and those particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change.”

Another important outcome was regarding the local communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform. At COP22, Parties decided to adopt an incremental and participatory approach to developing this platform.

In addition, as part of the Arctic Delegation to the IIPFCC, the ICC and Saami Council put forward a suggestion for the platform’s structure and function. The purpose of the Indigenous platform is to provide the UNFCCC with high-level advice on relevant issues through analysis and appropriate policy recommendations. The paper submitted by ICC and the Saami Council contained six proposals to improve the UNFCCC structure for enhanced Indigenous inclusion. Two suggestions were provided in the conclusion of the paper advocating for the modernization of the UNFCCC in the era of an established UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

COP22 was the first Conference of the Parties since the historic Paris Accord of 2015, which was referenced early in the Marrakech Action Proclamation: “We welcome the Paris Agreement, adopted under the Convention, its rapid entry into force, with its ambitious goals, its inclusive nature and its reflection of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances, and we affirm our commitment to its full implementation.”

The Paris Agreement aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by limiting the increase in global average temperature to below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit temperature increases to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

There are several portions of the Paris Agreement that are particularly relevant to Inuit and the Arctic. The Preamble, for example, highlights the rights of Indigenous peoples, and Parties who signed the Agreement are directed to “respect, promote and consider their respective obligations” on these rights when taking action on climate change.

CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (CBD)

The Convention on Biological Diversity had its formal start at the 1992 Earth Summit with the opening of signatures, a tremendous amount of work was done stemming back to the late 1980s on the CBD.

The CBD was inspired by the world community’s growing commitment to sustainable development. It represents a dramatic step forward in the conservation of biological diversity. The work of the CBD feeds into the Conferences of the Parties (COP) process, detailed above.

Article 25 of the CBD establishes an intergovernmental scientific advisory body known as the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA). The first meeting took place in Paris in 1995. The 20th meeting was held in Montreal in April, 2016, and reported on in the 2015-2016 ICC (Canada) Annual Report. In the current fiscal year the SBSTTA did not meet. The next meeting scheduled is December 11-14, 2017 in Montreal. ICC will attend.

UNITED NATIONS PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES (UNPFII)

The UNPFII is the UN’s central coordinating body for matters relating to the concerns and rights of the world’s Indigenous Peoples. There are more than 370 million Indigenous People in 70 countries worldwide. Within the UN system, it is an advisory body that reports to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

The 15th Session of the UNPFII took place in May 9-20, 2016 in New York with a special theme, “Indigenous Peoples: Conflict, Peace, and Resolution”. ICC Chair Okalik Eegeesiak, and Hjalmar Dahl, President of ICC Greenland attended.

Inuit added our voices to the Indigenous Peoples from all corners of the globe, calling for appropriate resources to participate in achieving the 2030 sustainable development goals.

ICC applauded the advances made by various Arctic states to recognize the rights of Indigenous Peoples and also urged countries to go further, faster and commit actively to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) in their countries.

We also encouraged the UNPFII to support the establishment of a global fund for financing the participation of Indigenous Peoples to international meetings dealing with Indigenous issues, and that this fund is established and managed by the Indigenous Peoples themselves.

UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (UNDRIP)

The UNDRIP was officially adopted by the UN in September 2007 with 144 states in favour, four against, and 11 abstentions. Canada was one of the four countries who voted against it. Significantly, in May 2016 Canada officially removed its objector status during a meeting in New York.

ICC Canada works with the government of Canada, in particular Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) in order to make the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples relevant to the Canadian Inuit context.

EXPERT MECHANISM ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Within the United Nations system, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP) replaces the former Working Group on Indigenous Populations. It is part of the UN Human Rights Council, the main human rights body of the UN. The Expert Mechanism provides expertise on the rights of Indigenous Peoples to the Human Rights Council.

During this reporting period the Ninth session of the EMRIP took place in Geneva, Switzerland July 11-15, 2016.

Of particular interest related to the EMRIP 2016 session was the paper submitted on “The right to health and Indigenous Peoples, with a focus on Children and Youth”, referencing Canadian and New Zealand experiences in several instances. The paper points out that, “In addition to difficulties experienced by Indigenous peoples in accessing appropriate and good quality health services, Indigenous children and youth face three key issues compounding their social and economic disadvantage: these relate to education, family and community integrity, and mental health.

The conclusion of the paper contains Advice for States, Indigenous Peoples, International Organizations, and General Advice. Under the latter category is the following citation: “Indigenous concepts of health are broad and holistic, incorporating spiritual, environmental, cultural and social dimensions in addition to physical health. Forced cultural assimilation; land dispossessions and use for extractive industry; political and economic marginalization; poverty; and, other legacies of colonialism have led to a lack of control over individual and collective health, and undermined realization of indigenous peoples’ health rights.

ADVANCING AND PROMOTING INUIT KNOWLEDGE IN ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH THROUGH RESEARCH

ICC Canada’s activities related to promoting health and wellness during the past fiscal year have been strategic, and built on initiatives stemming back to the 2006 Utqiagvik Declaration in Barrow, Alaska. As other sections of this Annual Report indicate, ICC Canada has actively participated in international forums to advance the perspectives of the Inuit of Canada, in terms of promoting health and wellness, and has networked with stakeholders nationally and internationally in the past year.

Concurrently, ICC Canada maintained and advanced its participation in forums related to environmental issues during the past fiscal year. These ranged from the many working groups in the Arctic Council, to ArcticNet, to the Northern Contaminants Program.

In this section we chronicle areas in which we have been active during this reporting period to address these issues in more detail.

CIRCUMPOLAR HEALTH

During the past fiscal year, ICC Canada contributed to improvements in Inuit health by developing the Circumpolar Inuit Health Strategy for 2017-2018. This honours the directives from the 2006 Utqiagvik Declaration related to health and wellness. As a result the Circumpolar Inuit Health Steering Committee (CIHSC) was established in 2008 to direct ICC’s health advocacy work. The Circumpolar Inuit Health Summit was subsequently held in Yellowknife in 2009, and the Circumpolar Inuit Health Strategy 2010-2014 was developed.

This was further enhanced at the 2014 ICC General Assembly in Inuvik with the Kitigaaryuit Declaration. It included a directive for ICC to advocate for a continuum of culturally relevant mental wellness and substance abuse programs and supports across Inuit Nunaat, identified as a matter of ongoing priority.

Thus, when the Circumpolar Inuit Health Steering Committee met in Iqaluit in March 2017, it was able to build on a significant existing body of work, specific to Inuit, and

further develop seven objectives, activities, and actions. The majority support improved communications and raising the profile of the committee in international forums. The seventh objective is to prepare and implement a strategic plan related to health and wellness. The ultimate goal is to develop a long term Circumpolar Inuit Health Strategy.

ICC Canada has also been actively participating in the Rising Sun initiative under the Arctic Council to address mental health and suicide in the Arctic. This year a discussion paper was developed in support of circumpolar suicide prevention efforts. A breakout session was also held at the Rising Sun workshop in March 2017 in Iqaluit to engage stakeholders in priority setting for the next two years on this issue. ICC Canada also provided input to help shape the “We Belong International Forum” on Indigenous suicide and life promotion.

ICC co-led in the Arctic as a Food Producing Region project within the Arctic Council in support of food security initiatives, as well as continued involvement in ITK’s Inuit Food Security Working Group. Meanwhile, the health implications of climate change for Inuit were advanced at the Conference of the Parties (COP) 22 UN Climate Change Conference in Marrakech, Morocco, in November 2016.

Vital in moving these issues forward have been ongoing connections with our established networks. These include Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK), Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), and ArcticNet. We have also been advancing Inuit perspectives this year with the US based National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Arctic Council and Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG), and at various regional, national, and international conferences.

ENVIRONMENT (NCP, IUCN, CITES)

A very important issue for Inuit is contaminants, which undergo long-range transport, bioaccumulation in the Arctic ecosystem and lead to high concentrations in some Inuit populations, with potential health impacts.

With funding from the Northern Contaminants Program (NCP), ICC Canada is working to address the issue of contaminants in the Arctic at the national and international levels. 2016-2017 marks the 25th anniversary of the NCP.

National activities include support to the NCP on the Management Committee, blueprint, and proposal reviews, as well as input into the Canadian Arctic Contaminants Assessment IV (Human Health) report.

ICC Canada also finalized a chapter, which it has been leading, on chemical management and contaminant communication for the Canadian Arctic Contaminants Assessment Report IV (CACAR) on human health. The final draft was submitted to the NCP in May 2016.

Internationally, ICC Canada continued its activities related to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Work on the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) is ongoing. ICC Canada attended the 12th POP Review Committee (POPRC) September 19-23, 2016, in Rome, Italy.

In support of Arctic Council activities, ICC Canada attended several meetings of the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP). ICC Canada was also very active on the Sustaining the Arctic Observing Networks (SAON) Board, the SAON Executive Committee, and continues leading the SAON task force on community-based monitoring.

Finally, a publication on mercury isotopes in ice cores and snow samples to identify mercury pathways and sources to the Arctic was published in August 2016 in the journal *Global Biogeochemical Cycles*.

ICC Canada's coordinating efforts contributed to an historic decision at the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Conservation Congress September 1-10, 2016 in Hawaii. The IUCN Congress is held every four years. ICC Canada, along with ITK, helped coordinate online voting for Inuit from ICC offices. On Friday September 9, 2016 the Members' Assembly voted to create a new category for "Indigenous Peoples Organizations" (IPO) within the IUCN. It's the first time in the IUCN's 69-year history that a new membership category has been established. It marks a turning point for the inclusion and full participation of Indigenous peoples in all aspects of the IUCN's work.

Created in 1948, IUCN is the world's largest and most diverse environmental network with membership that includes governments, NGOs, scientists, businesses, local communities, Indigenous peoples organizations and others to forge and implement solutions to environmental challenges and achieve sustainable development.

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is a global agreement between governments that aims to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.

CITES Conferences of the Parties (CoPs) take place every two to three years. CoP 17 was held September 24-October 5, 2016 in Johannesburg, South Africa. ICC Canada had worked in coordination with ITK to monitor animal rights efforts to have the polar bear up listed to Appendix 1, proposed by the USA, which would severely limit trade in the species. Inuit efforts were successful in thwarting up listing attempts at the previous two CoPs in Bangkok (2013) and Doha (2009). In May 2016, the US announced it would not push for an up listing of the polar bear at CoP17 in South Africa.

Other developments relevant to Inuit were addressed at CoP17, including the proposal to establish the Rural Communities Committee, and a resolution on Food security and livelihoods. The objective of the Rural Communities Committee is to provide an advisory role to mandated organizations on issues pertaining to wildlife conservation. In the Inuit world this could be Hunting Fishing and Trapping Associations linked to land claims agreements

RESEARCH

ARCTICNET

ArcticNet is a network of “Centres of Excellence” that brings together scientists and managers in the natural, human health and social sciences with partners from Inuit organizations. Because of its international dimension, ICC has naturally been very much involved. ICC Canada President Nancy Karetak-Lindell is a member of the ArcticNet Board of Directors.

ICC’s collaborative and independent activities as partners in the program have been focused toward ensuring optimal outcomes for Inuit. ICC participates at the Board of Directors, Research Management Committee (RMC), Inuit Advisory Committee (IAC), and the Integrated Regional Impact Study (IRIS) meetings. ICC also supports the development of the Inuit Research Advisors (IRA’s) as required.

In 2016-2017, the Inuit Advisory Committee focused its efforts to ensure that the important lessons learned from the Inuit partnership in the ArcticNet program were reflected in the outcomes and products of the network as well as applied to any subsequent Arctic research networks following the sunset of ArcticNet.

ICC Canada’s position as a Permanent Participant to the Arctic Council has been an opportunity to promote and communicate Inuit partnership in Arctic research as a best practice. The Arctic Council’s Working Groups such as AMAP, CAFF, SDWG, AMSA, and AACA have many overlapping interests in ArcticNet research.

POLAR KNOWLEDGE CANADA (POLAR)

POLAR is a federal government agency working with the Indigenous community, northerners, the Canadian polar science community, and international researchers to advance knowledge of the Canadian Arctic. Established in 2015, POLAR delivers a pan-northern science and technology program, promotes the development and dissemination of knowledge of the circumpolar regions, including the Antarctic, and is operating the Canadian High Arctic Research Station (CHARS) campus in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut.

ICC Canada President Nancy Karetak-Lindell is a member of the nine-person POLAR Board of Directors, as is Makivik Vice-President of Renewable Resources Adamie

Delisle Alaku. ICC will work with Makivik to ensure the voice of Inuit is represented on the POLAR Board and in the daily activities of POLAR.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Inuit from Greenland, Canada, Alaska, and Russia held a remarkable and successful Circumpolar Inuit Business Development Summit in Anchorage, Alaska from March 28-30, 2017.

At the last ICC General Assembly in 2014, held in Inuvik, the Kitigaaryuit Declaration called for the holding of an Inuit Economic Summit bringing together Inuit from all four countries. The purpose of the event was to facilitate sharing of business and economic development experiences and to explore potential collaboration between Inuit businesses.

The 2017 Summit in Anchorage built on past events, and key ICC documents. These include the 1993 Inuit Business Development Conference, also held in Anchorage; and the 2011 Circumpolar Inuit Leader's Summit on Resource Development in Ottawa, which produced the *Circumpolar Inuit Declaration on Resource Development Principles in Inuit Nunaat*. The *Circumpolar Inuit Declaration on Sovereignty in the Arctic* also influenced the 2017 summit.

Times have changed. In 1993 the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples did not exist. It was referenced in the final Outcome document stemming from the Anchorage summit, noting the right of Indigenous peoples to determine priorities for development.

Also noted were the crisis level socioeconomic conditions for Inuit in the four regions. These are primarily due to the unequal distribution of wealth and related issues such as housing shortages, overcrowding, lack of proper water and sewage, health care, information technology, and other basic infrastructure.

Living in the Arctic comes with a different set of economic factors for everyone - Inuit, non-Inuit, municipal, regional, and national governments. The Arctic region, because of its remoteness and extreme climate, comes with a cost of living that is exponentially higher than southern "urban" centers. Thus the cost of building and operating businesses in the Arctic comes with this economic fact of life as well.

Add to this numerous international laws and policies between circumpolar nations and the ability to create business links between countries such as Canada, Greenland, Alaska, and Chukotka become even more challenging. The natural economic trade links are usually North-South in the respective regions, and limited to domestic trade routes.

That being said, within respective countries, there was an acknowledgement that Inuit business have grown tremendously over the decades. The Outcome Document notes

that Inuit businesses “have arrived at a threshold to advance our aspirations both at home and more significantly across international borders.”

So, with this as a backdrop, the three dozen organizations participating in the summit had a lot to discuss. Conference Chair Jimmy Stotts said in his welcoming note to summit participants, “There are opportunities for our businesses, especially when development is on Inuit owned or controlled lands and waters. Our businesses have been actively developing our economies with positive results for some years. It seems to be the right time to take the next step - the step across our borders.”

Participants heard from experts in the fields of hydrocarbon, air and marine transportation, mining, telecommunications and investment about the current status and future potential for development in the Arctic. Delegates from each country shared information about the many existing businesses in their respective regions and identified areas of potential international cooperation.

One of the stated goals of the summit was the creation of an “International Inuit Business Organization”. It was agreed to establish an Implementation Task Force (ITF) comprised of two members from each country to take steps towards the creation of an International Inuit Business Council (IIBC) to cultivate business collaboration across the circumpolar Arctic.

The IIBC will be independent of ICC, financially self-sustaining and economically independent. It will, through its bylaws, report to ICC on an annual basis and to ICC General Assemblies in order to safeguard adherence to the values and principles affirmed in the Kitigaaryuit Declaration of 2014 and other ICC instruments.

ICC Chair Okalik Eegeesiak commented, “This is the time to reimagine the economies of the Arctic from the Inuit perspective for Inuit by Inuit. We want to be innovative and inclusive in our approach to sustainable business development in Inuit Nunaat.”

ENGAGING YOUTH IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

One of ICC Canada’s objectives is to increase youth participation and engagement in the international arena. This is work that bridges traditional Inuit experiences at the local and regional levels, and brings it to a new dimension on the international stage, providing rich comparative experiences.

To this end, ICC Canada has worked with the National Inuit Youth Council (NIYC) on a regular basis to expose Inuit youth to international opportunities. We have also developed research opportunities within ICC geared to youth, and hosted Inuit interns while they pursue university degrees, such as law.

As ICC possesses UN status, through the course of our work we attend meetings at the UN in New York, as well as Arctic Council meetings in circumpolar locations. These provide opportunities for Inuit youth to get engaged in high level international experiences directly related with Inuit issues that relate to the regional and local levels.

In 2016-2017, ICC Canada supported youth to attend the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, to participate in the EALLU Reindeer project in Norway, and sought a youth through NIYC to take part in a leadership project in northern Europe.

The EALLU project has a longer title, known as the “Arctic Indigenous Youth: Traditional Knowledge and Food Culture - Navigation Towards Sustainability through New Approaches for Addressing Arctic Climate Change and Globalisation”. It builds on previous projects and continues to have a strong focus on Reindeer herding, but also on food, and the link to climate change. Canada is a lead country in the project, along with Denmark/Greenland, Norway, Russia, USA, and the Saami Council. It is an Arctic Council initiative.

A few of the sub-goals of the EALLU project are to, firstly, build awareness of Arctic climate change in northern Indigenous youth societies, through enhanced resilience. Secondly, to increase focus and understanding of Arctic Indigenous food cultures and value added, by disseminating and giving a voice to the Traditional Knowledge and food cultures of Arctic Indigenous peoples.”

FINANCIAL REPORT

INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR COUNCIL (CANADA) INC.

Summary Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2017, with comparative information for 2016

	2017	2016
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 430,528	\$ 284,359
Accounts receivable	257,906	231,298
Prepaid expenses	9,051	13,475
	<u>697,485</u>	<u>529,132</u>
Tangible capital and intangible assets	–	2,689
	<u>\$ 697,485</u>	<u>\$ 531,821</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 318,915	\$ 338,571
Deferred revenue	348,489	161,880
Current portion of capital lease obligation	1,298	5,119
	<u>668,702</u>	<u>505,570</u>
Capital lease obligation	–	1,298
Net assets:		
Invested in tangible capital and intangible assets	(1,298)	(3,728)
Unrestricted	30,081	28,681
	<u>28,783</u>	<u>24,953</u>
	<u>\$ 697,485</u>	<u>\$ 531,821</u>

See accompanying notes to summary financial statements.

INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR COUNCIL (CANADA) INC.

Summary Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

Year ended March 31, 2017, with comparative information for 2016

	2017	2016
Contribution revenue:		
Indigenous & Northern Affairs Canada	\$ 366,765	\$ 256,487
Global Affairs Canada	182,385	170,000
Oak Foundation	157,923	–
Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (re: Health Canada)	152,660	154,523
I.C.C. Foundation (re: Air Inuit-Makivik)	150,000	150,000
Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.	150,000	150,000
Ducks Unlimited	132,299	45,120
Laval University	125,913	123,521
Inuvialuit Regional Corporation	100,000	106,250
Administration income from projects	97,258	104,803
Government of Nunavut	90,000	95,877
Nunatsiavut Government	75,000	75,000
Environment Canada	49,288	51,477
World Wildlife Fund Canada	45,994	51,750
Miscellaneous - travel and other	40,574	36,464
Moore Foundation	37,744	–
Qikiqtani Inuit Association	27,561	–
ICC Greenland	21,319	–
Fisheries & Oceans Canada	7,356	–
University of Ottawa	6,820	–
Health Canada	4,000	24,981
Polar Knowledge Canada	–	100,000
UNDP / Saami Council	–	97,390
Recognition of deferred revenue	–	27,000
Walter & Duncan Gordon Foundation	–	12,000
	2,020,859	1,832,643
Expenses:		
Salaries and benefits	869,818	1,022,916
Travel	460,772	247,102
Professional fees	359,103	265,972
Administration fees on projects	127,258	104,803
Rent, equipment and facilities	83,659	85,032
Communications	72,304	52,587
Operating costs	41,289	39,995
Amortization of tangible capital and intangible assets	2,689	6,140
Contribution to ICC Chukotka	137	1,789
	2,017,029	1,826,336
Excess of revenue over expenses	3,830	6,307
Net assets, beginning of year	24,953	18,646
Net assets, end of year	\$ 28,783	\$ 24,953

See accompanying notes to summary financial statements.

INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR COUNCIL (CANADA) INC.

Notes to Summary Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2017

Inuit Circumpolar Council (Canada) Inc. (the "Corporation") is a not-for-profit corporation constituted with Letters Patent under the provisions of Part 2 of the Canada Corporations Act on November 5, 1984, which started its operations on April 1, 1985. Effective November 1, 2013, the Corporation continued its articles of incorporation from the Canada Corporations Act to the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act.

Summary financial statements:

The summary financial statements are derived from the complete audited financial statements, prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations in Part III of the CPA Canada Handbook - Accounting as at and for the year ended March 31, 2017.

The preparation of these summary financial statements requires management to determine the information that needs to be reflected in the summary financial statements so that they are consistent, in all material respects, with or represent a fair summary of the audited financial statements.

These summarized financial statements have been prepared by management using the following criteria:

- (a) whether information in the summarized financial statements is in agreement with the related information in the complete audited financial statements; and
- (b) whether, in all material respects, the summarized financial statements contain the information necessary to avoid distorting or obscuring matters disclosed in the related complete audited financial statements, including the notes thereto.

Management determined that the statement of changes in net assets and the statement of cash flows do not provide additional useful information and as such has not included them as part of the summary financial statements.

The complete audited financial statements of Inuit Circumpolar Council (Canada) Inc. are available upon request by contacting the Corporation.

ICC ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR COUNCIL

Since 1977, the Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) has flourished and grown into a major international nongovernment organization representing approximately 155,000 Inuit of Alaska, Canada, Greenland and Chukotka (Russia). The organization holds Consultative Status II at the United Nations.

To thrive in our circumpolar homeland, Inuit have the vision to speak with a united voice on issues of common concern and to combine our energies and talents towards protecting and promoting the Inuit way of life. The principle goals of ICC are, therefore, to:

- Strengthen unity among Inuit of the circumpolar region;
- Promote Inuit rights and interests on an international level;
- Develop and encourage long-term policies that safeguard the Arctic environment;
- Seek full and active partnerships in political, economic and social development in the circumpolar region.

ICC holds a General Assembly every four years at which time delegates from across the circumpolar region elect a new Chair and Executive Council, develop policies, and adopt resolutions that will guide the activities of the organization for the coming term.

The General Assembly is the heart of the organization providing an opportunity for sharing information, discussing common concerns, debating issues and strengthening the common bond between all Inuit. Representatives from the Inuit Circumpolar Youth Council (ICYC) and the International Elders Council participate, thereby improving communication and creating synergy with these important affiliated organizations.

The ICC international office is housed with the Chair. Each member country maintains a national office under the political guidance of a President.

INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR COUNCIL (CANADA)

The ICC in Canada is a non-profit organization led by a Board of Directors comprising the elected leaders of the four land claim settlement regions: Nunakput, Nunavut, Nunavik and Nunatsiavut (Labrador). The land claims settlement regions provide some core funding; however, raising additional resources to adequately pursue the objectives of ICC Canada and to effectively implement its initiatives remain a necessary and ongoing responsibility of the executive and staff. ICC Canada greatly appreciates the generous donor support received for without which the accomplishments of the past year would not have been possible.

ICC CANADA AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The activities of ICC Canada are directed towards the following general aims and objectives:

- To preserve and promote the unity of Inuit as a single people within the circumpolar Arctic and to assist Canadian Inuit in speaking collectively with Inuit in Russia, Alaska and Greenland on international matters;
- To represent Canadian Inuit views on the Executive Council of the Inuit Circumpolar Council and to implement, in Canada, the resolutions emanating from the General Assemblies of the Inuit Circumpolar Council;
- To represent the interests of Canadian Inuit through our national organization, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and through our settlement claims organizations on matters of an international nature;
- To cooperate with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami in presenting the position of Canadian Inuit on international matters;
- To coordinate and facilitate cooperation among the Inuit settlement claim organizations on international matters;
- To serve as a facilitator, in coordination with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, for promoting cooperation between Canadian Inuit and Inuit from Russia, Alaska and Greenland;
- To take measures to further enable Canadian Inuit to fully exercise our international rights and interests as indigenous peoples within Canada and globally;
- To act as the international vehicle through which all Canadian Inuit can voice concerns to world bodies, international conventions, intergovernmental forums, international non-governmental organizations and global indigenous movements; and to take measures at the international level to protect the Arctic environment and its renewable resources so that present and future generations of Canadian Inuit can fully benefit from the land and marine environment and its flora and fauna;
- To take measures at the international level to protect and promote Inuit rights related to health, culture, language, values, human rights and any other matters that impact on the ability of Inuit to shape the future of our society within the circumpolar Arctic and the world at large;
- To take measures at the international level to foster trade and economic development for Canadian Inuit and to assist in the development of successful business endeavours abroad;
- To bring to the attention of Canadian Inuit the ongoing issues and concerns of Inuit in Russia, Alaska and Greenland and to solicit Canadian Inuit assistance when required;
- To maintain an ongoing dialogue with ministries of the Canadian government on issues of importance to Inuit in Russia, Alaska and Greenland and to promote rights and interests within Canada.

ICC CANADA LEGAL STATUS AND BOARD MEMBERSHIP

The Canadian branch of ICC was incorporated as a non-profit organization under the Canada Corporations Act in 1984. The Board of Directors is comprised of the ICC Canada President, a Vice-President responsible for International Affairs/Council Member, a Vice-President for National Affairs, and the elected heads of the four land claims settlement regions in Canada. The National Inuit Youth Council and Pauktuutit each hold ex-officio seats on the Board. On January 7, 2007, Inuit Circumpolar Conference (Canada) underwent a legal name change and is now registered as *Inuit Circumpolar Council (Canada)*

ICC CANADA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nancy Karetak-Lindell President Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada	Aluki Kotierk President Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.	Duane Smith Chair & Chief Executive Officer Inuvialuit Regional Corporation
Herb Nakimayak Vice-President, International Affairs Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada	Jobie Tukkiapik President Makivik Corporation	Rebecca Kudloo President Pauktuutit
Natan Obed Vice-President, National Affairs Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada President, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami	Johannes Lampe President Nunatsiavut Government	Maatalii Okalik President National Inuit Youth Council

ICC EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Chair

Okalik Eegeesiak (Canada)

Canada	Greenland	Alaska	Russia
Vice-Chair Nancy Karetak-Lindell	Vice-Chair Hjalmar Dahl	Vice-Chair James Stotts	Vice-Chair Tatiana Achirgina
Executive Council Member Herb Nakimayak	Executive Council Member Nuka Kleemann	Executive Council Member Vera Metcalf	Executive Council Member Elena Kaminskaya

ICC CANADA STAFF

Corinne Gray
Executive Director

Jocelyne Durocher
Financial Manager

Carole Simon
Executive Assistant

Pitseolalaq Moss-Davies
Research Coordinator

Selma Ford
Health Coordinator

Thomas Sheldon
Senior Advisor, Environment and
Health

Natasha Latreille
Office and Project
Assistant

Stephanie Meakin
Science Advisor

DONOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Makivik Corporation

Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.

Nunatsiavut Government

Inuvialuit Regional Corporation

Qikiqtani Inuit Association

Government of Nunavut

Environment and Climate Change Canada

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Indigenous & Northern Affairs Canada

Global Affairs Canada

Health Canada

Laval University

Oak Foundation

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

World Wildlife Fund Canada

Ducks Unlimited