

Katujjiqatigiinniq Protocol

between Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and
Government of Nunavut



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Whereas Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI) and the Government of Nunavut (GN) recognize that Inuit constitute 85 per cent of the population of Nunavut and have constitutionally protected rights under the *Nunavut Agreement*;

And Whereas NTI and GN both recognize the particular importance and potential of Article 32 of the *Nunavut Agreement*, which among other provisions, provides for the right of Inuit to participate in the development of GN social and cultural policies, and in the design of social and cultural programs and services, including their method of delivery in Nunavut;

And Whereas as recognized by the Nunavut Agreement, NTI is the primary Inuit organization with the mandate to advocate for and speak on behalf of Nunavut Inuit with respect to their aboriginal and treaty rights and benefits under the *Nunavut Agreement*;

And Whereas the GN, in exercising its jurisdiction as a democratic and responsible public government must serve the needs and priorities of all citizens of Nunavut, in a fair and equitable manner;

And Whereas the Nunavut Social Development Council (NSDC) is a non-profit Designated Inuit Organization established under Article 32 of the *Nunavut Agreement*¹;

And Whereas all obligations under the *Nunavut Agreement* must be implemented honourably and with due diligence;

And Whereas NTI and the GN entered into the Clyde River Protocol in 1999, *Iqqaanaijaqatigiit* in 2004 and *Aajiiqatigiinniq* in 2011, to guide a positive working relationship;

¹ Since 2002, the members and board of the NSDC are the members of the Board of Directors of NTI, as it is constituted from time to time.

Now, Therefore, NTI and the GN enter into this *Katujjiqatigiinniq Protocol* for the following purposes:

- To identify broad principles, priorities and bilateral mechanisms, as well as trilateral mechanisms where appropriate, that will contribute towards productive working relationships and outcomes;
- To make practical commitments in relation to leadership, oversight, and administration that will focus enhance working relationships and outcomes; and,
- To work towards full implementation of Article 32 obligations including the development of a new GN Article 32 Policy and a joint Information Sharing Agreement.



Part I:

Broad Principles in Relation to Working Together

Our Commitment to Work Together

NTI and the GN seek to pursue full implementation of Article 32 and the *Katujjiqatigiinniq Protocol*, a GN Article 32 Policy and a joint Information Sharing Agreement.

NTI and the GN will collaborate to improve the economic, health, social and cultural well-being of Nunavut Inuit, and to help Nunavut realize its potential as a healthy and prosperous part of Canada.

Collaboration can contribute to common priorities and approaches, as assisted by the sharing of research data, information, analysis, and options.

Working together in good faith can enhance success and allow both organizations to utilize resources more efficiently.

A collaborative relationship within Nunavut can give Nunavut a stronger voice in wider Canadian and international forums.

Principles of a Positive Working Relationship

Successful collaboration requires consistent and practical work. The commitment is best applied at both the political and bureaucratic levels.

Successful collaboration can benefit from the active incorporation and application of traditional, current and emerging Inuit societal values. It is vital to encourage and support such values within and across the public and private sectors, and should extend to all relevant law-making, policy and program areas.

A productive and cooperative relationship can build on the following principles:

- Collaboration: parties share challenges, celebrate successes, and actively work to create a sense of shared purpose.
- Integrity: parties act in such a way as to maintain trust by ensuring that dialogue is open, honest and transparent.

- Respect: parties value one another's contributions and even when there are points of disagreement, the tone of the dialogue is respectful and reflects the shared commitment to Inuit and one another.
- Transformative: parties support the efficacy of Katujjiqatigiinniq through regular, meaningful participation in established platforms for working together and full engagement on key discussion and decision items, to improve the lives of Nunavut Inuit.

The GN and NTI will engage in active collaboration through the following:

- Identify, plan and support our shared goals in the development of social and cultural policies, programs, and services and their delivery as agreed to by the parties;
- Exchange research data, research results, and all other relevant information on shared priorities specific to Nunavut Inuit;
- Facilitate the development of stronger linkages with other Inuit, territorial, and federal partners;
- Explore financial considerations in relation to program planning and policy development and mechanisms,

including resource levels, program administration, eligibility and all other aspect of Inuit targeted or Inuit exclusive programs and services in Nunavut; and,

- Identify emerging issues, opportunities and facilitate linkages with other existing and related social and cultural policies and programs.

Priority Themes and Policy Areas

NTI and GN agree to the following three priority themes and areas, further outlined in detail in Appendix A, which support the goals of the GN's mandate *Turaaqtavut* and NTIs Board Priorities *Niriuttaarijat*:

- **Mobilize Inuit Identity and Culture.** For Nunavut to be successful, Inuktut and Inuit culture must be central to governance in Nunavut. Inuit must be employed and empowered within the GN and participate fully in all its structures and operations. Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit must be reflected in government structures and procedures, and in the development, design, and delivery of programs and services. Inuktut must become the language of the government's programs and services.

- **Foster the Quality of Life and Well-Being for Inuit.** The current economic, health, social and cultural indicators for Nunavut Inuit show unacceptable gaps at a variety of levels --- Nunavut wide, regional and community --- and must be urgently addressed. Both parties commit to build a better economic, social and cultural foundation for Nunavut. Those who are most vulnerable should be at the forefront of priority setting and in accessing benefits from shared work.
- **Develop, Monitor, and Renew Policies, Programs, Services and Legislation.** As the GN continues to develop and review legislation, legislative proposals, policies, programs, and services (including strategies and implementation plans), it must do so mindful of the importance and continuing application of the objectives and obligations of Article 32 and other sections of the *Nunavut Agreement* and aboriginal rights, at all political and bureaucratic levels.



Part II:

Leadership, Oversight, and Administration

The President of NTI and the Premier of Nunavut shall have political oversight of the implementation of this *Katujjiqatigiinniq Protocol*.

The GN Premier and NTI President shall meet quarterly to identify and discuss areas of mutual interest, set priorities, determine specific actions to address those areas, and review progress. Each organization may invite other elected officials and staff to attend and the agenda will be reached by consensus.

The Chief Executive Officer for NTI and the Deputy Minister of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs for the GN will meet as often as biweekly or at least once per month and work together to implement each priority area. These meetings shall review progress and address issues in the implementation of the *Katujjiqatigiinniq Protocol* and to consider any proposals for its revision. Each organization may invite other staff and the agenda will reflect the interests of both parties.

Without understating broader political responsibilities, the Nunavut Implementation Panel has an important role to play in the day-to-day implementation of the *Nunavut Agreement*.

Reviews

The GN and NTI agree to annually review progress on priority areas, and discuss possible amendments to priority areas. The annual review will take place at the 4th quarterly meeting of the GN Premier and NTI President. A meeting report will be made available to both parties.

Information Sharing

The GN and NTI agree to share information for the purposes of this *Katujjiqatigiinniq Protocol*. This exchange will be mutual, free and as expeditious as possible.

To help such exchange, GN and NTI undertake to develop together a joint Information Sharing Agreement, with a goal of entering into that agreement within 90 days thereafter the signing of this *Katujjiqatigiinniq Protocol*.



Amendment and Term

This *Katujjiqatigiinniq Protocol* may be amended from time to time as NTI and the GN may see fit. It is of indefinite term but may be terminated by written notice of either party. A party may, by written notice, delegate the power to amend the appendix to a designated representative.

Disclaimer

Nothing in this *Katujjiqatigiinniq Protocol* is intended to interpret the scope or application of Inuit rights under Article 32 or any other part of the *Nunavut Agreement*.



Part III:

Follow-Up Policies and Protocols

The GN shall commit to developing, on an urgent basis, a new Article 32 Policy with NTI, and undertake to complete that Policy within a reasonable timeframe thereafter the signing of this Katujjiqatigiinniq Protocol.

The GN shall also develop an Information Sharing Agreement to facilitate the implementation of this Katujjiqatigiinniq Protocol. NTI undertakes to assist in the timely completion of that work.

Signed on this 21st day of January, 2020 in Iqaluit, Nunavut.

President
Aluki Kotierk
Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated

Premier
Honourable Joe Savikataaq
Government of Nunavut

Appendix A

Joint Priorities

1. Mobilize Inuit Identity and Culture

The parties commit to working together to ensure Inuktitut and Inuit culture are central to governance in Nunavut and to make significant progress in strengthening Inuktitut in all aspects of life in Nunavut by, among other things, acting energetically and ambitiously:

- to make Inuktitut the primary language of instruction in Nunavut schools;
- to make Inuktitut the primary language of work in government offices;
- to make Inuktitut the primary language for delivery of essential government programs and services (e.g., education, justice, health care) in Nunavut;
- to embed Inuit societal values in government operations and in the culture of its institutions and workplaces;
- to reform the education system in Nunavut to improve the educational outcomes for Inuit;
- to invest in training programs for Inuktitut-speaking teachers;
- to collaborate with governments to take significant steps to strengthen Inuktitut in daycares in Nunavut; and,
- to enhance and develop resources including curriculum materials for teachers that are available in Inuktitut and are rooted in Inuit culture and history.

2. Foster the Quality of Life and Well-Being for Inuit

The parties commit to working together to build a better economic, social and cultural foundation for Nunavut by, among other things, acting energetically and ambitiously:

- to make substantial progress on Article 23 of the Nunavut Agreement by:
 - promptly developing and implementing robust Inuit Employment Plans and Pre-Employment Training Plans as set out in Article 23 of the Nunavut Agreement and the May 2015 Settlement Agreement;
 - refocusing the GN human resources policies and programs to improve the scale and quality of Inuit employment in the public service; and,
 - exploring options to develop legislation and/or regulations to promote, enhance and support the recruitment, employment and advancement of Inuit.
- to make substantial progress on Article 24 of the Nunavut Agreement by monitoring the implementation of the Nunavummi Nangminiqatunik Ikajuuti Implementation Act and Regulations and Article 24 generally.
 - to advance Inuit, Arctic and international rights and interests by:
 - implementing goals and objectives in the Arctic and Northern Policy Framework including the Inuit Nunangat Chapter as it relates to the Nunavut Settlement Area; and,
 - supporting the spirit of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and its potential application in Nunavut.
 - to work with partners, including the Government of Canada to make substantial progress in narrowing housing and other infrastructure gaps in Nunavut, in order to support a positive future for our communities by:
 - implementing the Nunavut section of the Inuit Nunangat Housing Strategy, to supplement the National Housing Strategy and the GN's Blueprint for Action on Housing;
 - developing a long term infrastructure strategy to address Nunavut's infrastructure deficit; and,
 - establishing strategic partnerships for major infrastructure projects in Nunavut with all levels of governments and private sector including foreign investors.

3. Develop, Monitor, and Renew Policies, Programs, Services and Legislation

The parties commit to working together to ensure Inuit participation in the design and development, including method of delivery, of policies, programs, services and legislation by, among other things, acting energetically and ambitiously:

- to advance Inuit goals and objectives through research and consultation;
- to engage with the Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Katimajit and Tuttarviit in policy and legislative development processes;
- to implement the Iviqtippalliajut framework; and,
- to explore areas for better alignment of program and funding delivery.

