

DRUM

Inupiaq: QILAUN Siberian Yupik: SAGUYA Central Yupik: CAUYAQ

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 13-15 2017 Arctic Circle Assembly • Reykjavik, Iceland • http://www.arcticcircle.org

October 16-18 5th Alaska Native Health Research Conference • Anchorage, Alaska • https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/ default.aspx?EventID=2022896

October 19-21

Alaska Federation of Natives • Anchorage, Alaska • www.nativefederation.org October 24-26 Senior Arctic Officials Meeting • Oulu, Finland • www.arctic-council.org

November 6-8 Circumpolar Inuit Wildlife Management Summit • Ottawa, Canada • www.inuitcircumpolar.com

November 7

Inuit Day

November 27-29 Arctic Council SDWG Arctic EIA Workshop • Utqiagvik, Alaska • www.arctic-council.org

November 30 – December 1 ICC Alaska Board of Directors Meeting • Anchroage, Alaska • www.iccalaska.org

December 6-8

Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission Meeting • Anchorage, Alaska • www.aewc-alaska.com

December 11-15

AGU Fall Meeting • New Orleans, Louisiana • https://fallmeeting.agu.org/2017/

December 11-15 Arctic Change 2017 • Quebec, Canada http://www.arcticnetmeetings.ca/ac2017/

January 21-26

2018 Arctic Frontiers: Connecting the Arctic • Tromso, Norway • http://www.arcticfrontiers.com



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Image taken from the Inuit Circumpolar Council Alaska publication: Alaska Inuit Food Security Framework: How to Assess the Arctic from the Inuit Perspective.

ICC Alaska Launches New Project

Food Sovereignty and Self-Governance – Inuit Role in Managing Arctic Marine Resources

By ICC Alaska Staff

Our office has maintained a focus on Inuit food security through the history of ICC, as directed by Inuit through declarations and strategic plans. Working independently and with our other offices, a few of the products that have come out of this focus are - The Village Journey (the report of the Alaska Native Review Commission), Declarations on Inuit Arctic Sovereignty and Resource Development, and the Inuit Arctic Policy. Last year we successfully completed another product in efforts to address our food security, the Alaskan Inuit Food Security Conceptual Framework. The project was successful because it was Inuit led, authored by us (Inuit across Alaska), and truly communicates what our food security is. Out of this project came many key points and recommendations. One of the strongest points is that our food security is largely at-risk due to lack of decision making power and management; and the undeniable connection between food security and food sovereignty. Food sovereignty is the right of Alaskan Inuit to define their own hunting, gathering, fishing, land and water policies; the right to define what is sustainably, socially, economically and culturally appropriate for the distribution of food and to maintain ecological health.

It is time for us to look at food sovereignty, to move the conversation from what our food security is to what is needed to obtain and keep food security – food sovereignty. We our excited to share that we have been awarded a National Science Foundation collaborative grant that will aid us in looking further into these topics through the Food Sovereignty and Self-Governance – Inuit Role in Managing Arctic Marine Resources Project (FSSG). The FSSG will allow us to follow up on one of the recommendations that came out of the food security report - to analyze management and co-management structures within Inuit Nunaat to understand how those governing frameworks support or need to be modified to achieve Inuit food sovereignty.

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ICC ALASKA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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President's Message

James Stotts *The Arctic We Want....*

The theme for the upcoming ICC General Assembly is Inuit-The Arctic We Want; the assembly will be held July 16-19, 2018 in Utqiagvik, Alaska. This will be the third time that the event has been held there and I'm sure my home town will do a great job hosting the many visitors expected during that week. I know Utqiagvik is working diligently to organize all the fine details that go into planning

for this premier international event.

When settling upon a theme for the Assembly, the ICC Executive Council wanted one that was proactive, provocative, and future looking. A theme that would stress the need for us to take a good hard look at what we, individually and collectively, want our world to look like in the future. Trying to predict the future is not easy, especially in these rapidly changing times. This makes it all the more important to have a sense of where we're going and what we want.

It seems the whole world is interested in the Arctic and that interest comes from different angles. Some would protect the Arctic environment, creating marine protected areas and parks, stopping all hunting. Some would exploit resources, drilling for oil, or mining for metals and minerals. Climate change is more visible and dramatic in the Arctic than other parts of the globe. We often hear about the down-side of change. Is there an up-side? Is there a more balanced approach?

It's important that we attempt to look into the future through the eyes of our children when we consider the Arctic we want. After all, they will be living in this future. The Arctic will be a changed place in 30 or 40 years. Will it be a place that our children will want to live in? There are some communities where Inuit are already leaving. This is a discussion we need to have in Utqiagvik next summer.

We have tried to structure the GA sessions to allow for ample time for delegates to discuss the issues thoroughly. We have a strong youth and family focus. We will look at sustainable development and the balance between economic development and environmental protection. We will address social, cultural, health, and education issues. The sessions are structured to ask the question; what is the Arctic we want?

There will be reports from the three Summits held during the 2014-18 term; Economic, Wild Life Management, and Education. All three will have recommendations on how to implement their results. These three topics are key to our future.

While we talk over these serious issues and our future together, I hope we don't forget to enjoy each other's company and celebrate our culture. It's always great fun to see old friends and make some new ones. There will be great entertainment, great food, and great friendship. This is something we would like to see continue in the Arctic we want.

We look forward to greeting you in Utqiagvik next summer. We would like to use the same words Eben Hopson used when he greeted those first delegates to the first ICC Conference, 40 years ago. "Welcome Home".

Executive Council meets in Nunatsiavut

By ICC Alaska Staff

An ICC Executive Council Meeting (ECM) was held in Nain, Labrador September 23-24. Nain is the capital of Nunatsiavut.

After warm welcoming remarks from Johannes Lampe, the President of Nunatsiavut Government and Joe Dicker, AngajukKak (Mayor) of Nain, the Council got down to business. After dispensing with the adoption of the agenda and previous meeting minutes, the Council proceeded to the Chair and Country reports. A few of the highlights from the reports are summarized below.

Chair report: Okalik Eegeesiak, ICC Chair, attended the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues April 24 – May 5 in New York City at UN Headquarters where she presented to the Expert Group on Languages and hosted a youth information session while participating throughout the Forum.

She published an article for the UN Chronicle titled, "The Arctic Ocean and the Sea Ice is Our Nuna", as a contribution to the International Oceans Day, which was on held June 6th.

In mid-June, she gave a speech in Oulu, Finland at the European Union sponsored Arctic Indigenous Peoples Dialogue. She gave a speech in Norway at the Arctic Arts Summit on the topic of preservation of culture through art.

Greenland: Hjalmar Dahl informed the Council on some personnel changes within ICC Greenland. After 18 years of service, Rena Skifte will be leaving at the end of the year to pursue other interests. The plan is to replace her and also hire a General Assembly (GA) coordinator in the new year.

The Inuit Human Rights Center (IHRC) is being shut down due to a lack of funding support for this 2014 initiative. The IHRC will close operations no later than the end of October.

Greenland hosted a seven-person delegation, 'Nuori Karjala', representing the Karelian (Russia) indigenous peoples August 11-16. ICC arranged for meetings with organizations and institutions to inform how Greenland created a self-government country within Denmark.

Chukotka: Tatiana Achirgina reported that the priority during the reporting period was their Beringia Education Project. The project was supported financially by the Chukotka Government Department of Aboriginal Affairs, including support for folklore ensembles.

The project carried out over 20 different activities with a diverse program dedicated to the Yupik and other indigenous peoples of Chukotka and their nature, history and culture. Activities included public discussions, presentations, films and videos, dramatic shows, photo exhibitions, and an 'Eskimo Ball' sports match.

All activities were well attended by experts and scholars on various topics. All in all, the project was a great success and was dedicated to the 40th Anniversary of ICC

Alaska: Jim Stotts informed the Council about the economic situation in Alaska and efforts to solve the budget crisis at the



ICC Executive Council meeting in Nain, Labrador. L to R: Vera Metcalf (Alaska), Hjalmer Dahl (Greenland), Nancy Karetak-Lindell (Canada), Nuka Kleemann (Greenland), Okalik Eegeesiak (Chair), Jim Stotts (Alaska) and Tatiana Arhirgina (Chuktoka). Photo by ICC Canada.



Inuit Circumpolar Council Executive Council meeting in Nain, Labrador. Photo by ICC Canada.

state legislature. The changes occurring at the federal level were also highlighted.

The AVCP/Calista region recently formed the Provisional Nunavut Alaska Government to unite the 56 village tribes in the region with the authority to mandate law. An enabling vote is planned for November.

Elections for Mayor of the North Slope Borough are planned for early October, with several candidates it's likely to result in a run-off election.

Jim mentioned the creation of a cooperation group to address the banning of the sale of walrus ivory products by some U.S states. This is a contentious issue especially affecting the Bering Strait region.

Canada: Nancy Karetak-Lindell presented on some changes in the relationship between the Canada government and Inuit. First, there was the signing of an Inuit-Crown partnership to

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My Intern Experience

By Kimberly Pikok, Summer Intern

This summer, I was fortunate enough to be an intern for the Inuit Circumpolar Council Alaska. My journey on getting here was spontaneous and overwhelming, but oddly exciting. It took a tremendous amount of guts and a little too much thinking for my brain, but nonetheless, I am happy that I did the internship. While being an intern for ICC, I learned so much about the organization, the people that work for it, and the dedication and passion needed to work in this environment. I even learned more about myself and what direction I wanted to go academically and career wise. Thank you ICC Alaska for this amazing opportunity.

Applying for this position was last minute and out of spite. I applied the last day the application was due and a day later, I got a call from Kelly Eningowuk asking for an interview. I was overwhelmed and kind of terrified for the interview, but I think things worked out well for me. However, there was a dilemma, I did not live in Anchorage. After a few days of struggling to find a place to stay, I made it down here more than eager to start. In all honesty, I was scared of being away from home even longer because I had just gotten back from school in Fairbanks, but I do not regret my decision and the move. One week into the internship, I felt like I already learned so much, and my knowledge of ICC, their projects,

Niqipiat Nigikkavut Symposium

This was the first ever Niqipiat Nigikkavut Symposium held in Kotzebue, Alaska. The theme of the symposium was "Powered by Uqsruq!" Throughout the symposium, people discussed the health benefits of our Native foods and how we can inspire others to continue harvesting and using what our environment provides using Indigenous knowledge. Denali Whiting, who serves as a youth representative on the ICC Alaska Food Security Advisory Committee, kicked off the symposium with a presentation on the ICC Alaska food security project. and the Inuit communities across the circumpolar regions kept building.

Interns are given a list of expected tasks and one of the items is to create a project that involves ICC's strategic plan. Knowing me, I thought of a billion and one ideas and focusing on one area was mind boggling, but I somehow settled. After reading multiple reports and project outcomes, I decided to focus on education, technology, and youth. My idea was to create a children's animated show that encompasses Inuit values, Inuit stories from Alaska and the other circumpolar regions, food, hunting, clothing, names and titles, land, and languages from the circumpolar region. On top of that, I was working with an outdoor leadership program called Fresh Tracks, my workload was heavy, but I was kept busy.

I loved my summer with ICC. The office is full of amazing individuals that gives a lot of support, ideas, and excitement. I am grateful for this experience and I hope to find my way working with ICC again in the future. Once again, thank you ICC Alaska for this opportunity.

Kimberly's internship was made possible through a grant from the North Slope Borough.



Photo courtesy of Denali Whiting.



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New Acting Chair of ICC

By ICC Staff

Nancy Karetak-Lindell was appointed Acting Chair of the ICC on September 24th at a regular Executive Council meeting of the organization in Nain, Labrador. Nancy will also retain her job as President of ICC Canada, a part-time position, for the time being.

This was the result of ICC Chair Okalik Eegeesiak's decision to run for a seat as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of the Nunavut Government. Okalik will be on an unpaid leave of absence while she is actively campaigning. Okalik recently stated to the press that she is open to the idea of seeking the position of Premier of Nunavut. Elections are scheduled for October 30th.

Depending on the outcome of the election, Okalik may or may not return to ICC. Nancy has committed to fulfilling the responsibilities of ICC Acting Chair in the event that Okalik cannot continue with ICC. The Executive Council has taken a decision that will accommodate all possibilities.



Nancy Karetak-Lindell, third from right, stands with other Canadian Inuit leaders in Nain, Nunatsiavut where ICC and ITK held their annual general meetings. Photo courtesy of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami.

In the meantime, it will be business as usual for ICC as the organization continues with a busy agenda including preparing for the ICC General Assembly next summer in Utqiagvik, Alaska.

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The FSSG is a 2.5-year project and is led by Carolina Behe (ICC Alaska), Dalee Sambo Dorough (University of Alaska) and David Roche (The Environmental Law Institute) and conducted in partnership with the Eskimo Walrus Commission, the Kuskokwim River Inter Tribal Fisheries Commission, the Inuvialuit Game Council and the Fisheries Joint Management Committee. Additionally, the Association of Village Council Presidents and the Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada will participate through the project advisory committee.

Working through the four case studies, the Project Team will conduct a legal analysis (looking at what is on the books) and working with Inuit who are directly engaged in the management and co-management of salmon and walrus in Alaska and char and beluga in the Inuvaluit Settlement Region. The Team will further review policy, and institutional structures and processes related to Inuit self-governance of marine resources to better understand opportunities and barriers based both on the legal system and existing practice. The FSSG will utilize Indigenous Knowledge and social science methodologies and will intimately engage with Inuit who play a role in natural resources management under each case study—all guided by input provided by an expert Advisory Committee. FSSG outcomes will be used to inform Inuit, state/territorial, and national policy-makers and resource managers about existing approaches, strengths and weaknesses, and the potential opportunities for enhancing Inuit self-governance.

Again, it is time for us to look at what is needed to strengthen management of our food sources, to move the conversation from food security to food sovereignty. We beleive that FSSG will move us towards this goal.

This work and discussed project is supported under NSF Grant No. 1732373. All opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

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advance shared priorities on social, cultural, economic and environmental issues facing Inuit.

Second, Canada dissolved the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC). In its place were established two new departments: Department of Crown-Indigenous Relationships and Northern Affairs, and Department of Indigenous Services. What this all means remains to be determined.

ICC Canada released its 2017-18 Operational Plan at the ECM.

General Assembly: The upcoming GA, "Inuit–The Arctic We Want", claimed a lot of time at the ECM.

Discussions on the draft agenda included: selecting topics for different GA sessions; ensuring there is ample time for delegate input; having a youth component; having holistic rather than sector by sector presentations; and selecting potential speakers and presenters.

There was talk on the Bill Edmonds Award and a process was approved on how to make the decision on making the award.

It was decided ICC Canada, as Chair, would take the lead on preparing the 2018 GA documents: Agenda, 2014 Proceedings, 2014-18 Activity Report, 2018 Utqiagvik Declaration, and the Financial Overview.

Each country then gave brief reports on where they were with respect to fund raising, logistics and planning their participation. ICC Alaska gave a presentation on current efforts regarding host planning.

Pikialasorsuaq: A report from ICC Canada stated that the report is near completion and will be made public late September. Three key principles and recommendations were developed: establish an Inuit Management Authority led by Inuit communities in the area; identify a protected area composed of the polynya and a larger management zone to be managed by Inuit; establish a free-travel zone for Inuit within the protected area.

Another report from ICC Greenland concurred with the three recommendations and then recommended next steps to be taken including: develop agreements between Canada and Denmark including local and regional governments and hunter's organizations; formalizing a management authority to manage the polynya; create a management plan including a monitoring program. The Greenland report went on to suggest a renewal of the Pikialasorsuaq Commission along the lines of the recommendations and have the ICC Executive replace the Commissioners at the next 2018 GA.

The Council decided to draft new terms of reference and mandate for the next ECM.

United Nations: There were several reports on ICC's engagement at the UN including: Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII); Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP); 2030 Sustainable Development Goals; Climate Change COP 22; International Maritime Organization (IMO); Convention on Biodiversity (CBD); Convention on International



Vera Metcalf (Alaska), Nancy Karetak-Lindell (Canada), Okalik Eegeesiak (Chair), and Tatiana Arhirgina (Chuktoka). Photo by ICC Canada.

Trade of Endangered Species (CITES); International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN); International Whaling Commission (IWC).

A common theme on this topic was the need for a better coordinated and communicated approach to this work and the need to build capacity to better engage. It was stated that the UN itself needed to abide by the principles of UNDRIP as this a growing concern from indigenous peoples.

Arctic Council: Update reports were given on the work of the Arctic Council's working groups and task forces including: Senior Arctic Officials (SAO), Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program (AMAP); Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF), Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response (EPPR), Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME), Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG), Task Force on Arctic Marine Cooperation (TFAMC), Task Force on Improved Connectivity in the Arctic (TFICA); Indigenous Peoples Secretariat (IPS). Much like the discussions on the United Nations work there is a need for better communication and coordination between the ICC offices. The Arctic Council has just stated its first round of meetings under the Finnish Chairmanship and ICC is in an organizing mode.

ICC Summits: Updates on the three ICC mandated Summits. The Inuit Economic Summit was held in Anchorage last March and is in the implementation phase. The Inuit Wildlife Management Summit will be held November 6-8, 2017 in Ottawa, Canada. The Inuit Education Summit will be held in Nuuk, Greenland February 13-15, 2018.

ICC Involvement with Environmental NGOs: The Council discussed how to ensure relationships with environmental organizations are true partnerships, and there is a real understanding and respect for Inuit culture. This is necessary to avoid situations where environmental organizations take advantage of Inuit. It was decided that this might be a topic for discussion at the upcoming GA.

Chair – Leave of Absence: As mentioned elsewhere in this issue of DRUM, the ICC Chair has decided to run for political office in the next elections of the Government of Nunavut. The Council has made a decision to appoint Nancy Karetak-Lindell as Acting Chair until the elections to be held October 30.

The next ECM will be held in Nuuk, Greenland during February, 2018. O

CAFF Holds Meeting in Bethel

The Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF), one of six working groups within the Arctic Council, held their board meeting in Bethel, Alaska September 6-8th. This is the first Arctic Council associated meeting to ever be held in the Yukon-Kuskokwim region.

Vivian Korthius, AVCP president and ICC Alaska board member, attended as a part of the ICC delegation. During the meeting, Vivian shared, "This working group is asking itself and is talking about what comes next. I really hope that from visiting and meeting in our region, the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta, you get some inspiration. It may be in the continuation of freshwater biodiversity monitoring or related to some other aspect of CAFF activities. Our people in our region have an interest in this group and the other working groups because the work is relevant to our region. We have 56 tribes on the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta and CAFF work is all important to us. So, when the working group has those discussions and we are not in the room, please remember the inspiration you got from coming to Bethel. When you remember us, you need to remember that we have so much that we can contribute and that your work is about our home".



The CAFF board, made up of Arctic States and the Permanent Participants, are joined by observer organizations and countries to pose for a photo following the first Arctic Council associated meeting to be held in the Yukon-Kuskokwim region. Photo provided by the CAFF Secretariat's office.

My ICC Experience

By Michelle Ngusighmii Slwooko

My internship with Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) Alaska has been a very eye-opening, supportive, and overall great experience. Everyone in the office was very welcoming and friendly my first week in the office. It was very easy to slip into the office flow and to feel like a part of the team. ICC Alaska's intern Kim Pikok quickly became my partner in crime in the boardroom. My first two weeks consisted of reading material that explained what ICC Alaska was and what they were trying to do for the communities of the Arctic. I learned a lot about ICC Alaska and how they are a part of a much larger organization.

The project that I chose tied into one of ICC's seven priorities involving contaminants and pollutants. Carolina Behe, ICC Alaska's Indigenous knowledge and science advisor, helped me a lot in finding a direction for my project. Through reading reports and articles I learned about how chemicals/ pollutants reach the Arctic and how much they impact the environment and animals. These reports spurred me into wanting to create an informational paper on persistent organic pollutants and how they affect the Arctic. I had a lot of fun learning about these topics and brainstorming with Carolina.

I would like to thank everyone at ICC Alaska for allowing me to intern with the organization and for being very supportive in every way possible. This internship has opened my eyes as to how a lot of matters are interconnected in Alaska and how expansive the Arctic really is. I would rate my experience this summer with 5 stars. I would definitely like to stay connected and one day continue interning.

Michelle's internship was made possible through a partnership with the First Alaskans Institute.





Inuit Circumpolar Council

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Inuit Circumpolar Council is Seeking a Chair

INUIT

The Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) elects a Chair every four years at the organization's General Assembly. The country hosting the Assembly is required to nominate one candidate for the position of Chair for the following term. The Assembly will take place in Utqiagvik, Alaska during July 16-19, 2018 and therefore Alaska will host the office of the Chair from 2018-2022. The Chair is an elected, full time position. As stated in the ICC Charter and Bylaws, any adult Inuk (Alaskan Inupiaq, Yup'ik, Cup'ik or St. Lawrence Island Yupik) is eligible to be Chair. For further details, please visit: http://iccalaska.org/about/icc-international/ga Interested applicants must submit a current resume along with a letter explaining their qualifications and why they are seeking the position of ICC Chair to ICC Alaska via email to icc@iccalaska.org, fax to 907-274-3861 or mail to 3900 Arctic Blvd., Ste. 203, Anchorage, Alaska 99503. The deadline for submitting interest is November 15, 2017.