

The Legacy of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami: Building a National Inuit Archive

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Access + Care: Indigenous Knowledges and Archival Practice Symposium October 23, 2019



I acknowledge that I am a visitor and speaking here in Tkaronto and on the ancestral and unceded Territory under the care of the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Huron-Wendat, and the Métis.

INUIT

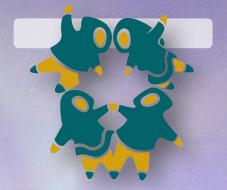
Our Story, Our History and Our Place in Canada



First Nation

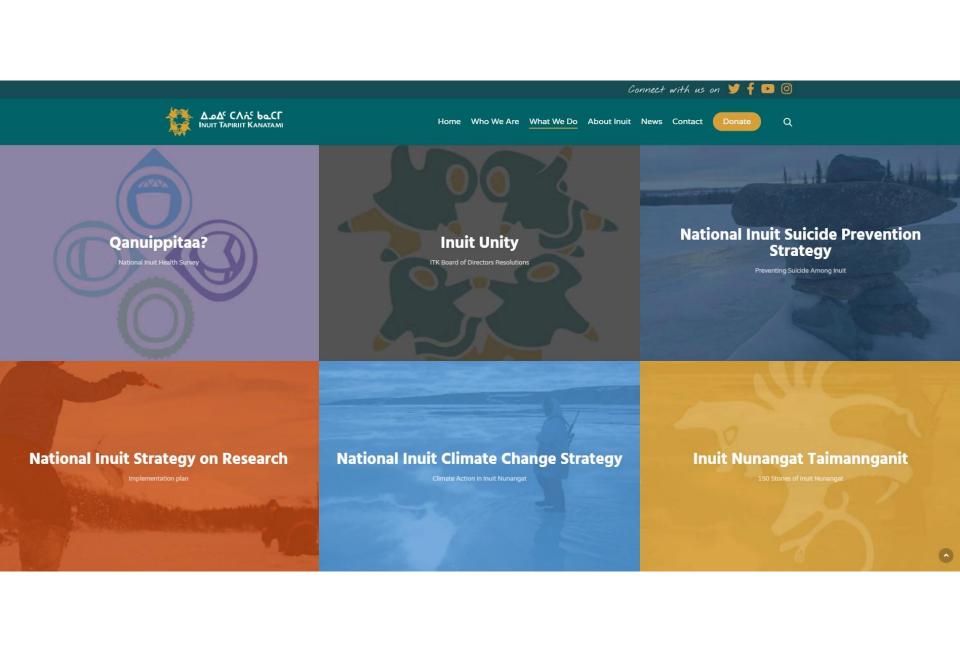


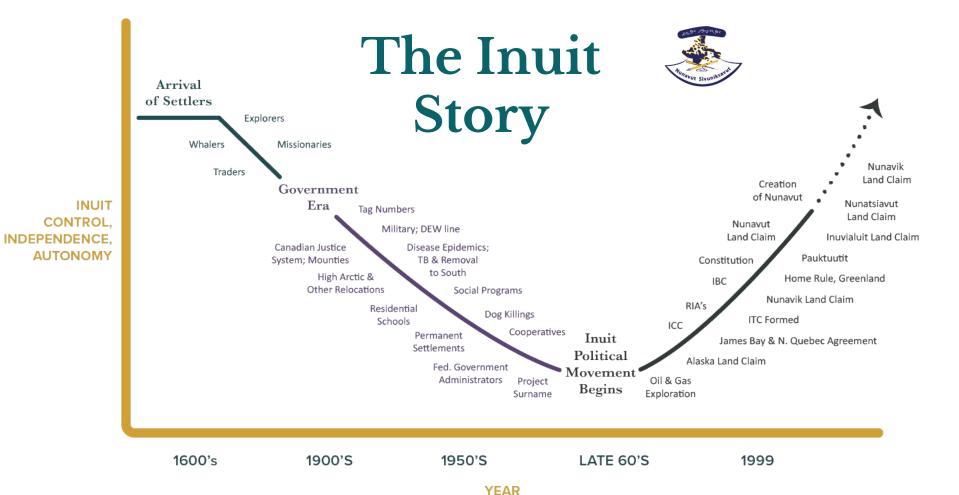
Inuit

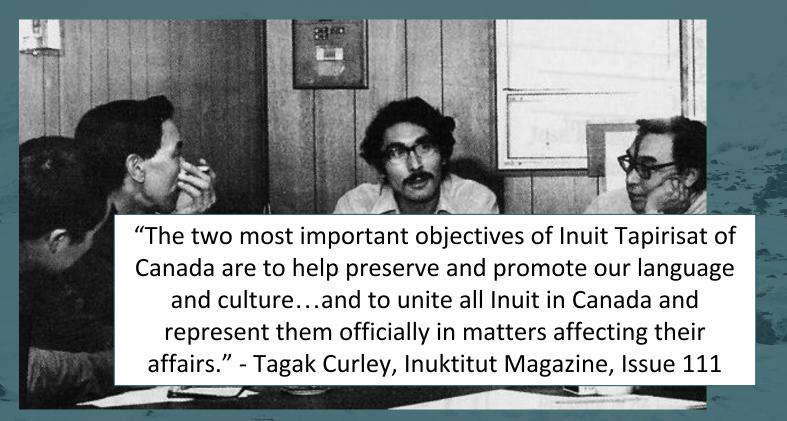


Méti









Inuit Tapirisat of Canada founded, 1971, ITK Photo Archives



Inuit Nunangat Regions Region Nunatsiavut Nunavut Northwest Territories Nunavik Quebec



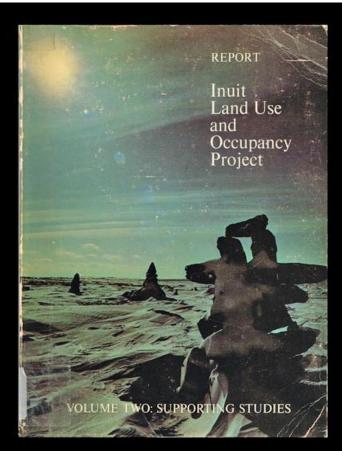
The Library and Archives







I have known food supplies exhausted, I have been in the midst of it when there was joy, And all of these take some strength to go through.











Advance Inuit governance in research



Enhance the ethical conduct of research



Align funding with Inuit research priorities



Ensure Inuit access, ownership, and control over data and information



Build capacity in Inuit Nunangat research



Priority Area 4: Ensure Inuit Access, Ownership and Control Over Data and Information

Objectives

- Advance Inuit self-determination in collecting, verifying, analyzing, and disseminating Inuit-specific data and information
- Invest in Inuit-led data and information technology and infrastructure
- Ensure ownership of Inuit data by Inuit-appointed entities
- Utilization of Inuktut (the Inuit language) in data platforms and information management



Priority Area 4: Ensure Inuit Access, Ownership and Control Over Data and Information

Actions

- Advocate for the consistent production and sharing of Inuit-specific and Inuit-relevant indicators and data, including the Inuit Health Survey
- Invest in culturally-relevant, community-based technology to facilitate access to and management of data and information

- Develop Inuit-specific guidelines on data accessibility, ownership, and control
- Create and invest in digital Inuit Nunangat data repositories that are inclusive of Inuit knowledge in ways that are respectful of its distinctive forms as well as the Inuit norms that govern its use and sharing



"...sometimes I would laugh to myself: I am making my living on paper - paper that tears, and I depend so much on it."

-- from taped interviews of artists at Cape Dorset, April, 1968, with Alma Houston, and translated from Inuktut by Lucy Evaloardjuk.

Photo credit: Cape Dorset Prints, 1974





Pitseolak Ashoona
72-32 Owl in Spring Snow
1972
22 ¼ x 24 ½

Image credit: Dorset Fine Arts

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"...in today's world, not having the right kind of information represents a certain kind of poverty. As long as outsiders decide what is important and are in a position to ask all of the questions, we will never be able to solve our own problems. It is time for us to go out and do whatever has to be done to get the information that belongs to us. This is the only way we can hold onto our heritage of knowledge and break our dependency which will always keep us as second class citizens in our own land."

-- The late Mark R. Gordon - JBNQA negotiator, former Makivik President, influential Inuit leader



Nakummek, Nakurmiik, Qujanamiik, Ma'na, Quanaqqutit, Qujanaqqutit!