



2022 Annual Report



Table of Contents

Governing Council	4	Other Agreements	24
Message from the President	5	Memorial Bursaries	24
Message from the Chief Executive Officer.....	7	Merit Award	25
New Governance Model.....	8	Career Fair	25
Message from new Leadership Secretariat	9	Other Highlights.....	25
Office of the President	11	Environment and Natural Resources	27
Recognition of Indigenous Rights and Self-Determination	11	Forestry.....	27
Bill C-92, An Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Metis Children Youth and Families.	11	Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development in Newfoundland and Labrador	27
Provincial Relationship	11	Monitoring and Health Management Oversight Committee	27
Search and Rescue.....	12	Aboriginal Aquatic Resource and Oceans Management (AAROM)	28
Royal Visit	12	Stewardship Workshop	28
Partner Relationships	12	Oceans Management	28
Commercial Fisheries	13	Ghost Gear	29
Nakummesuak Awards.....	13	Indigenous Habitat Participation Contribution Program	29
Office of the CEO	15	Aboriginal Funding of Species at Risk – Striped Bass....	30
Investing in NunatuKavut Communities Infrastructure Program	15	Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy (AFS).....	30
Membership	15	Cod Fishery in NunatuKavut Event.....	31
COVID-19	16	Wildlife Management.....	31
Finance and Administration	16	Tuttuk - Caribou.....	32
Leadership Secretariat.....	17	Climate Change.....	33
Office of Governance.....	17	Food Security Program	34
Office of Communications.....	19	Health and Community Services	35
Human Resources.....	22	Medical Transportation Program	35
Employment and Skills Development.....	23	NCC Home Repair Program	35
Outline of ISETP Programs.....	23	George Roberts Community Grants Program.....	35
Applying for Programs.....	24	Community Social Worker.....	35
ISETP Agreement	24	Research, Education and Culture	38
CAP-ISETP Agreement	24	Research	38
		Education in NunatuKavut.....	39
		Energy	40

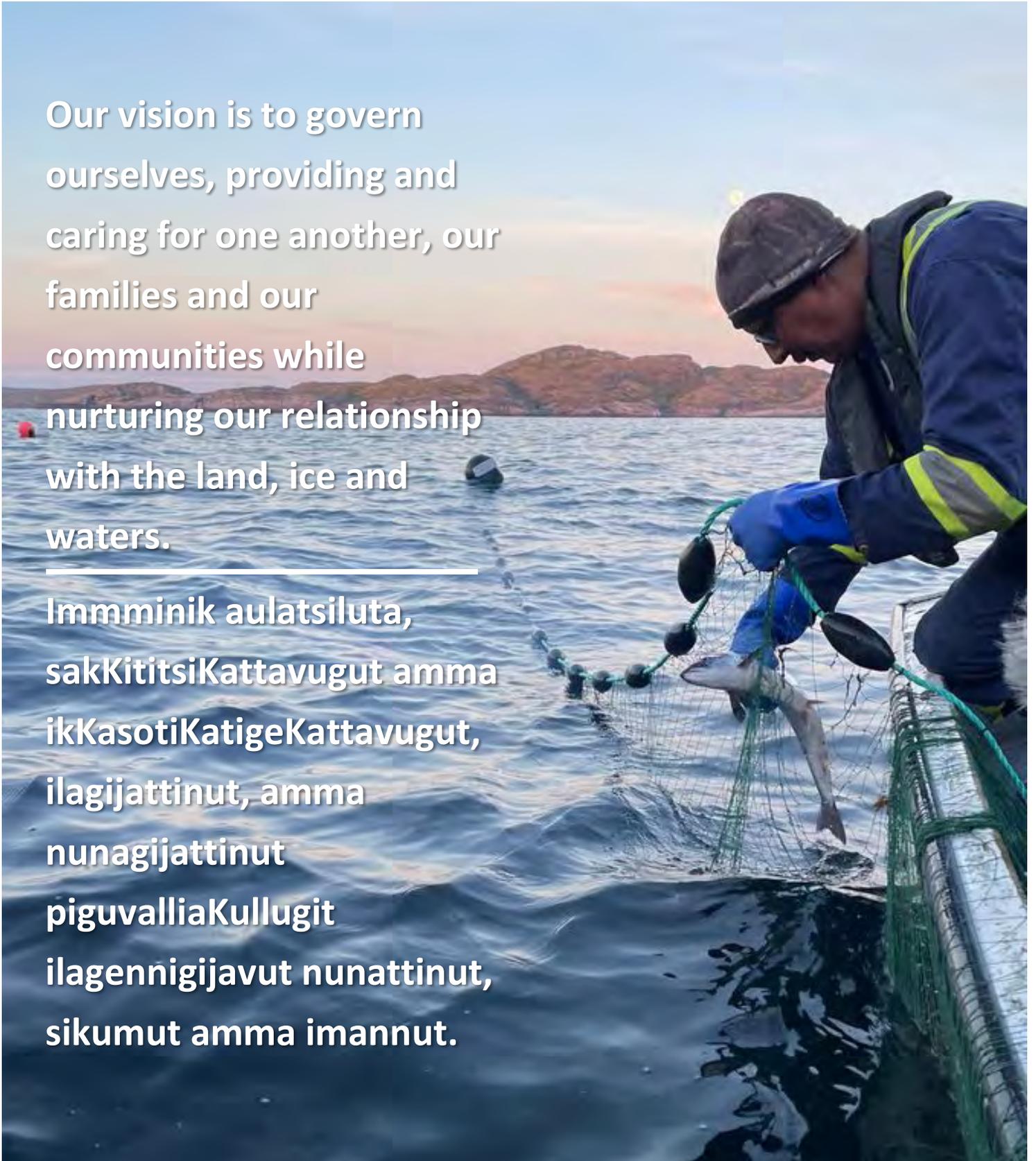


Museums Assistance Program	41	Community Partners.....	43
NCC Relationship with Parks Canada	41	Contact Information	44
Labrador West Indigenous Service Centre.....	42	NCC	44
Programs/Services.....	42	Nunacor	44
Events	43		



Our vision is to govern ourselves, providing and caring for one another, our families and our communities while nurturing our relationship with the land, ice and waters.

Imminik aulatsiluta,
sakKititsiKattavugut amma
ikKasotiKatigeKattavugut,
ilagijattinut, amma
nunagijattinut
piguvaliaKullugit
ilagennigijavut nunattinut,
sikumut amma imannut.



Governing Council



Todd Russell
President



James W. Holwell
Vice President &
Councillor for Area 5
(Central/Northern Labrador)



Boyce Turnbull
Executive Member at
Large & Councillor for Area 3
(Bolsters Rock to Spear Point)



Levi Snook
Councillor for Area 1
(Straits)



Roy Mangrove
Councillor for Area 2
(Battle Harbour)



Cyril Campbell
Councillor for Area 3
(Bolsters Rock to Spear Point)



Crystal Dyson
Councillor for Area 4
(Sandwich Bay/Island of Ponds)



Hughlett Williams
Councillor for Area 5
(Central/Northern Labrador)



Jessie Tobin
Councillor for Area 6
(Western Labrador)



Anna Thistle
Councillor for Area 7
(Outside NunatuKavut)



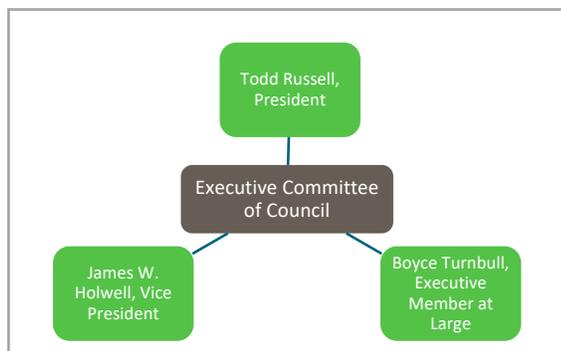
Harrison Campbell
Elder Councillor



Richard Michelin
Special Elder
Advisor to Council



Zoey Russell
Youth Councillor



Message from the President



Good day my friends - ullukut ilanâka,

It has again been an incredible year for the NunatuKavut Community Council (NCC) and our communities. As we reflect on the last 12 months, we are reminded of how much we have accomplished together.

I feel invigorated! We are stronger and we are confident in the future as we continue on this journey of self-determination. When we look back and take stock of how far we've come, of how much we've experienced and accomplished along the way, it is tremendous, and it is encouraging.

This past year, NCC has grown and progressed. This growth has resulted in changes to ensure our organization continues to meet the needs and priorities of NunatuKavut Inuit and communities. Part of this is strengthening the way we govern – as we move to one of greater shared leadership. This is indeed a marker of progress.

NCC continues to be focused and diligent in our Recognition of our Indigenous Rights and Self-Determination process. We entered into this process in 2018 and signed an MOU with Canada with the expectation that it would result in tangible and positive change for our people while protecting our culture and way of life and furthering self-government. There have been efforts undertaken by some

to challenge our agreement with Canada. We know that our that our research is integral, our stories are true and that NunatuKavut Inuit are a rights-bearing people. We have always been here. Living on the lands of our ancestors. And so, we continue to meet with Canada to advance this process, and to seek meaningful, impactful outcomes for our people and communities.

I am overwhelmingly proud of the assistance that NCC, with contributions from the federal government and other partners, has been able to provide through our COVID-19 programming. The feedback from so many of you is that these supports are hugely impactful, necessary and meaningful in getting the care you need. While the pandemic has shone a light on the many gaps and inequities in available programming and supports for our people, this knowledge is invaluable as we continue to advocate and seek adequate resources to support the health and wellness of NunatuKavut Inuit and our communities.

NCC will continue its hard work to help ensure our people and our communities are supported, have what they need and feel safe on the land and on the water. This includes seeking improvements in search and rescue services for Labrador. The Province of Newfoundland and Labrador has demonstrated its support and commitment to NCC and our people, particularly in areas like housing and education. We were proud to sign a historic Memorandum of Understanding on Education with the Province and the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District this past fall to ensure the stories and history of NunatuKavut Inuit will be told in classrooms across the province.

NCC has continued to build and bolster relationships with various partners, and to develop and improve agreements which aim to ensure that NunatuKavut Inuit receive the benefits from our lands and resources. Our relationships and agreements support important programs, such as the Medical Transportation Program, the Home Repair Program, the George Roberts Community Grants Program, and the NunatuKavut Inuit Education Program (to name a few). This annual report highlights these and many other files of importance.

We thank you, our members, for your steadfast support. You and our land are at the foundation of all we do. The work is guided by a strong and determined Governing

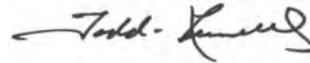


Council who work collaboratively and with determination. We have built a dedicated and professional staff. They work hard each day to help us fulfil our vision of being self-governing, of providing and caring for one another, our families and our communities while nurturing our deep relationship with our lands, ice and waters.

I am proud of NCC. Proud of the way we conduct our work, our purpose and the integrity we demonstrate each and every day. I am proud of our Governing Council, our staff, and most of all – of you – the Inuit of NunatuKavut. When barriers and challenges come across our paths, I so often witness these obstacles met with resilience, ingenuity and grace.

Our people and communities have always come together to provide support to one another, to share knowledge, wisdom and guidance in times of need and loss, in times of celebration and growth, and in the face of change. We have a long history as a people, and we are well adapted and accustomed to navigating our way through life. We have found strength and sustenance in *our lands, ice and waters*, in *our ways of being and knowing*, and in *our families and connections*. This has been our way for as long as our memories recall and our histories told. And we will always continue to do so.

Nakummek.



Todd Russell



Message from the Chief Executive Officer



To our members and partners,

Happy New Year to you all!

As NCC transitions to a new leadership model, this will be my last message to you as Chief Executive Officer (CEO). I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the growth of the organization over the past 14 years. I have been proud to work with staff and our Governing Council to move the organization forward in a good way.

Some of the key indicators of growth have been:

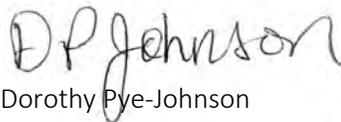
- Increase in number of staff from 16 to approximately 65;
- Increase in net assets from \$1.6M to \$19.8M;
- Establishment of the Recognition of Indigenous Rights and Self Determination (RIRSD) table and process;

- Increase in formal partnership agreements;
- Significant increase in project and own source revenues, allowing us to deliver more programs and services in response to the needs of our membership;
- Development and evolution of governance documents and staffing models to support organizational growth and self-government;
- Establishment of three new departments;
- Significant growth in staff and lines of business for Nunacor, our business development entity;
- Growth in infrastructure, both internally and from investment at the community level; and
- Improvements in internal processes such as budgeting, research protocols, communications and human resources, to name a few.

As I transition into my new role as the Director for the Employment and Skills Development department and Special Advisor to the President's Office, I want you to all be assured that I will be bringing the same dedication to these new roles. I want to ensure that we have the resources we require to meet the needs of our membership, and that the organization transitions into a new leadership model with the benefit of succession planning and corporate knowledge.

Thank you for your friendship and support in my role as CEO. I could not have done it without you.

With gratefulness and fondness,


Dorothy Pye-Johnson



New Governance Model

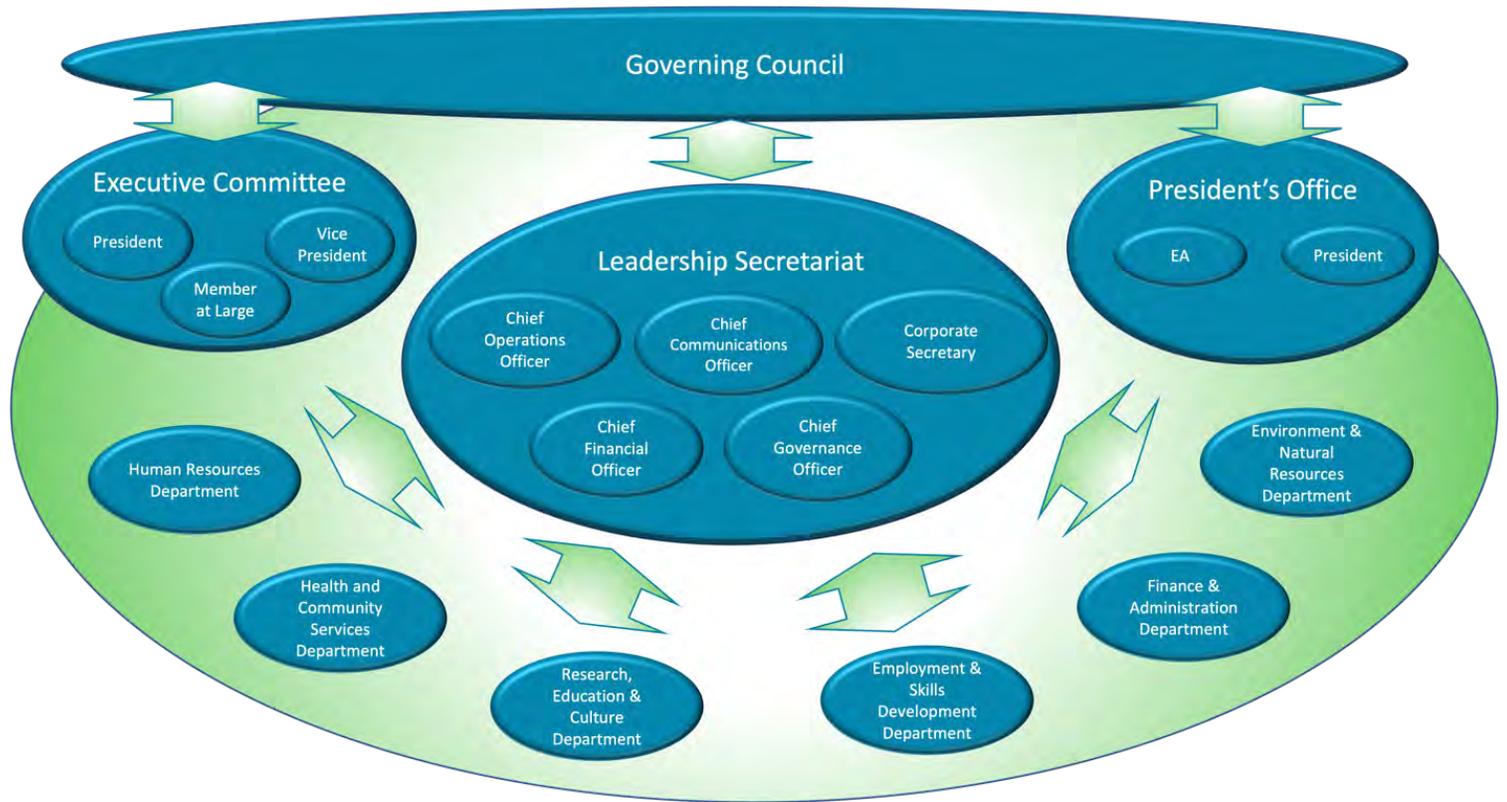


Figure 1: NCC's exciting new shared leadership governance model!



Message from new Leadership Secretariat



Amy Hudson, Chief Governance Officer



Kelly Broomfield, Chief Communications Officer

Atelihai.

As part of the newly formed Leadership Secretariat (LS), we are pleased to share some exciting updates on the overall governance changes at NCC!

As you may recall from last year's annual report, a Governance and Strategic Planning role was established to lead the internal review of NCC's organizational governance structure, policies, and other guiding documents. These developments are part of our self-determination efforts and have been fueled by our rapid growth and many

successes over the last few years. In an effort to ensure that our own governance processes are equipped to sustain and further positive outcomes for our communities, a NEW governance model has been developed and we are currently in a process of transitioning to this new model.

The new governance model is guided by Inuit laws and values that are reflective of our own traditional forms of governance. The structure of the model will better position us for further growth as we continue to pursue self-government agreements and make other important decisions. The new governance model, which includes our newly formed LS, will facilitate one of shared leadership in how we do governance and make important decisions.

The LS is responsible for providing organizational direction for the administration of NCC and to advise the Governing Council on policy, business, organizational and strategic decisions. A more detailed overview of the role of the LS is outlined in new governance laws, which will be available the end of February 2023.

The offices of the LS will include the following: Chief Governance Officer (CGO); Chief Communications Officer (CCO); Chief Operations Officer (COO); Chief Finance Officer (CFO); Corporate Secretary (CS).

As the only permanently filled roles on the LS, we are working in partnership with the current CEO to provide guidance around operations and finance as we transition to the new governance model. We are in the recruitment and hiring process for the remaining officers.

It is anticipated that this model will fully come into effect on February 28, 2023. We appreciate your patience, interest and engagement as we provide more information about these momentous changes over the coming months. Please stay tuned!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Hudson".

Amy Hudson, Chief Governance Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K Broomfield".

Kelly Broomfield, Chief Communications Officer



Office Updates



Office of the President

The President and Governing Council are responsible for the overall governance of NCC. There are also a number of files and issues handled directly through the President's Office. Support is provided by various departments within NCC and, in some cases, our business development arm, Nunacor, as well.

RECOGNITION OF INDIGENOUS RIGHTS AND SELF-DETERMINATION

NCC was recognized by the Government of Canada as an Indigenous collective in 2018 and subsequently announced the start of talks with Canada as part of the federal government's new Recognition of Indigenous Rights and Self-Determination (RIRSD) process. NCC and Canada signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in September 2019 that outlined the general principles of negotiations and set the stage for next steps.



Figure 2: President Russell meeting with federal Crown-Indigenous Relations Minister Marc Miller in November

NCC has been disappointed in the lack of progress on this important process, however, we have worked hard over the last few years and we are receiving positive indications that the Government of Canada is looking to move on our file. NCC wants to ensure that the federal government lives up to its commitments in the MOU and what has been committed to NunatuKavut Inuit as part of Canada's reconciliation efforts. Part of this process means addressing the key priorities that have been identified by our people.

These include broad areas like fisheries, infrastructure, health and education.

Outside of our RIRSD process, there are many relationships with federal government departments on many different files. We are also involved in consultations and engagements, negotiations and legal processes with Canada.

BILL C-92, AN ACT RESPECTING FIRST NATIONS, INUIT AND METIS CHILDREN YOUTH AND FAMILIES.

NCC appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada in December to make submissions in the Appeal regarding Bill C-92, An Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Metis Children Youth and Families.

NCC announced the filing of a motion seeking approval to intervene in the Appeal of the Act earlier in the fall. It recognizes the inherent jurisdiction of Indigenous communities over child and family welfare law. This motion was approved and NCC was granted intervener status to make written and oral submissions before the Court. Appearing before the Supreme Court of Canada as an intervener provides an opportunity to ensure that NCC's perspective is added to the Court's consideration of the Act.

NCC's oral submission focussed on the unique circumstances and perspective of NCC as an Inuit governing body, and of NunatuKavut Inuit as a people. In particular, we outlined how the Act appropriately safeguards equality by protecting access to minimum standards for Indigenous child and family welfare groups like NCC, who experience jurisdictional uncertainty and harm associated with lack of access to funding and programming.

PROVINCIAL RELATIONSHIP

At the provincial level, NCC continues to see a strengthened relationship with the Government of NL. President Russell participates in weekly meetings with the Premier and other Indigenous leaders in the province to discuss items of common interest. NCC also participates in an annual



Premier-Indigenous Leaders Roundtable. This is in addition to numerous other meetings on various matters.



Figure 3: Indigenous Leaders Roundtable in November

The Province announced the establishment of an expert panel in May to recommend potential approaches for the government to ensure maximum long-term benefits from the Churchill Falls assets, as recommended by the Muskrat Falls Commission of Inquiry. NCC was invited to participate in the panel, commonly called the 2041 Committee, along with other Indigenous groups in Labrador. Dr. Nick Mercer is NCC's representative and he has been tasked with ensuring that the perspectives and interests of NCC and NunatuKavut Inuit are considered in this process.

While NCC is pleased about this positive relationship with the Province, we continue to advocate for improvements in health delivery, infrastructure and resource developments that impacts our communities.

SEARCH AND RESCUE

The President's Office works closely with the Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) Department to coordinate NCC's efforts around improvements to search and rescue operations in Labrador.

Matters of life and death and search and rescue is a heartbreaking reality for many families in NunatuKavut. The tragic loss of young fishers Marc Russell (President Russell's nephew) and Marc's crewmate Joey Jenkins at sea in 2021 again raised a number of questions and concerns around a deeply flawed search and rescue system.

NCC has been engaged directly with the Province and federal Ministers to push for action on this important file.

This past year we saw the Province providing resources to set up three new GSAR teams in NunatuKavut. This is a very positive step. NCC is also looking for major investments in Marine search and rescue as well as air with the designating of 5-wing Goose Bay as a dedicated "primary" SAR air base. We can settle for nothing less than a world-class search and rescue system for our communities and all of Labrador.

We thank the many people who are contributing to this life saving work, including Jeanette Russell (Marc Russell's mom).

ROYAL VISIT



Figure 4: President Russell meets His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales (now King of England). Photo courtesy of Canadian Heritage

In May, President Russell was honoured to participate in the Royal Visit with His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales and Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of Cornwall, in St. John's, alongside his fellow Indigenous leaders in the province. He was invited to say a prayer to honour and remember former residential school students and their families during a private ceremony at the Heart Garden at Government House. The Garden was put in place in memory of former residential school students and their families.

PARTNER RELATIONSHIPS

NCC continues to review and look for ways to enhance our relationships and current agreements with groups operating within our traditional territory. This includes companies like the Iron Company of Canada (IOCC) and Search Minerals. We are also seeking to establish new agreements with companies like Tacora Resources and Century Global Iron Mines.





Figure 5: IOCC President and CEO Mike McCann with President Russell and NCC Governing Councillor Jessie Tobin

NCC’s community development agreement with Nalcor Energy, now NL Hydro, is in the final year of a six-year agreement. We are in discussions with NL Hydro about a potential successor agreement to the CDA. There have also been discussions and concerns raised around NL Hydro’s application to the Public Utilities Board for approval of the Construction of Phase 1 of Hydro’s Long-term Supply Plan for Southern Labrador. NCC wants to ensure that any project of this nature has to take into account the energy security and sustainability needs expressed by our people and communities.

NCC has had a long-standing positive and beneficial harvesting agreement with the Labrador Fishermen’s Union Shrimp Company. President Russell presented at their Biennial Convention in November and talked about working together to build a sustainable fishery in NunatuKavut.

COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

There are many significant challenges facing the fishery in NunatuKavut and in Labrador. Last year NCC was engaged, as it has for decades, in supporting our fishers and communities to secure equitable access to our own resources. The one area where we saw some positive move was with the 2J allocation in the cod stewardship fishery. Now more than ever, it is important to fuel growth in the fishery and pursue the management of the resources in our own waters. The President’s Office also has a Senior Fisheries Advisor to help advance and pursue opportunities

in the commercial fishery in collaboration with Nunacor’s NDC Fisheries.

NAKUMMESUAK AWARDS

Nakummesuak, which means “thank you very much” or “a big acknowledgement,” is a prestigious award established by NCC. It is awarded annually to individuals who have demonstrated outstanding support for NunatuKavut Inuit and communities and have given unselfishly of their time and energy to make a difference.

At the 2022 AGA, the following well-deserving recipients were presented with a Nakummesuak Award:



Richard Michelin of North West River: For sharing knowledge of his Inuit culture through storytelling about life in NunatuKavut, including knowledge transfer of Caribou and living on the land. Richard is always there to lend a hand whenever

needed, and continuously fights for our rights as Indigenous people. Richard gives selflessly his time and talents – through volunteering and sharing of his country foods and garden with friends and neighbours.



Zachary Noah Cody Keefe of Black Tickle: For being a spectacular volunteer in the service district of Black Tickle. Zachary steps up to help at any event happening in his community, often times without even being asked. He is devoted to his culture

and way of life, and to assisting elders in his community with difficult tasks such as hauling water and cutting wood.





Denise Burden of Port Hope Simpson: Originally from Williams Harbour, Denise has lived in and supported Port Hope Simpson and its people for 25+ years. She volunteers with countless organizations and is especially cherished for

her devotion to the Junior Canadian Rangers, which has influenced many youth to carry on their traditional outdoor skills and have respect for their environment. It is people like Denise that keeps our communities together.



Barry Penney of Port Hope Simpson: He is well-known for his sense of community. As a volunteer fire brigade member, Barry took it upon himself to travel outside of NunatuKavut and train to use the jaws-of-life. He lends his time to

the family center in Port Hope Simpson and does snow-clearing and handywork for many in Port Hope Simpson, refusing pay and recognition. Barry is a Canadian Ranger and volunteers with youth and the Junior Canadian Rangers whenever needed.



George Russell Sr. of Port Hope Simpson: Originally from William's Harbour, George Sr. is known for his love of community and people. He has been there to help address challenges, taking on multiple jobs where others would not, and serving on many

councils and committees. He is an avid trapper, fisher and hunter; he knows our land like the back of his hand and passes on this knowledge by sharing his culture with family and younger generations.



Valerie Pardy of Happy Valley-Goose Bay: As a cancer survivor who has had to travel for treatment, Valerie quickly realized that being sick brings with it a huge financial hardship. Because of this, Valerie began fundraising

for other cancer patients who travel for appointments and treatment, raising enormous amounts of cash to help alleviate the financial strain. Valerie continues to advocate, fundraise and support anyone she can by offering advice, assistance and encouragement every single day. Helping others is her way of getting herself through her own journey.



Office of the CEO

INVESTING IN NUNATUKAVUT COMMUNITIES INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

The Investing in NunatuKavut Communities Infrastructure Program (INCIP) was the first infrastructure program developed by NCC that is fully funded from our own source revenues. Eight projects were approved in 2022, totaling \$570,000. All funding for this program is now committed and we are working to secure additional funding so that this program can continue.



Figure 6: Black Tickle Gas and Fuel Station ribbon cutting

NCC provided funding and guidance to the Local Service District in Black Tickle to help set up a gas and fuel station as a social enterprise. This was a special infrastructure project that was partially funded by the provincial and federal governments. The International Grenfell Association also provided funds for community capacity building around governance and operations for the new facility. NCC participated in a ribbon cutting at Black Tickle's gas and fuel station in August, which opened late in 2021. The convenience store opened in late 2022. It offers products determined by the community, taking into account factors like profitability and competitive impacts to other businesses.

NCC purchased the Fequet property in Cartwright this year. An office trailer was purchased for the land in addition to

an existing house, which will be undergoing some renos to support staff accommodations. Renovations are also ongoing on a property NCC purchased in Port Hope Simpson a couple of years ago. This will house our guardian headquarters.

Infrastructure applications were developed for two major builds: a Cultural Interpretation Centre in Cartwright and a Business and Tourism Development Hub in Mary's Harbour. As well, an application has been developed for an acquisition of a building in Labrador City to house the Labrador West Indigenous Service Centre and Nunacor office.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership office continues to be busy processing new applications and membership card renewal forms. NCC works with genealogist, Patty Way, to input more family tree information into the registry database. This information is vital in assisting NCC in verifying Inuit ancestry and connections to our traditional places. This information can also be used to assist applicants in completing their applications if there are gaps.



Figure 7: Patty Way, Genealogist, and Sonya Blake, Senior Membership Administrator during Patty's convocation, where she received her Honorary degree, the degree of Doctor of Law, from Memorial University during a convocation in May

As part of the governance restructuring taking place at NCC, leadership will be engaging with membership over the coming weeks and months, in an effort to ensure our membership processes are reflective and inclusive of Inuit values and communities across NunatuKavut.



Members are reminded that you will need a current card to participate in the communal fishery and to avail of programs and services. Please check the expiry date on your card and complete a card renewal form if your card has expired or is near expiring. Renewal Forms can be found at www.nunatukavut.ca or requested from your local NCC office.

Members are strongly encouraged to provide NCC with a current address and the appropriate documentation to complete your card renewal. Please contact our membership staff at mgroves@nunatukavut.ca if you have changes to information in the membership registry, like spelling of names, name change due marriage or divorce, notification of a family member's death or a change of address/telephone number.

COVID-19

As we move into a post pandemic reality, our people and communities are still facing many challenges with rising prices, heat and food insecurities, mental health effects and vulnerable populations.



Figure 8: Elder Support Program in Charlottetown with youth Emma Morris and senior Olive Marshall

NCC received \$1.8 million in funding from the Government of Canada this year, with most of the funding being invested into mental health and wellness supports, elder and senior supports and food and heat security programming. The response to our programming has been tremendous and we are proud that we have been able to support our people in this way through this global medical emergency.

NCC has also worked with our partners to ensure that communities have access to vaccines and testing kits.

Funding has been secured to continue initiatives into the first quarter of 2023.

Details on all of NCC's latest initiatives are available at www.nunatukavut.ca/covid-19.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

It has been another busy but exciting year for the Finance and Administration department. In addition to regular duties throughout the year, spring brings with it an influx of members applying for new membership and renewals to access the salmon and cod fishery. The department's administrative assistant aids those members with applications in preparation for issuing salmon and cod designations. Once the fishing season is completed, assistance is provided with catch logs that are returned and processed.

NCC continues its strong financial position. To this end, the Finance and Administration department had a successful year in meeting its financial reporting requirements.

The Audited Statements, including the Auditor's Report, for each fiscal year ending on March 31 can be found on NCC's website at www.nunatukavut.ca.



Leadership Secretariat

OFFICE OF GOVERNANCE

The Chief Governance Officer (CGO) is responsible for providing strategic direction and advisory around governance matters to the President (particularly NCC's priority areas of governance), the Leadership Secretariat and Council. The CGO will represent NCC, together with the President, on matters of self-governance, including related negotiations and relationships with other levels of government, among other strategic responsibilities.

Internal Governance Restructuring: Implementing our Vision of Shared Leadership

The CGO (previously Strategic Governance and Planning Lead) collaboratively led the development of NCC's new governance model and, most recently, the transition process. This was done with a team of knowledgeable colleagues and expert consultants. Many thanks to all of our team for your tireless contributions to this important work. This work began in fall 2020 and we are excited to see these pieces all fall into place early in 2023.

Next Steps in Strengthening our Inuit Governance: Strengthening our Laws for the Future

Inuit Laws

The work of internal governance restructuring creates opportunities to further strengthen our governance in other ways. As NCC represents Inuit rights-holders, you (full-members) are vitally important to this growth and governance building. NCC's growth and successes mean positive change, and this includes acknowledging and privileging our own ways of knowing (our own laws). To this end, we will be working together to describe, update and transform the following into Inuit Law: (1) Membership process/application; (2) Elections process/guidelines; (3) Constitution. We will also be developing an Inuit food, social and ceremonial law.

Our team will keep you informed about working group(s) and community engagement opportunities so that you are well informed, and your voices are wholly a part of this exciting process of Inuit law building.

United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)

During winter 2022, a proposal was submitted to the federal Department of Justice Canada to participate in the consultation, cooperation, and engagement on an action plan to achieve the objectives of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act. Our proposal was successful and community engagement is underway. Contributions to this discussion will inform NCC's submission on the recommendations and advocate for NunatuKavut Inuit in actions that follow from the Government of Canada.

The purpose of this work is to strengthen awareness about UNDRIP among NunatuKavut Inuit, including why it was adopted, its status in Canada and what this means for Indigenous peoples in Canada and for Inuit in NunatuKavut.

Innovative and Transformative Education in NunatuKavut

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Education



Figure 9: Education MOU signing in September

On September 30, 2022, the NunatuKavut Community Council, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, and the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District hosted a momentous signing ceremony, marking a new and historic milestone in the relationship between NunatuKavut Inuit and the Province. This marks one of the many great efforts of NCC and our communities as we work

to advance reconciliation through education so that we can see meaningful impacts for our children and families.

The spirit and intent of this MOU, and of this relationship, is another opportunity to ensure that our children see themselves, their culture, and values reflected in what they learn, in how they learn, and in the world around them. We know that when children see themselves in the classroom, outcomes are improved, and opportunities are endless. This work will help to ensure an educational system that fosters and nurtures healing, growth, and mutual respect between all peoples. The knowledge and experiences of NunatuKavut Inuit are required to help make all of this happen.

We are currently working collaboratively with all parties on the implementation of the MOU. Stay tuned for more exciting announcements to come from this work.

Inuit History Research



Figure 10: The photograph was taken at Fox Harbor on June 28th, 1891 by Rupert Baxter travelling with the Labrador expedition of Bowdoin College. It is held at Bowdoin College, Peary McMillan Museum as Accession # 1996.11.33.

Currently, the literature about NunatuKavut history does not reflect the perspectives of NunatuKavut Inuit themselves. Many writers have insisted on imposing their own judgements about Indigeneity, replicating colonial narratives, and ignoring the importance of relationships and accountability in Inuit history and society. This project, on the other hand, is centred on engagement on traditional Inuit lands in NunatuKavut. The project will provide our people with the opportunity to narrate their own perspectives and realities about local life, community,

family, history, and relationships. Our end goal is to create a book in which NunatuKavut Inuit see themselves reflected and see their stories told in a way that can be further shared and understood by both diverse Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples and communities.

Representation on Academic Council, Labrador Campus of Memorial University

There is now official university presence in Labrador with the establishment of the School of Arctic and Subarctic Studies (SASS), Labrador Campus, in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. This creates exciting education and diverse partnership opportunities for our communities. The Academic Council of the School of Arctic and Subarctic Studies is the primary governing body and provides advice to the University Senate on academic matters. In addition to faculty, staff and students from the university, the NunatuKavut Community Council, along with the Innu Nation and Nunatsiavut Government, have voting representation on the Academic Council. This means that Indigenous peoples in Labrador, including NunatuKavut Inuit, have a role to play in informing and shaping university programs, curriculum, and other opportunities in Indigenous research and education on our lands.

Community Hub Partnership



Figure 11: CGO Amy Hudson being presented with a special gift during the Cartwright Hub Opening in November

On November 14, 2022, we proudly announced a tremendous partnership among the NunatuKavut Community Council, Memorial University, and the Sandwich Bay 50+ club. This partnership will enhance



community access to research and education in Cartwright. Serving as a community research and education center, the hub is accessible to people of all ages. Newly hired hub coordinators will facilitate outreach within the community that will assist in identifying and further advancing community priorities in areas of research and education. For example, people might be interested in online learning opportunities at Memorial, or there may be an interest in different kinds of workshops related to cultural education, safety or other certification courses like firearms or kayak safety. The goal is to identify what is of interest to the community and region and go from there!

The hub also provides communal space, with reliable internet access, for students and learners of all ages. We are very excited about the hub's potential for climate change knowledge exchange and skills building. The hub will create opportunities for youth participation in climate change activities with learning experiences in their own community. This work started in November 2022 with a community visit from folks at the climate collective (Memorial), NCC and a graduate student who will be working with NCC in this area.

The hub is being administered by the Research, Education and Culture Department.

Recognition of Indigenous Rights and Self Determination (RIRSD)

RIRSD process and negotiations are contained within the Office of Governance and President's Office. Please stay tuned for important updates and information as it relates to our ongoing work with the Government of Canada.

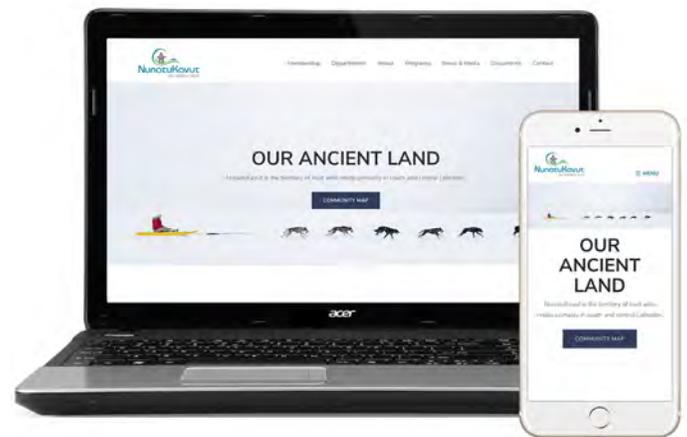
OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

This office is led by the Chief Communications Officer and continues to provide both internal and external communications support to the President's Office and other departments within NCC.

Online Presence

The department administers and monitors NCC's website and social media platforms to ensure consistent messaging and branding. We have also worked hard to increase our number of followers to help increase the profile of NCC on

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube and ensure NunatuKavut Inuit are kept informed about the work that NCC does.



Design and Production

Communications is also involved in the design and production of a number of publications and products. This office takes the lead on the coordination, design and printing of this annual report and writes and distributes Member Updates and Spotlights throughout the year.

The team collaborated with the Research, Education and Culture on a postcard to promote a housing needs survey that was mailed to households in NunatuKavut. We also arrange the design and printing of NCC's annual Christmas card.

Media Relations

Media relations is managed through Communications and we are responsible for drafting and finalizing news releases and statements. We also coordinate responses to all media enquiries, in collaboration with the President's Office.

Event Management

Communications helps to organize a variety of events, from news conferences to community meetings. This includes our Annual General Assembly process. It starts with a series of community meetings and ends with a closing assembly, a premiere event that is attended by well over 200 members. We also helped with the planning of a virtual research forum, a virtual energy forum, a Stewardship Resource Workshop, the Celebrating NunatuKavut: People,

Place and Culture event in Cartwright and the Cod Fishery in NunatuKavut event in Pinsent's Arm.



Figure 12: Kayak excursion during the Celebrating NunatuKavut event in Cartwright in August

NunatuKavut Youth Community Engagement Project

Late in 2022, the Office of Communications began leading the NunatuKavut Youth Community Engagement Project (NYCEP). NYCEP was originally developed by the Health and Community Services department for youth living in NunatuKavut between the ages of 15 and 30. Youth learn a variety of multi-media skills to help tell stories about community life and Inuit culture, traditions and history through photography, videography and journalism.

Over the past four years, 67 NYCEP youth have volunteered more than 10,000 hours. They have helped to deliver food hampers, helped at the Battle Harbour Seniors Day, picked berries for seniors, stacked wood, helped with Labrador West special events, helped with the CYN Senior's Wellness Program, and other community events. Through meaningful service opportunities, NYCEP participants gain valuable skills while making a difference in their communities.

NYCEP participants have also produced more than 50 videos. These videos highlight traditional activities like dog sledding, fishing, and hunting while other videos showcase NCC communities and local businesses. While making videos, participants are developing a better understanding of their Indigenous culture and history, including the history and legacy of Canada's residential school system and contemporary issues facing Indigenous communities in Canada. Many of these videos are on YouTube for the world to view.



Figure 13: NYCEP youth during an outdoor activity in Port Hope Simpson

COVID-19

Communications staff have also been heavily involved in the design and implementation of COVID-19 proposals, programming and outreach around NCC's efforts since the beginning of the pandemic.

IT Support

In the fall of 2022, the Office of Communications added an IT Support Technician to help troubleshoot IT-related issues for NCC staff. This position will help NCC with networking solutions and assist with file management across the organization.



Departmental Updates



Human Resources

The Human Resource (HR) department has undertaken a great deal of work, particularly as it relates to recruitment and retention, strategic staffing, HR planning and development and policy work.

The HR department is continuously building on the framework of policy development and staff training to ensure compliance with all acts and regulations of the Canada Labour Code and address any gaps and underlying employee relations issues and concerns. This will continue to be a prominent piece of work to ensure that as new Bills receive royal assent by the Government of Canada, our staff are aware of those changes and trained where need be.



Figure 14: HR Coordinator Chelsea Dyson helps with COVID-19 hamper distribution

HR is currently developing a new HR Policy and Procedure employee handbook that is reflective of the new governance laws and subsequent changes to a new governing model. It will be the guiding document for all employees in their employment relationship with NCC as an organization. Many hours have been spent developing this document, beginning with a review of current policies from

a legal and technical perspective and bridging any gaps to build new and relevant policy reflective of who we are as a growing organization and federal regulations.

HR is a strategic partner at the table with the Leadership Secretariat, assisting from an operational and staffing perspective to review current staffing models and helping implement staffing plans. HR advises and works to ensure that we have the right human capital and the correct tools (people, systems and processes) to align our HR capabilities with our vision and priorities.

HR acts as the change agent to lead in the implementation of HR organizational change while ensuring that legislative requirements like Human Rights, Occupational Health and Safety and Duty to accommodate are present in decision-making.

HR works to ensure that NCC is in the best position to attract, recruit, develop and retain the best and brightest allowing us to strengthen our position as we move towards self-governance. This includes ensuring that we have solid compensation strategies that are reflective of labour market conditions, that we have a strong benefits package that includes being able to strike the proper work/life balance and that we have policies that support employees and their families in their lives. There are currently over 80 staff on NCC's payroll. We continue to recruit new staff to help NCC respond to our rapid growth.

HR is also in the process of assessing and evaluating position alignment to ensure that all positions are strategic aligned to the vision. We want to ensure that we have the right people in the right positions to create a clear path forward to rights and recognition.

The HR department is committed to providing expertise and advice on creating a positive healthy and safe workplace for all staff. HR also helps foster an organizational culture that incorporates NCC's Inuit values of caring, fairness, respect, accountability and teamwork.



Employment and Skills Development

The Employment and Skills Development (ESD) department works to build partnerships that help our members gain employment. They oversee NCC's employment and skills development-related agreements that provide resources for unemployed and underemployed individuals (working less than 20 hours per week).

Primary agreements include the Indigenous Skills Employment and Training Program (ISETP), funded directly through Service Canada, and an ISETP Program sub-agreement, funded through the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP). ISETP, formerly called ASETS, is NCC's longest and most well-funded program. It has offered training and employment assistance to thousands of members over the years. We also continue to build partnerships with many employers to help our members secure full-time employment.



Figure 15: Dr. April Pike, the Dean of the Faculty of Nursing presenting a crest to Monica Rumbolt who is a first year student in first ever Bachelor of Science in Nursing class at the Labrador Campus of Memorial University.

OUTLINE OF ISETP PROGRAMS

Skills Development – University

This program provides a Bursary/Grant to University students who are in their final two years of an undergraduate program. In the event that a client was funded for their undergraduate, they will only be eligible for their final year of the graduate program. The amount is determined yearly based on an approved budget.

Skills Development – Other

This program funds clients to complete certificate/diploma programs, short-term industry specific programs, and health/safety training programs. This program can provide assistance for course cost, living allowance, travel allowance and childcare, if applicable.

Employment Transition Fund

This program is designed to move clients from minimum waged jobs into an intervention, or a combination of interventions, that allows them to pursue a career that meets their interest, salary expectations and labour market priorities. This program follows the *Skills Development – Other* guidelines.

Work Experience

This program can be exploratory in nature to assist clients in determining if a particular employment field is a fit for them. It can also be linked to skills where clients get to have direct work experience in a field for which they have studied or trained.

Summer Career Placement

This program provides meaningful summer work experiences for students 15-29 years of age. The objective is to link students with work experience related to their field of study or an area in which they have an interest in studying, wherever possible.

Self-Employment Benefit

Income support and funding for Business Planning Services for members wishing to start their own business.

APPLYING FOR PROGRAMS

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for assistance under the Skills Development programs, clients must be:

- A current member of NCC, no matter where they reside in Canada.
- Unemployed or underemployed (working less than 20 hours a week).
- Attending an accredited school full-time, within Canada.
- Enrolled in the final two years of a program.

Selection Criteria

Clients must meet the following selection criteria: Meet Labour Market Demand; Academic Performance; Training History; Cost of Training; and Budget Considerations.

Clients can expect a decision after a minimum of 20 working days from the date the application is received.

ISETP AGREEMENT

The budget under the ISETP agreement was fully utilized in the 2021-2022 fiscal year. During that time, NCC provided funding assistance to the following number of clients:

- Skills Development (Degree/Masters/PhD) – 68 Clients
- Skills Development (Diploma/Certificate) – 120 Clients
- Employment Transition Fund – 4 Clients
- Work Experience – 6 Clients
- Self-Employment Benefit – 9 Clients

Results: Overall Target vs Actuals*

	Target	Actual
<i>Clients served</i>	159	178
<i>Clients employed</i>	67	71
<i>Returned to school</i>	10	13

*as of June 30, 2022

CAP-ISETP AGREEMENT

The CAP-ISETP agreement, which supports diploma/certificate programs, was also fully utilized in the

2021-2022 fiscal year. NCC was able to provide assistance to approximately 27 clients in various trades programs.

Results: Overall Target vs. Actuals*

	Target	Actual
<i>Clients served</i>	18	54
<i>Clients employed/ returned to school</i>	12	55

*as of June 30, 2022

OTHER AGREEMENTS

Community Employment Agreement

NCC's community employment coordinator offices in Cartwright and Mary's Harbour continue to offer vital outreach services within our south coast communities, assisting members with job searches, resumes and completion of applications for training or employment. They also assist employers with filling job vacancies with qualified members, develop relationships with various companies recruiting Indigenous people and gage future opportunities for our clients.

Youth Employment and Skills Strategy (YESS)

YESS is a three-year agreement that started September 1, 2020. It provides accredited skills training to youth facing barriers, giving them the opportunity to benefit from interventions that will enable them to develop their skills and employability status, to prepare them for employment.

	Target	Actual
<i>Clients served</i>	20	31

The number of clients who were employed or returned to school under this program was 25.

MEMORIAL BURSARIES

NCC administers two annual memorial bursaries for post-secondary students who are members.

The Bernie Heard Memorial Bursary, valued at \$1000, was named in honour of Bernie Heard. He was an active member of NCC who passed away in January of 2008. He was a great musician and was very active in historical and genealogical research, which contributed greatly to the foundation of our membership system. Preference for this



bursary may be given to a student studying in the area of Music or History. Other areas of priority may include visual and performing arts, anthropology and archaeology. *The 2022 recipient was Chloe Campbell from Charlottetown, Labrador.*

The Raymond Turnbull Memorial Bursary, valued at \$2000, was named in honor of Raymond Turnbull. He worked with NCC as an Education Officer, where he dedicated his life to helping youth. Sadly, Raymond passed away in 2004, leaving a void in the hearts of his family, friends and colleagues. The bursary is awarded annually to an NCC member who is graduating from Grade 12 and has demonstrated admirable community and school involvement, as well as academic achievement. *The 2022 recipient was Phillip Pye from North River, NL.*

Information on both bursaries is available at www.nunatukavut.ca.

MERIT AWARD

NCC provides an annual Merit Award, valued at \$500, to a member attending the College of the North Atlantic (CNA) Campus in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. Nominations are put forward by CNA and the winner is chosen by NCC. This award is presented at their annual awards ceremony and is in recognition of the student's commitment to academic achievement. *The 2022 recipient was Kristy Morris from Charlottetown, Labrador.*

CAREER FAIR

In April, NCC's ESD department organized a Career Fair in L'Anse au Clair.



Figure 16: Career Fair in L'Anse au Clair in April

The event was open to NCC youth under 30 who were:

- Trained in their field of study and are unable to locate work or were currently in high school, or
- Recently graduated and deciding on which career path to take.

It was an incredible mix of youth, prospective employers and post-secondary institutions in the province, with over 30 youth and 50 speakers participating from various fields of work. The youth and speakers have expressed their interest in making this an annual event.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

WISE NL - The Women in Science and Engineering NL Indigenous Youth Initiatives are designed for high school students who are interested in learning more about career options in science and engineering. WISE hosted a two-day Indigenous Youth Gathering in St. John's, NL in October 2022. This event featured speakers, panels, tours and networking opportunities with professionals in various areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) with most speakers and panelists being Indigenous. NCC had 10 youth in total attend this event, we assisted with the travel for students and chaperones to attend this event. The event was a success and NCC hopes to partner with WISE on Labrador-based programs and projects in the future.



Figure 17: ESD staff Denise Rumbolt and Deborah Newman at the High School Career Fair at Mealy Mountain Collegiate in Happy Valley-Goose Bay

ESD staff participated in the High School Career Fair at Mealy Mountain Collegiate in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. This was a great opportunity to provide information to High

School students who are getting ready to head off to post-secondary.

NCC partnered with WRDC and held a Digital Literacy program in Port Hope Simpson in November. WRDC hosted this event to increase access to training and employment opportunities for all clients in the area. They also donated two laptops to our offices on the south coast. These laptops will always be available to clients who need to use them for applying on jobs, updating resumes, etc.



Figure 18: Participants of the Digital Literacy Program in Port Hope Simpson in November

ESD staff attended professional development conferences that benefit both the staff and our membership. These kinds of programs help upskill the career/counselling services that NCC can provide.

Our Partnership and Job Development Coordinator makes connections with a variety of employers in the area. This helps our members secure valuable full-time employment with major companies. We connect newly trained students to companies that are willing to provide work experience in the field of study. We also stay on top of the labour market demand and will assist with updating resumes where applicable.



Environment and Natural Resources

The Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) department works to protect, promote and enhance the sustainable use of the environment and natural and cultural resources. The department strives to maintain healthy ecosystems, viable animal populations and a clean environment, while protecting the Indigenous harvesting rights of NunatuKavut Inuit. The rights to our lands, territory, and resources are at the heart of all NunatuKavut communities and our relationship to our traditional lands, ice and waters are at the source of our cultural, spiritual, and social identity.

FORESTRY

NCC continues to look for ways to become more involved in the Forestry Sector within the territory and we have partnered on some of the provincial. “The Way Forward” action items. So far, ENR has been engaged in the Provincial Forest Pest Management Committee. It was formed to share information on insect, disease, and plant pests affecting the Provinces forests and to provide feedback and recommendations on how to improve the Provinces ability to monitor, manage, and share information related to these forest pests.



Figure 19: One of the many beautiful forest areas in NunatuKavut

ENR has been involved with the provincially-led planning that is still on-going for the Forestry Management District

(FMD) plans within our territory. NCC hopes to engage the Province in a new funding agreement and working relationship on forestry planning and development.

REGIONAL ASSESSMENT OF OFFSHORE WIND DEVELOPMENT IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

In Fall 2022, ENR began engaging on a new federal-provincial regional assessment (RA) of offshore wind development for offshore NL and NS. The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) launched a planning process for this RA by working with the NL and Nova Scotia governments to plan a Regional Assessment of Offshore Wind Development for each province, and seeking input from Indigenous groups and other stakeholders.

The RA will occur over 18-months beginning in early 2023 when the federal and provincial governments appoint RA Committees for each province. First, however, written agreements between Canada and each province, as well as Terms of Reference (TOR) for the RA Committee must be finalized, and NCC submitted comments on both of those drafts in November 2022.

MONITORING AND HEALTH MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

NCC remains highly engaged on the monitoring and mitigation of potential methylmercury impacts from the Muskrat Falls project, primarily through its active participation on the Monitoring and Health Management Oversight Committee (MHMOC). Official operations began over the summer when Dr. Ray Copes came on board as Independent Chair.

The primary federal government representative is from Health Canada. Over the Fall of 2022, two new working groups were established within the Committee: a Communications Working Group (WG) and a Health and Education Working Group. NCC will be active in both groups. The MHMOC has developed a Work Plan for review and approval by member parties, and will soon hire an Administrative Support Assistant to support the Committee’s work.

ABORIGINAL AQUATIC RESOURCE AND OCEANS MANAGEMENT (AAROM)

The main goal of the AAROM program is to address significant gaps at the watershed level and to realize opportunities to support diverse partnerships and service delivery, including participation in other Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) science and Government of Canada programs and initiatives.



Figure 20: Aerial photograph of Muddy Bay Brook taken using drone technology

The AAROM program has brought various project opportunities to NCC, including:

- collecting baseline data of microplastics in our fish species;
- wharf species inventory;
- culvert assessments;
- monitoring Atlantic salmon through electrofishing, monitoring aquatic invasive species;
- observing capelin through conversations with elders and UAV (drone) work;
- temperature monitoring on the rivers;
- Muddy Bay Brook watershed and management plan;
- Gilbert Bay Marine Protected Area;
- assisting DFO with Atlantic salmon tagging, tagging golden cod; and
- American eel population study.

These projects will help fill information gaps within NunatuKavut, increase human resource capacity, and

create partnerships. The AAROM program has also supported the purchase of a new NCC ENR office in Port Hope Simpson.

STEWARDSHIP WORKSHOP

NCC's annual stewardship workshop was held in Happy Valley-Goose Bay on March 17, 2022. This year's theme was "Pathway for Fisheries Management in NunatuKavut."



Figure 21: ENR Manager of Natural Resources lighting the Kullik at the stewardship workshop

The workshop brought together approximately 47 delegates (both in-person and virtually) from NunatuKavut communities. It engaged NCC members at the community level by facilitating opportunities to share their experiences, learn from one another, and to provide a setting for open discussion related to strategies for good practices and policies related to the work being undertaken by the ENR department.

OCEANS MANAGEMENT

The DFO program provides capacity to NCC to ensure we participate in the continuation of oceans resource management initiatives and opportunities through a co-management and co-delivery approach. Some of these activities include:



- engagement with DFO science, such as the monitoring of aquatic invasive species and species at risk;
- increasing scientific capacity;
- developing, establishing, and implementing the AAROM program;
- inclusion and partnerships in marine safety with other federal departments such as the Canadian Coast Guard and Transport Canada; and
- Gilbert's Bay Marine Protected Area monitoring and research.

GHOST GEAR

Focus has recently been brought to conservation of the marine environment and its inhabitants with rising concern for marine debris, including abandoned, lost, and discarded fishing gear. Once this debris enters into marine ecosystems it continues to fish and becomes what is known as ghost gear. Presence of ghost gear in marine ecosystems leads to unintended by-catch and often results in increased mortality of marine species.



Figure 22: Monofilament gillnet found in the Gilbert Bay MPA during summer ghost gear retrievals

In 2019, NCC partnered with the World Wildlife Fund-Canada and the Marine Institute of Memorial University of NL on a project to mitigate the impacts of fishing on Golden cod and other vulnerable species in the Gilbert Bay Marine Protected Area (MPA) through the location and retrieval of ghost gear in the MPA. From this work, several ghost gear locations outside of the MPA were identified through

interviews with NunatuKavut Inuit traditional knowledge holders, including fish harvesters. It became clear that efforts to retrieve ghost gear had to be expanded to other areas in the region, specifically land base sources of fishing gear such as abandoned stages, net berths, and other fishing gear holding facilities no longer in service.

Ghost Gear Retrievals

Ghost gear retrievals took place inside the Gilbert Bay MPA in August 2022, and investigation and retrievals of sites outside of the MPA began in October 2022. Types of gear retrieved included cod traps, various types of netting (monofilament and nylon gillnets), and rope for a total amount of ~7000kg of fishing gear. Additional sites for future retrieval efforts were identified across the region as ghost gear is still remaining in old stages, wharves, and fishing premises which are de-commissioned and collapsing.

Artist-led Craft Workshop

In addition to retrievals, the other focus of this work was to examine alternative measures to manage disposal of ghost gear and discovering creative ways to re-purpose old gear into crafts. On November 15 and 16, NCC's ENR department held an artist-led craft workshop using ghost gear. Crafts included macramé style plant holders, rope coasters, jewelry and more.

INDIGENOUS HABITAT PARTICIPATION CONTRIBUTION PROGRAM

This program supports Indigenous participation of fish and fish habitat protection. The primary objective of this project is identifying fish migration barriers, specifically by assessing culverts and bridges in NunatuKavut from the eastern Quebec/Labrador border to the southern Labrador/Quebec border. Culverts that have been flagged as possible fish migration barriers were electrofished upstream and downstream of the culvert to identify possible fish diversity due to the barrier.

Other major components of this project are researching microplastics found in Atlantic cod, Arctic charr, and Atlantic salmon, wharf water sampling to collect baseline data of possible effluent contaminants, and monitoring of

construction sites near fish-bearing habitats. In addition, this project supported NCC in the engagement process through DFO’s modernization and developments of policies and frameworks of the Fisheries Act.



Figure 23: Culvert on the Labrador-Island Transmission Link in central Labrador being assessed for possible barrier to fish migration

ABORIGINAL FUNDING OF SPECIES AT RISK – STRIPED BASS

Striped bass was first reported in Forteau, Labrador in 2017 and have since been researched and tracked by NCC. This year, NCC will be collecting Environmental DNA (eDNA) in estuaries and ponds which have previously been reported to have striped bass overwintering. From here, we can begin to understand the habitat expansion and needs for NCC’s monitoring and managing of striped bass while getting insight to the local impacts of striped bass on other local species.

Have you seen this fish?

If you see or accidentally catch a striped bass, NCC wants to hear from you!



If you catch one, please take a photo and note the following:

- ✓ size of the fish (length and weight)
- ✓ date and location of sighting
- ✓ if the fish was dead or alive
- ✓ if it was eating anything
- ✓ if it's dead, check to see if it's a male or female, if it has spawn (take a photo!) or if it has any food in its stomach

Please report sightings and available information to:

Margie Clarke
Resource Technician
T: (709) 896-0592 ext 223
E: sighting@nunatukavut.ca



Figure 24: NCC’s striped bass poster which asks the public to report striped bass sightings and catches

ABORIGINAL FISHERIES STRATEGY (AFS)

The NCC communal food fishery had another successful season. NCC’s fisheries committee and staff continue to improve the program with the addition of species such as halibut, designation for traditional seal netting and increased cod quota this year. The Upper Lake Melville salmon tag allotment was also increased to six tags per household to match our south coast allotment.

ENR issued 1,228 salmon, trout, and char designations, 500 cod designations, and 65 halibut designations. This year, the distribution of designations were a bit later, starting just three days before the start of the season. Our amazing staff visited 13 communities over those three days with ongoing distribution in ENR office locations in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Cartwright, and Port Hope Simpson. The support and patience that NCC experienced from members during the designation distribution was again outstanding.

Members are strongly encouraged to return catch logs, which provides crucial information for the monitoring and analysis of designations as well as fish stock variations. Information from the catch logs will assist NCC in making management decisions on our Food, Social and Ceremonial Fisheries.

ENR employed four Fisheries Stewards in the communities of Pinsent’s Arm, St. Lewis, Black Tickle, and Cartwright this past summer. They were hired to obtain samples of salmon from landings for local consumption in the NCC food fisheries to determine genetic identification and biological characteristics. The information collected is used extensively by the Working Group of North Atlantic Salmon (WGNAS) to provide catch advice and information to North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) on the characteristics of the fish harvested. The Fishery Stewards collected 667 salmon samples and the results will be released in 2023.

The Aboriginal Fisheries Guardian Program continues to be successful in supporting the management, protection, and compliance of the NCC Communal Fishing Licence and federal fishing regulations within our communal fishing areas. ENR currently has four full-time permanent



Guardians and two Program Support Assistants based in either the Port Hope Simpson or Cartwright office. Their input, experience and overall contribution to ENR programs is invaluable to NCC’s relationship with fishers, elders, and communities, as well as DFO management and science branches. Our Guardians are members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary and responded four incidents last season.



Figure 25: NCC's Guardians

In the coming year, the ENR Department will be reviewing the AFS program including designation distribution policies and process and catch log data, as well as how to improve the Guardian Program.

ENR, working collaboratively with NCC’s Chief Governance Officer, is also supporting Inuit law development with the creation of harvesting protocols and regulations.

COD FISHERY IN NUNATUKAVUT EVENT

In October, NCC’s Environmental and Natural Resources department organized an event called “The Cod Fishery in NunatuKavut” in Pinsent’s Arm. It marked 30 years since the cod moratorium but also the longstanding connection that NunatuKavut Inuit have with cod. It has been the lifeblood of our communities and people for many generations. Activities included the setting of a traditional cod trap, the first time that a cod trap had been set for cod in NunatuKavut since the moratorium. There was also

storytelling, learning how to clean fish, hauling nets and jigging.

Youth came from Port Hope Simpson, Charlottetown, and Pinsent’s Arm. It is with great thanks to principal Pam Campbell of William Gillett Academy for arranging a high school all-day field trip for students. We also had elders and community members come from Mary’s Harbour, St. Lewis, Port Hope Simpson, Charlottetown, and Pinsent’s Arm. ENR would also like to thank the NunatuKavut Youth Community Engagement Project team who helped record the day. Please keep an eye out for the highlight video.



Figure 26: Setting a traditional cod trap at the Cod Fishery in NunatuKavut event in Pinsent's Arm

It was a beautiful day for learning and experiencing the ‘cod fishery in NunatuKavut.’ Nakummek to all who attended, participated, and helped out in any way to make this a remarkable day!

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

ENR continues to promote effective co-management of wildlife populations within NunatuKavut through the establishment of collaborative networks with diverse partners. Current projects focus on culturally and ecologically significant species, including: caribou, polar bear, shorebirds, songbirds, waterfowl, wolverine, bats, and other small mammals. ENR projects are delivered in partnership with federal and provincial governments, Indigenous organizations, universities, and non-government organizations.

In 2022, ENR maintained ongoing monitoring initiatives for a number of ecologically important bat and bird species. These surveys also function as an important early detector of ecological change, especially coinciding with growing

disease concerns among several species (i.e. white-nose syndrome, highly pathogenic avian influenza). ENR has also continued its small mammal monitoring program, which tracks the distribution of invasive red backed vole, and has expanded its camera trap monitoring program for wolverine to include Cartwright and Labrador West. Further expansion of several of these monitoring programs is planned for the coming year.

ENR has continued to push for inclusion on the Polar Bear



Figure 27: ENR staff learning how to band eider ducks

Technical Committee, which combines scientific research and ITK from Indigenous partners in the cooperative management of polar bear populations across Canada. Currently, ENR monitoring of polar bears predominantly occurs through sightings reported by membership. Expanded use of wildlife cameras is planned for the coming year and planning for additional workshops in NunatuKavut communities focusing on peaceful resolution of human-polar bear conflicts.

TUTTUK - CARIBOU

NunatuKavut Inuit have maintained a culturally defining relationship with tuttuk since time immemorial. The ongoing moratorium on traditional caribou harvests threatens the persistence of this relationship and has important cultural, ecological, and food security consequences. As such, programs enhancing the conservation, management, and recovery of caribou are of high priority for ENR.



Figure 28: Tuttuk

In Winter 2022, ENR partnered with Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture (Wildlife Division) to conduct population surveys for the Mealy Mountain Caribou Herd (MMCH). Despite strong calf recruitment, the total population has decreased to an estimated 1,289 individuals since the previous survey, continuing the declining trend observed over the past 20 years. The 2022 survey also saw no recordings of caribou in the Flatwater/Strand or Crooks Lake regions, both of which have been important winter ranges in past years. NCC strongly encourages membership to avoid harvesting caribou from this herd and to observe appropriate conservation and stewardship practices. In the meantime, ENR continues monitoring and outreach activities toward the recovery of boreal caribou populations.

In the spring 2022, ENR held a “tuttuk: your story” contest to gather memories of caribou from our members where three randomly selected members were able to partake in an exciting adventure to learn about some aspects of caribou research that is being completed. On May 17, Kelly Butt, Mabel Groves and Arch Parady (who was chosen as runner-up to Richard Michelin) took off on their helicopter ride to observe caribou and told us they thoroughly enjoyed every minute. Nakummek to the Provincial Wildlife Division for partnering with ENR to make this event spectacular!

To capture additional memories and stories of tuttuk in NunatuKavut that can be passed down to our youth, ENR has also been holding “tuttuk storytelling” gatherings within our communities. During the gatherings, we laughed



a short video “tuttuk: stories of caribou” that we developed including footage of caribou hunting provided by Richard Michelin as well as providing space to reminisce and enjoy a special treat.



Figure 29: Mabel Groves, Kelly Butt and Arch Parfy all ready to take off on their helicopter ride to observe caribou. Also pictured is Richard Neville with the Provincial Wildlife Division and pilot Richard Martin. Contributed by Mabel Groves.

ENR has resumed consultations with Environment and Climate and Change Canada on the proposed listing of eastern migratory caribou as endangered under the Species at Risk Act (SARA). The consultations will allow all stakeholders to express concerns regarding the potential listing, which will be considered by the Governor in Council when making a final decision.

NCC continues to be the co-chair of Ungava Peninsula Caribou Aboriginal Round Table (UPCART), however, there has been little movement at this table since COVID-19. NCC sees the value of the continuation of this table as it assists our ability to make movement towards greater management and protection of caribou and caribou habitat through the partnerships with the other Indigenous groups in the Ungava peninsula. NCC continues to encourage compliance with ongoing moratoriums to allow the population to fully recover.

CLIMATE CHANGE

NCC has been concerned for years about climate change and its impact on NunatuKavut Inuit and our lands. We are

continuing to experience the impacts and understanding these impacts is vital to the management of our natural resources and future of our coastal communities. Unfortunately, COVID-19 and capacity issues have delayed the development of a NCC Climate Change Strategy. The goal of the NCC Climate Change Strategy is to ensure a vibrant, livable, and resilient territory in the face of climate change. In the coming year, ENR will be looking at reviving the committee to guide the work towards this strategy.

Many activities of the Community-Based Climate Monitoring Program continued to be delayed by COVID-19; therefore, ENR was able to extend this program until March 2023. Youth in several communities continued with their monthly monitoring this past year and we will be working to analyse the results in the coming year. We have been continuing to schedule focus groups specific to elder ladies and men. ENR is planning for additional events in other communities in the winter 2023.



Figure 30: Square Islands, a traditional fishing community near Charlottetown, in the spring

ENR is keenly interested in acquiring knowledge, capacity, and expertise for implementing nature-based climate solutions such as peatlands and wetlands conservation and restoration. We were successful in securing funding for a multi-year project (2022-26) that partners with the Nature Conservatory of Canada, the Province of NL, and Memorial’s Grenfell Campus. This exciting new project would include our communities in each step of the project activities to ensure that project goals are understood and continues to be a priority for climate change adaptations and mitigations within the territory.

FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM



Figure 31: Berries all ready to go in the community freezer

In late May of 2021, ENR established a food security office to coordinate the community freezer program plus help implement plans that relate to food matters and food health.

In the first year, the food security office focused on access to country food and increased variety of foods available. We are focusing more on what types of food members want to eat and seasonalizing the freezer to ensure they are of the highest quality.

As supports through COVID-19 for food vouchers, baskets and other food related supports are coming to a close, we recognize the need for such supports going forward. We are exploring food sharing programs that can be applied throughout territories such as NCC. These programs include country food, a variety of other healthy foods, means to access, growing, hunting, harvesting, sharing, preparing and preserving foods.

The greenhouses in St. Lewis and Port Hope Simpson were completed in 2022 with some growing, and a community feast was held to serve foods that were produced.

The food security office has aligned with several key organizations to learn about programs and support that may help address food insecurities, build robust food systems and lead to overall food sovereignty for our people. It is supported largely by ENR guardians and also by departments such as Research, Education & Culture; Employment Skills & Development; Labrador West

Indigenous Service Centre, Offices of the President and CEO, and tremendous community volunteers.

The office is partnering with other Indigenous groups in Labrador, and Labrador-Grenfell Health, the province and Food First NL to find ways to add traditional food to the menu at the Labrador Health Centre, including long-term care.

There are plans to develop a NunatuKavut food network to share information and support local members in becoming food secure. Please stay tuned for a competition on the name of the network! Please contact the food security office if you are interested in being added to this network. The aim of the food security office is to ensure we always have the ability to feed ourselves and share with others.



Figure 32: Delivery of fresh greens to senior Julie Ward from NCC's greenhouse in Port Hope Simpson



Health and Community Services

MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

The Medical Transportation Program was launched in January 2020 using NCC's own-source revenue and has also had contributions from the federal Indigenous Community Support Fund.

Over 1,700 members accessed the program since it began, many using the program multiple times.

There has been an incredible amount of positive feedback regarding this program. Many people said that without NCC's assistance they would not have been able to attend these medical appointments, or it would have caused them great financial hardship like having to count on loans, getting help from family and friends and community fundraising.

NCC HOME REPAIR PROGRAM

The Home Repair Program started in January 2020 using NCC's own-source revenue and has had additional contributions from the province through the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation.



Figure 33: Beautiful new steps and a new hot water tank installed as part of NCC's Home Repair Program in Charlottetown

Over 130 members have accessed this funding to date. It has been a tremendous help to members in NunatuKavut, especially our seniors, to complete much needed home repairs.

GEORGE ROBERTS COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

Since the George Roberts Community Grants Program was established in December 2013, NCC has invested in well over 100 community-led initiatives that celebrate NunatuKavut Inuit culture while improving the economic, social, physical, mental and spiritual well-being of members.

In the 2021-2022 fiscal year (April 1 to March 30), 23 projects were funded, totalling \$62,826.

If you have a project idea, don't miss the quarterly deadlines of January 15, April 15, June 15 and September 15. Applications are available at www.nunatukavut.ca.

COMMUNITY SOCIAL WORKER

Since the introduction of the role of the Community Social Worker in April 2021, NCC has been strengthening relationships with community members, families, organizations and the Government of NL in the areas of holistic health and well-being.

Community social work involves building relationships with NunatuKavut Inuit through community visits, attempting to address systemic issues, engaging in individual and group problem-solving practices and helping to ensure the opportunities for culturally relevant healing.

The Community Social Worker role is responsive to the needs of NunatuKavut Inuit related to the key areas below.

Residential Schools

Our people carry their stories out on the ice when they hunt, on the land as they harvest and in their homes as they spend time with their families. Keeping these stories alive and ensuring they are respectfully told and remembered is an important part of healing and reconciliation.

It is vital that any work undertaken by NCC is led by and supported by those in our communities that are most

impacted. Through holding community visits and sharing circles, NCC has been focusing on speaking with and building relationships with former students and family members. Their feedback on their individual and community needs will help to ensure the opportunities for culturally relevant healing.

Healing comes in the form of holistic care that addresses the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health. There are huge gaps and complex challenges within the mental health system available to NunatuKavut Inuit. NCC is working to identify these gaps and work towards ensuring that appropriate, culturally relevant supports and services are available.

Discussions continue with the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador regarding a provincial apology to former students of residential schools to ensure that it is respectful of NunatuKavut Inuit and our communities. It is important that any work undertaken by NCC is led by and supported by those in our communities that are most impacted.

We want to commend the work of the Sandwich Bay Residential School Drummers, a group of Inuit women who themselves are a survivor of residential schools or is a child of a survivor. They have been engaged in a wonderful journey of healing through drumming and are a tremendous example of strength and resilience.



Figure 34: Sandwich Bay Residential School Drummers

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ (MMIWG)

NunatuKavut Inuit women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people face a range of barriers to holistic health and well-being in our communities. NCC continues to work with key partners, including the Government of NL, to prevent violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people. Most recently, the Provincial Government announced the formation of the Provincial Indigenous Women’s Reconciliation Council, which will have an overall goal to coordinate and lead meaningful action on implementation of the 196 recommendations from the report “Hear Our Voices: MMIWG Policy Recommendations of the First Women of Newfoundland and Labrador.” This focuses on the areas of Indigenous culture, health and wellness, justice and human security, leading to lasting changes in legislation, regulations, government directives, policies and procedures. NCC will have representation on this newly forming council.

Some of the most recent work being led by the Health and Community Services department is through the project entitled “Strengthening Community Wellness in NunatuKavut.” Health concerns are inherently linked to violence that many Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people face because when health is sacrificed, so is safety. This project will identify the gaps and barriers of Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people and the intergenerational trauma they have been subjected to. When we address the barriers and enhance opportunities for the well-being of the most vulnerable, we strengthen our communities and our society as a whole.

Mental Health and Addictions

The Health and Community Services (HCS) Department plays a role in better understanding the realities around Mental Health and Addictions in our communities.

We have a partnership with the local health authority and engaged in various committees to ensure our people are supported in culturally appropriate ways. As examples, we have a relationship with the mental wellness counsellors via virtual support for our members, a voice on the Labrador-Grenfell Health (LGH) mental wellness unit team and have engaged with LGH to provide mental health crisis support.



HCS also collaborates with other staff and departments within the NunatuKavut Wellness Initiative steering committee. The project, called “Understanding People, Place, and Culture: A NunatuKavut Inuit Mental Wellness Initiative,” aims to strengthen mental wellness resources in our territory. This project involves active participation from community members within our communities to work towards developing and strengthening wellness resources available to our members. Through sharing circles and community engagements, we are hearing from NunatuKavut Inuit on what mental wellness means to them. This allows NCC to identify key needs and ensure there are opportunities for holistic, culturally relevant healing.



Figure 35: Mental Wellness Initiative gathering in Battle Harbour

Child, Youth and Families Act

Since NCC was added to the *Child, Youth and Families Act* schedule as an “Indigenous Government/Organization” in May 2021, it has established a strong relationship with the Province and the Department of Children, Seniors and Social Department. With this relationship, and the role of

our Community Social Worker, as the Indigenous Representative, NCC can ensure the children and youth who are involved in the child protection system remain connected to their family, their community and their culture as a whole.

Justice

NCC strives to ensure the delivery of culturally competent police services within our territory. Our Community Social Worker represents NunatuKavut Inuit on the Commanding Officers Indigenous Advisory Committee (COIAC).

Unfortunately, the justice system has failed to address the unique healing needs and underlying causes of criminality of Indigenous offenders. In response, in March 2022, our Community Social Worker was chosen to complete Gladue Writer training through the Indigenous Perspectives Society. This provided the necessary skills, background and legal knowledge to work with the Gladue Report process and as a Gladue Report Writer in the Canadian criminal justice system.

(Note: If you identify as Indigenous and are charged with a crime, the judge must apply Gladue factors when in a criminal court. This is a way for the judge to consider the unique circumstances of Indigenous people.)

Research

HCS continues to work on various research projects, as well as collaborating with the REC department on the Mental Wellness Project, addressing mental wellness in NCC communities.

The Community Social Worker is also involved in NCC’s Research Advisory Committee (RAC) in reviewing proposed research project proposals for NunatuKavut communities. This is in addition to being involved in various community-based research projects.

Research, Education and Culture

RESEARCH

The Research, Education and Culture (REC) department continues to advance diverse and innovative research based on the needs and priorities of NunatuKavut Inuit. In collaboration with NunatuKavut communities and academic institutions, we have focused on areas including health and wellness, history and archaeology, housing needs and renewable energy. Some of the ongoing research endeavors led by REC are captured here.

Research Advisory Committee (RAC)

NCC's Research Advisory Committee is an interdepartmental committee that meets monthly to review research applications proposing research in NunatuKavut or with NunatuKavut Inuit. Our research review process ensures that NCC's involvement before, during and after research occurs. This research governance process ensures that any research done is appropriate, culturally relevant and benefits NunatuKavut Inuit.

Over the course of the year, RAC has reviewed over 20 research applications, which have involved in-depth review, discussions, and communication among NCC departments and researchers to meet the criteria of our governance process.

Mental Wellness Initiative

NCC's Mental Wellness Initiative is a research project partnership between NCC and Memorial University to inform culturally relevant and appropriate programming that strengthens and promotes mental wellness in our communities. This fiscal year we have been hosting additional sharing circles in communities to explore the impacts of COVID-19 on mental wellness. We also released a mental wellness survey, to ensure we capture all perspectives of people from NunatuKavut. We will be meeting with our community champions later this year to

review what we've heard and discuss programming ideas that will meet the needs and priorities of community members.

Our project steering committee, which consists of NCC staff across departments, have been meeting to discuss the progression of the project and have planned for several training opportunities for communities that will contribute to the support and promotion of mental wellness. The Mental Health First Aid and Applied Suicide Intervention Skills training (ASSIST) opportunities are being planned for potential roll out throughout 2023.

Cartwright Community Hub

The Cartwright Community Hub is a partnership among the NunatuKavut Community Council, Memorial University, and the Sandwich Bay 50+ club that will enhance community access to research and education. The Community Hub had its grand opening in November 2022 following a weekend of community engagement sessions around the Akami-Uapishk^u-KakKasuak-Mealy Mountains National Park Reserve, research priorities for NCC and Inuttitit.



Figure 36: Engagement Session during the Cartwright Community Hub opening weekend in November

A hub coordinator and program assistant has been hired to help develop, coordinate, and facilitate educational activities, workshops, and training at the hub. They are also there to help the community with access to printing,



Internet use and computers as needed for anything you may need help submitting!

Housing Needs Assessment

The REC department has been conducting community engagement sessions and has released a survey to inform a future NCC housing strategy and framework for NunatuKavut. Several community meetings were held in September 2022 across NunatuKavut which had great attendance and participation from community members.

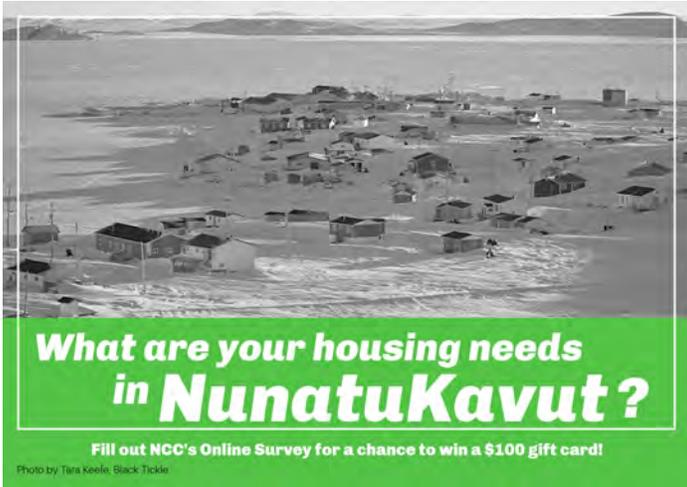


Figure 37: Postcard inviting members to participate in a housing needs survey

Community members will have received postcards inviting them to participate in a survey on housing needs. This will ensure we are capturing people’s perspectives on the housing needs in our region.

EDUCATION IN NUNATUKAVUT

The REC department has been continuing to implement Ikupiatsik – NCC’s NunatuKavut Inuit Education Action Plan across several initiatives and programs. These have included language programming, implementation of NCC’s own Inuit Education program, and developing educational resources that reflect our history, culture and traditions. Culturally relevant programming gives important opportunity to connect and strengthen our connection to our ancestors, to each other, to preserve and pass on our traditions, and promote mental health and wellbeing among our people.

Inuttit Language Programming

This year we have been able to develop and roll out Inuttit programming across NunatuKavut, which has involved beginner sessions or activities in schools and communities along the south coast and Upper Lake Melville. There has been a strong response and great interest from those who have attended thus far! We have heard directly from NunatuKavut Inuit that learning Inuttit is important to them and meaningfully strengthens their connection to place. We are grateful for the knowledge and patience of our translator Lydia Tuglavina, whose passion to teach and preserve Inuttit is felt at each session.



Figure 38: Inuttit language training in St. Lewis

We also have started gathering community feedback on how our people want to be engaged with Inuttit programming moving forward. Guided by this feedback, and feedback from our Inuttit sessions, we are hoping to build on and continue our current roll out of in-person and virtual Inuttit sessions and develop future resources for schools and community spaces.

Inuit Education Program (IEP)

Across our territory, NCC’s Inuit Education Program has been ongoing throughout the year. Earlier last year we piloted our ‘edu-kits’ to three schools in NunatuKavut which contained a mixture of carving or crafting activities focused around traditional animals. Feedback from the piloted schools will help inform and develop future kits that will be accessible to schools in NunatuKavut in the future.

Our Community Cultural Resource Worker has been working with schools to plan and implement activities throughout the 2022-2023 school year. It has been powerful to see youth engaging in and practicing our

traditional activities within the formal school system. These activities have included making seal skin mitts, seal skin slippers, soapstone carvings, and komatik building! NCC will continue to enhance and advance the IEP, particularly as we work with the NLESD around our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Education.



Figure 39: Net mending workshop with students in Charlottetown

Finally, with support from Heritage NL, we have been able to offer net mending and beading workshops in several NunatuKavut communities as a means towards preserving and passing on cultural skills and traditions. REC will continue its work to provide future opportunities that promote cultural activities in our territory, especially those that foster intergenerational knowledge sharing between youth and elders.

Educational Resource Development: 'Our Time Over There'

NCC, NunatuKavut community members and Them Days have been working with Dr. Andrea Procter to develop a book focused on the experiences of residential school students in NunatuKavut. 'Our Time Over There' is a compilation of oral histories, photos, and perspectives from or about students of the Muddy Bay and Lockwood schools in our territory. This resource will be a great tool to better inform others of the history and impact of residential schools on NunatuKavut Inuit and to strengthen the voices of those affected by these colonial institutions. 'Our Time Over There' will be published by Boulder Books, with plans to publish in 2024.

ENERGY

Our REC Energy team has been busy this summer and fall continuing to plan and implement renewable energy work in our communities.



Figure 40: NCC-Nunacor Energy Working Group meeting

Indigenous Off –Diesel Initiative (IODI)

The REC department and partners continue to build on our work on with the federally funded Indigenous Off-Diesel Initiative with Natural Resources Canada (NRCan). There are over 200 remote communities in Canada that rely on diesel, many of which are Indigenous. Rapid advances in renewable and energy efficiency technologies make it possible to integrate cleaner energy while retaining stability, reliability, and affordability. This presents opportunity for remote communities to pursue clean energy projects to reduce reliance on diesel.

We have been busy implementing Phase III of the program. Some of the highlights of our work includes:

- *High Efficiency Woodstoves (HEWS)* – our pilot project installations in Black Tickle are almost complete and evaluation of this program will take place in Winter/Spring 2023.
- *Home Energy Retro-Fit Program (HERP)* – planning is underway for the 2023 construction season. We will be conducting community meetings to inform this work in Winter/Spring of 2023.
- *Solar* – RFP closed November 25, 2022 for 2 small scale solar projects in Black Tickle and St Lewis. Work to take place in 2023 construction season.



- *Energy Micro-Grant Program* – We developed a small energy grant program to help encourage small scale clean energy mindfulness efforts in NCC communities.



Figure 41: First High Efficiency Wood Stove installed in Black Tickle

2023 Energy Forum Planning

We have started planning for our Annual Energy Forum to take place in Spring of 2023. Hosting this annual event enables NCC to be actively involved and lead in the clean energy sector for our region. The REC department continues to learn more about community priorities as they relate to energy and to create and foster relationships that will secure and strengthen future work in this sector.

MUSEUMS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Museum Assistance Program (MAP) is funded by the Department of Canadian Heritage and provides opportunities for NCC to further develop our inventory of tangible cultural heritage objects and consider potential repatriation plans. Our work with archeology and cultural history is integral to the NCC and our communities continue to express a great interest in our shared heritage. We are continuing to build on this work through the hiring of a heritage officer and building on our relationships with federal, provincial and academic partners.

NCC RELATIONSHIP WITH PARKS CANADA

REC is the lead department overseeing NCC’s Shared Understanding Agreement with Parks Canada related to the Akami-Uapishk^U-KakKasuak-Mealy Mountains National Park. A cultural history report was developed in partnership with Parks Canada that will be a foundational piece in support of the overall strategic plan for the park. In addition, Parks Canada has approached NCC to consider the development of interim management guidelines related to park management. A workshop between NunatuKavut Community Council staff and Parks Canada, with additional participation of members of the NunatuKavut Consensus Board, was held in Gros Morne in October. The purpose of the workshop was to explore how interim guidelines could serve as a stepping stone to a future management plan and what might be some of the joint priorities for the national park reserve over the coming years.



Figure 42: Workshop in Gros Morne in October

In November we held a community engagement event in Cartwright related to the Park. Our goal was to identify community priorities, potential themes and suggestions for tourism materials and experiences. Cartwright residents identified significant areas in or near the park where NCC and local people should focus on developing tourism experiences and materials. It was also an opportunity to learn about areas that should be protected from tourism in or near the park.

We continue to build on our ‘Stories of NunatuKavut’ webpage and encourage you to visit and provide feedback.

Labrador West Indigenous Service Centre

The Labrador West Indigenous Service Centre (ISC) continues to deliver effective, culturally appropriate programs and services to assist all Indigenous peoples living in or transitioning to Labrador West. We also shares awareness of Indigenous culture to the non-Indigenous community.

The ISC offers drop-in services for computer use, job search and resumes. We assist in applications and forms as required by visitors. We also offer support for overall well-being and kindness to others by providing a safe environment to learn and share Indigenous culture.

Approximately 120 visitors access the ISC monthly, which includes participation in weekly programs and events.

PROGRAMS/SERVICES

Community Freezer

The ISC assists NCC with the community freezer program in Labrador West, which is open to NCC members who need access to country foods. Learn more about this program in the ENR section on page 32.

Trail Walks

The ISC coordinates a trail walk twice a week around Tanya Lake trail and it is open to the public. This was initiated in partnership with the Lab West Status of Women so that participants wouldn't have to walk alone on the trails.

Women's Circle

Open to the community, the ISC offers a drop-in time for ladies on Monday afternoons to learn new crafting skills or work on their own crafts. It is an opportunity for storytelling as well as the sharing of crafting patterns that were traditionally used to create clothing and other items for an Indigenous household. There are special treats and always a cup of tea or coffee. At many of the sessions, we discuss

ways of taking care of ourselves so we can better care for others.



Figure 43: Senior Susie Roberts tries her hand at painting at the weekly Women's Circle

Inuit Drumming Program

The ISC organizes an Inuit drumming program for six youth who gather weekly to practice. The youth participated in a visit to three schools on the Labrador coast, the seniors home in Mary's Harbour and the Parks Canada site in Red Bay. They did performances as well as taking on some leadership roles by teaching many students some techniques that they have learned.



Figure 44: The ISC drumming group teaching other students how to drum



Other

The ISC also offered drop-in crafting sessions, cossak-making, rug hooking and was involved in Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASSIST).

EVENTS

National Indigenous Peoples Day 2022

For the seventh year, ISC staff and volunteers have organized activities in celebration of National Indigenous Peoples Day (NIPD). This year, a two-day event was held at Duley Lake, just outside of Labrador City.



Figure 45: Poster for National Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations

The ISC also organized a number of other events. These included:

- Berry picking
- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Orange Shirt Day)
- Suicide Awareness Day



Figure 46: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation event in Labrador City

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The ISC is proud to work with a number of community partners. They include:

- Hope Haven – Women’s Shelter
- Labrador West Status of Women
- Salvation Army
- Town of Labrador City and Town of Wabush
- Mental Wellness Coalition
- Gateway Labrador

Contact Information

NCC

Head Office

Email: admin@nunatukavut.ca
Tel: 877.896.0592 or 709.896.0592
Fax: 709.896.0594
200 Kelland Drive
PO Box 460, Stn. C
Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL
A0P 1C0

Labrador West Indigenous Service Centre

Email: executive.asc@nunatukavut.ca
Tel: 709.288.0471
Fax: 709.288.0473
Office 1024, Colby Building
121 Matthew Avenue
Labrador City, NL A2V 2A2

Cartwright Office

Tel: 709.700.2846
Fax: 709.938.7880
PO Box 130
Cartwright, NL A0K 1V0

Port Hope Simpson Office

Tel: 709.960.0407
Fax: 709.960.0425
3 Route 510
PO Box 198
Port Hope Simpson, NL A0K 4E0

Charlottetown Office

Tel: 709.949.0320 Fax: 709.949.0373
PO Box 59
Charlottetown, NL A0K 5Y0

Mary's Harbour Office

T: 709.921.6257
F: 709.921.6575
32-34 Lodge Bay Road
Mary's Harbour, NL A0K 3P0

NUNACOR

Head Office

Email: info@nunacor.com
Tel: 866.446.5035 or 709.896.5722
Fax: 709.896.5739
169 Hamilton River Road
PO Box 418, Stn C
Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL
A0P 1C0

Port Hope Simpson Office

Tel: 709.960.0705
Fax: 709.960.0706
246 Route 510
Port Hope Simpson, NL A0K 4E0

Mary's Harbour Office

Tel: 709.921.6905
Tel: 709-921-6569 (NDC Fisheries)
Fax: 709-921-6567
32-34 Lodge Bay Road, PO Box 169
Mary's Harbour, NL A0K 3P0

Labrador City Office

Tel: 709.944.1747
1365 Route 500 Nichols-Adam Highway
Labrador City, NL A2V 2A2





www.nunatukavut.ca



facebook.com/NunatuKavut



instagram.com/nunatukavutinit



twitter.com/NunatuKavut



youtube.com/user/NunatuKavut