

# Continued Learning



## LIFELONG LEARNING

Nunavummiut have always valued further education in their lives. In the ten years since the Territory of Nunavut was created, lifelong learning and skills development has proven to be an ongoing success story for Nunavummiut. The Nunavut Arctic College was created on January 1, 1995 and since then, the College has grown across the Territory with 24 Community Learning Centres, and Regional Campuses in Cambridge Bay, Iqaluit and Rankin Inlet.

### Elders In The Classroom

Nunavut Arctic College values the participation of Elders in adult learning, curriculum development and in the life of the College. Elders are invited into the Community Learning Centres in seven Kivalliq communities to participate in the classrooms with the adult students. The learning activities are planned by the students in consultation with the Elders and the Adult Educators. Regular education with Elders has boosted participation, helped students to improve their Inuktitut, increased their vocabulary, plus restored traditional words and terms linked to cultural skills and

activities. The Elders Project has proven so successful that it continues into 2009 and is

of our classes, further promoting and protecting the Inuit languages.



planned for more communities.

### Nunavut Teacher Education Program

Nunavut Arctic College, in participation with the University of Regina and the Government of Nunavut (GN) Education Department, offers a Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) degree in Nunavut. Since 1986, there have been 181 B.Ed. graduates, 50 in the last four years. The Nunavut Teacher Education Program (NTEP) focus is on preparing new Nunavut and Inuit Teachers for the Elementary School System, as many are retiring soon. Another twenty individuals are completing a Masters of Education program and are scheduled to graduate in July 2009. Increasing the number of Nunavut and Inuit teachers will allow Inuktitut to be taught in more

### Nunavut Nursing Program

To provide better health care to Inuit language speakers, by increasing the number of Inuit and Nunavut nurses, the Nunavut Arctic College developed a Nursing Program in collaboration with

Dalhousie University School of Nursing. Funding, bursaries and scholarships for the Nursing Students are offered by the GN Department of Health and Social Services (HSS). The program prepares Registered Nurses who will provide culturally relevant Primary Health Care to Nunavummiut. In June 2005, the Nursing Program received a four-year accreditation from the Registered Nursing Association of NWT/NU. So far, there have been eighteen graduates from the program and dozens of students are currently registered. Clinical placements for the students occur in the Iqaluit hospital and Health Centres in Cambridge Bay, Kugluktuk, Pangnirtung and Rankin Inlet.

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### Akitsiraq Law School

The Akitsiraq Law School Program was a unique stand-alone education opportunity offered to Inuit students in Nunavut to acquire a full LL.B. degree from the University of Victoria in British Columbia (UVic). Professors and Instructors from UVic and other Canadian law schools came to Iqaluit to teach the program. Normally a three-year process elsewhere, the "core curriculum" was compressed to two years, fulfilling all the requirements of a law degree from UVic, while also including compulsory Inuktitut language training, cultural awareness programs, plus work with Elders. Fifteen students were enrolled in the Akitsiraq Law School Program in September 2001 and thirteen of them successfully completed the core curriculum, receiving a Diploma of Legal Fundamentals from Nunavut Arctic College. Eleven students went on to earn their Law Degrees, graduating in a Special Convocation Ceremony held in Iqaluit on June 21, 2005. Graduates then articulated in Iqaluit, Yellowknife and Ottawa with members of the Nunavut Bar, Nunavut Bench, or Supreme Court

of Canada, completing the British Columbia articling program and Bar Course in 2006. Eight were

convocation of graduates took place in Rankin Inlet in 2008.



### Nunavut Housing Trust Pre-Trades Training

Nunavut Housing Corporation (NHC) and Nunavut Arctic College are working together to assist Nunavummiut in learning skills needed for employment in construction trades as part of the Nunavut

Housing Trust (NHT) delivery strategy. Students receive Pre-trades training in numerous communities across Nunavut, preparing them for the Trades Entrance Exam to then gain employment in Apprenticeship positions within the construction industry.

then admitted to the Law Society of Nunavut to practice in the Territory as lawyers. Nunavummiut lawyers offer a unique service to Inuit, as they can explain complex laws in Inuktitut.

### Midwife Convocation

Nunavut Arctic College trains Maternity Care Workers and Midwives for Birthing Centres across Nunavut. The GN Department of Health and Social Services is committed to expanding the number of these centres and the training of Maternity Care Workers and Midwives for culturally appropriate service, including Inuit knowledge of maternal care and birthing. An advisory group of Inuit experts met in the development of the Maternity Care Worker Program. The first