

2010-2011 Annual Report



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President's Message

This year marks a turning point in the history of ITK. Forty years ago, a remarkable group of men and women came together in Ottawa to bring Inuit issues to the national stage. On November 1, 2011, the organization they launched will celebrate 40 years of advocacy and achievement with a conference in Ottawa examining our history and our future.

Looking forward we will ask Inuit youth to offer up their dreams for the next 40 years. Looking back, we will honour the leaders who have come before us. I hope you all will join us on this memorable occasion.

Many achievements of the past year are also cause for celebration. The Arctic has never been the focus of so much international attention – from legislative chambers to corporate boardrooms. This unprecedented domestic and foreign attention can indeed contribute to a better world for Inuit.

With a young and growing population, we know that we need to build bigger, stronger and more diversified economies. And we know that political development, economic self-sufficiency and social harmony are companion challenges, not awkwardly matched alternatives.

In delivering the Inuit message in Canada and abroad, I have been careful to draw on our well-established and well-earned reputation for being a practical, adaptable and tolerant people. It is rarely helpful to cast the critical choices before us as all or nothing.

In our work at ITK, we are honest and transparent about many of the health and social problems Inuit face. The first step in solving a problem must always be to acknowledge it. At the same time, we do our best to communicate our message in ways that are both optimistic and constructive.

One very positive step forward was the launch in June 2011 of First Canadians, Canadians First: The National Strategy on Inuit Education. This important project has consumed much of my attention over the past year. The Strategy is an essential tool, not just for educators, parents and students, but for governments that represent Inuit populations, and for all Canadians.

Optimism was certainly the message of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Northern National Event in Inuvik in June 2011. As with the inaugural national event in Winnipeg last year, the Inuvik gathering was a chance to share our stories and, for ITK, to once again speak to the need for mental health programs in all our regions. The road to healing is long, but I am proud to have represented Inuit at this Arctic assembly.

Another step in the right direction was the release of A Circumpolar Inuit Declaration on Resource Development Principles in Inuit Nunaat. This Declaration, drafted in February 2011 and formally approved in May, was shepherded by ICC with the collaboration of Inuit leaders and organizations from around the circumpolar world, including ITK board members.

It sets out key principles in a balanced and thoughtful way. Circumpolar Inuit are willing to work, on the basis of genuine partnership, with governments and corporations to take up the major resource development opportunities now obvious in the Arctic. But we are not prepared to accept ill-planned,

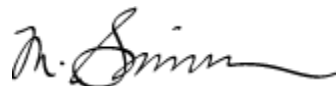
highly exploitative forms of development that either endanger the environment or deny Inuit a primary claim on the benefits of development.

This theme of partnership – of Inuit being necessary and full participants in all aspects of governance in the Inuit homeland – is found throughout the many other projects and activities highlighted in the more detailed portions of this report.

Of course, ITK's priorities, and Inuit priorities as a whole, are not something that ITK and Inuit can unilaterally determine. As a national organization, ITK is very conscious of the wider world of national politics, particularly the life and times of the Canadian Parliament and Government of Canada.

The past year has been a highly charged and volatile time in federal politics, culminating in the May 2011 federal election. In its day-to-day work, ITK will take into account the important changes flowing from the replacement of a minority government Parliament with a majority government Parliament, and a re-ordering of the respective positions of the opposition parties. As a non-partisan organization, ITK will continue to make best efforts to work with all those whom the people of Canada have entrusted with elected office.

Finally, I would like to say a special word about the legacy of former ITK President and much loved Inuit leader Jose Kusugak, who died in January 2011 in his home in Rankin Inlet. As a special tribute, I have chosen to name our National Strategy on Inuit Education in his honour. He gave us many things – chief among them the meaningful slogan that will lead the next phase of education renewal in Inuit Nunangat: First Canadians, Canadians First. We are a poorer people for Jose's passing, but a richer one for his time among us.



Mary Simon

President

Executive

Truth and Reconciliation Commission

In June 2010, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) held the first in a series of National Events in Winnipeg. A second national gathering took place in Inuvik, Northwest Territories, from June 28 - July 1, 2011. This Northern National Event followed a northern tour that took TRC Commissioners – including two newly appointed Inuit sub-commissioners – to 19 communities in Nunavik, Nunavut, the NWT and Yukon.

As the coordinating body on behalf of Inuit signatories to the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, ITK continues to ensure that the unique needs of Inuit are addressed throughout the work of the TRC. Mary Simon attended both national events to deliver welcoming remarks and to invite Inuit to share their stories and continue the healing process.

National Committee on Inuit Education

The National Committee on Inuit Education (NCIE) launched First Canadians, Canadians First: The National Strategy on Inuit Education in June 2011 during an afternoon event on Parliament Hill. Members of Parliament and Senators, as well as education leaders and members of the corporate community, gathered at Centre Block for the historic launch. The Strategy is the product of several years' work, beginning with a 2006 Summit on Inuit Education.

The Strategy focuses on three core areas: supporting children to help them stay in school, providing a bilingual curriculum and learning resources that are relevant to Inuit culture, history and world view, and increasing the number of bilingual educators in schools and early childhood programs. It presents 10 key recommendations with these goals in mind, and presents a detailed plan to guide implementation of the Strategy over the next five to 10 years.

Circumpolar Inuit Declaration on Resource Development

ITK participated in the February 2011 Inuit Leaders' Summit on Resources Development. The Ottawa event gave Inuit organizations the green-light to proceed with the development of a Circumpolar Inuit Declaration on Resource Development Principles in Inuit Nunaat, which was signed in Nuuk, Greenland, in May 2011 by international Inuit leaders gathered in advance of an Arctic Council ministerial meeting.

The Declaration is mindful of both the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the Circumpolar Inuit Declaration on Sovereignty in the Arctic. It contains 10 sections, setting the context for resource development in the modern Arctic and taking into account the economic, social and political development goals of Inuit in Canada, Greenland, the United States, and Russia.

United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

In November 2010, the Government of Canada formally endorsed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, reversing its decision of June 2006, at the inaugural session of the United Nations Human Rights Council, to vote against adoption of the draft declaration.

“In endorsing the Declaration,” reads Canada’s statement of support, “Canada reaffirms its commitment to build on a positive and productive relationship with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples to improve the well-being of Aboriginal Canadians, based on our shared history, respect, and a desire to move forward together.”

Fundraising

ITK convened a two-day workshop in February 2011 aimed at forging partnerships with leading foundations. Participating organizations included those that have demonstrated interest in key Inuit issues, such as language, wildlife and environment, education, mental health and traditional knowledge and research. Discussions ranged from the current state of Inuit issues and partnerships, and the governance structure of Inuit organizations, to the climate and organizational culture of the philanthropic world, challenges and opportunities related to Inuit partnerships and what potential outcomes and successes look like for all parties.

Executive

President: Mary Simon

Executive Director: Jim Moore

Special Advisor to the President: Udloriak Hanson

Senior Policy Advisor: John Merritt

Executive Assistant to the President: Kathleen Tagoona

Human Resources Assistant: Jennifer Bradley

Administrative Assistant: Maggie Amarualik

Health and Social Development

A reorganization in August 2010 created the new Department of Health and Social Development under the directorship of Elizabeth Ford. The department includes files from the former departments of Health and Environment, and Social, Cultural and Economic Development. The new department continues to develop an internal team approach to key files.

ITK-Health Canada-Public Health Agency of Canada Task Group

Senior officials from ITK, Health Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada met to discuss high-level planning and coordination, focusing on five areas of mutual interest: the Inuit-specific health approach, community wellness planning, mental wellness, health human resources, and information and data collection. The group also identified areas of collaborative action to achieve short-term projects. For example, in the 2010-11 fiscal year, a visual presentation on the Inuit-specific health approach was created as an educational tool for each organization. The Task Group will continue to carry out projects under the current work plan until February 2012.

Mental Wellness

Focus during the past year has been on building stronger partnerships with government and non-governmental organizations to raise awareness of Inuit mental wellness issues. ITK is also working to secure funds to implement the Alianait Inuit-Specific Mental Wellness Action Plan, released in December 2009. The Action Plan was developed by the Alianait Inuit-Specific Mental Wellness Task Group. It takes a community-based approach to healing and draws attention to regional success stories.

Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis (TB) remains a priority for the Inuit Public Health Task Group. In March 2011, representatives from Inuit organizations met in Ottawa with medical experts specializing in TB to discuss ways to address the TB rate in Inuit Nunangat. During the past year, ITK has also lobbied strongly for an Inuit-specific TB action plan focused on both the medical aspects of the disease (delivery of health services, equipment and human capacity in the health field) and on the social determinants of health (food security, housing and mental wellness). One of the goals of the action plan is to establish basic diagnostic capacity in each community, which would reduce the need for Inuit to be separated from their families to receive services.

Diabetes

ITK collaborated with the Inuit Diabetes Network (IDN) to produce a 2011 wall calendar that was distributed to schools, health centres and municipal offices in Inuit Nunangat. Members of the IDN met in Inuvik in January 2011 to share their work and plan Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative activities for the coming year. The Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative was renewed to 2015 and will work to implement a traditional foods component to the Nutrition North Canada program. ITK also participated in the National Aboriginal Diabetes Association Conference and attended a Community Diabetes Prevention Workers workshop.

Injury Prevention

ITK produced an Injury Indicators booklet in collaboration with the University of British Columbia (UBC) in Vancouver and York University in Toronto. It was distributed to public health offices and Inuit land claims organizations, and UBC will be tracking how the booklet is used by those organizations. In the coming year, ITK will work with UBC on a project to engage youth in Inuit and First Nations communities. The project will ask them to document in photographs and videos, methods of injury prevention in their communities. ITK and Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada also led presentations on traditional knowledge of injury prevention.

Tobacco

In May, the National Inuit Tobacco Task Group introduced two projects aimed at reducing smoking rates and improving the health of families, infants and new mothers. The projects include a Blue Light Campaign, in which families are given a blue light bulb to install on their porch to signal that their home is smoke free. A second project, called Born Smoke-Free, is aimed at women who are pregnant or might become pregnant. The programs have operated in several Nunatsiavut and Nunavik communities and were extended to communities in Nunavut and the Inuvialuit Settlement Region of the Northwest Territories. The programs also reached out to Inuit households in Ottawa through the Ottawa-based Tungasuvvingat Inuit.

Suicide Prevention

ITK led an Embrace Life focus group at the National Youth and Elders Summit in Inuvik in August 2010. Participants made T-shirts and posters with inspirational messages reflecting the “Embrace Life” theme. ITK also presented at the Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention National Conference in October.

In September, Jennifer Watkins, President of the National Inuit Youth Council, presided over the fourth annual gathering on Parliament Hill to mark World Suicide Prevention Day. The glorious weather and the importance of the message drew a sizeable crowd. National Aboriginal Role Models Martin Lougheed and Heidi Langille, both of Nunatsiavut, gave impassioned speeches while Elder Suzanna Signorie spoke to the crowd in Inuktitut and Nunavut Sivuniksavut students put on their first performance of the school year.

The National Inuit Committee on Health has identified Inuit suicide prevention as a priority and asked that ITK work with the Alianait Inuit-Specific Mental Wellness Task Group to draft a National Inuit Suicide Prevention Strategy in the coming year.

Cancer

Inuit lack access to programs and services taken for granted by most Canadians. A chronic lack of Inuit health care professionals has led to staffing shortages and high turnover rates, and places enormous stress on front-line health personnel. All these factors lead to an unfortunate emphasis on illness, rather than on prevention and health-promotion activities.

Due to these and other persistent health disparities, ITK is dedicated to addressing the cancer care deficit within the four Inuit land claims regions and is also currently in the process of developing an

Inuit-specific cancer strategy. As part of their work, ITK staff have also developed close relationships with the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC), as well as with the Canadian Cancer Action Network (CCAN). These partnerships have enabled ITK to influence the national cancer strategies of both organizations to more accurately reflect Inuit needs and the barriers experienced by Inuit within the cancer care continuum.

ITK's partnership work with CPAC has, in particular, led to ITK's participation in the creation of CPAC's Advisory Committee on First Nations, Inuit and Métis Cancer Control. ITK now sits on this committee and has also assisted in the nomination of a representative in the area of Inuit health expertise and in the nomination of an informed Inuit cancer patient/survivor representative.

Health Human Resources

For the past five years, ITK has worked with regional Inuit organizations to improve health human resources in Canada's Arctic through the Aboriginal Health Human Resources Initiative (AHHRI), which has been renewed through 2015. AHHRI provides scholarships for students enrolled in university health programs and funds projects that help to make youth aware of careers in health. It also ensures that university programs contain culturally relevant materials and that students learn to provide culturally safe and appropriate care to their patients. Other projects focus on recruitment and retention of health care workers within Inuit communities.

The Inuit-specific caucus of AHHRI, the Inuit Health Human Resources Technical Working Group, has finalized the Inuit Health Human Resources Framework & Action Plan 2011-2021 and is now in the process of securing resources to implement the plan throughout Inuit Nunangat.

Maternal Child Health

In partnership with the University of British Columbia, ITK developed two reports on early Inuit child health: Sleep practices among Inuit infants and the prevention of SIDS, and Breastfeeding among Inuit in Canada. ITK, through its partnership with the Canadian Paediatric Society, was a member of the planning committee for the International Meeting on Indigenous Child Health in Vancouver in March 2011. The meeting was attended by more than 300 child health care providers and researchers who work with Indigenous children and their families. Highlights included a presentation from Inuvialuit Elder Lillian Elias and keynote address by Sheila Watt-Cloutier.

Early Childhood Development

ITK provides guidance and feedback to the federal government on the Inuit perspective of Early Childhood Development (ECD) with the support of the Inuit Early Childhood Development Working Group (IECDWG). The IECDWG met in November 2010 and March 2011 to review the Inuit Early Childhood Development Strategy and develop priorities for the coming year, including a project on training and professional development for educators. The IECDWG was also involved in the development of a chapter on Injury Prevention for the Pauktuutit resource titled "Piaranut For Our Children: Quality Practices for Inuit Early Childhood Education Programs." This new chapter will be distributed to all Inuit childcare centres across Inuit Nunangat. ITK also took part in the project "A Study

of Speech, Language and Hearing among First Nations, Inuit and Métis children” developed by the Canadian Association of Speech, Language Pathologist and Audiologists.

Non-Insured Health Benefits

Six communities from three regions participated in an Oral Health Survey to provide data comparable with results from the Canadian Health Measures Survey oral component. After five years of planning and implementing the project, the Inuit Oral Health Survey Report was finalized and released in May 2011.

ITK and the Inuit Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Working Group (formally the Inuit-Specific Technical Working Group) have been collaborating with Health Canada to develop an Inuit-specific NIHB guidebook to assist Inuit from all four regions in accessing their health benefits. The guidebook is expected to be released in December 2011.

ITK is currently working with Health Canada to provide input into the Non-Insured Health Benefits Vision, Dental and Medical Supplies and Equipment Policy Framework to ensure that Inuit needs are met and that the benefits are current, accessible and equitable to other federal frameworks across Canada.

Home and Community Care

ITK will be collaborating with the National Office of the First Nations and Inuit Home and Community Care Program over the coming year to build a 10-year strategy to improve access and delivery of the home and community care program across Inuit Nunangat.

Human Resources Development

ITK coordinates activities of the National Inuit Human Resource Development Committee (IHRDTC) and serves as a policy and program liaison between regional Inuit organizations and the federal Department of Human Resources and Skills Development. Over the past year, ITK has worked to ensure Inuit-specific recommendations were considered for the reporting guidelines developed for the new Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ASETS). ITK continues to represent Inuit human resource development agreement holders on the Board of Directors of the Aboriginal Human Resource Council. Inuit-specific recommendations were provided to develop learning and teaching modules for the Mining Human Resource Council’s project to train Aboriginal peoples for work readiness in the mining sector.

Food Security

Food security has long been identified as a major issue in Inuit communities and one that ITK has worked to define in a northern context for a number of years. Food security is a broad-based concept existing when “all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life” (World Food Summit, 1996). In recent years, ITK has worked to gather the local and regional perspectives needed to develop comprehensive policy aimed at achieving food security in Inuit communities. ITK has also been actively involved with the Food Security Reference Group (FSRG) of Health Canada’s First Nations and Inuit Health Branch for a number of years. In the past year, ITK took on an enhanced role in

the planning efforts of the FSRG's working group and the decision to focus on exploration of policy to support country food systems.

Following the federal announcement in May 2010 that the transport-based Food Mail Program would be replaced by the retail-based Nutrition North Canada (NNC) program, ITK worked with Inuit regions and the National Inuit Committee on Health to gauge the reactions to and the effects of NNC in Inuit communities. ITK also met regularly with Health Canada and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada officials to monitor the staged implementation of the NNC, including planning for the implementation of the newly created NNC Nutrition Education Initiatives. President Mary Simon communicated ITK's cautious support of the NNC while outlining a list of concerns to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development in October 2010 during the Committee's study of the program. ITK's submission was heavily referenced in the Standing Committee's final report to Parliament.

Youth

The biannual National Inuit Elders and Youth Summit took place in Inuvik, Northwest Territories, in August 2010, drawing more than 70 participants from across Inuit Nunangat. They enjoyed workshops on topics such as post-secondary education, the Inuvialuit language and culture, leadership development, priorities for Inuit youth, and traditional knowledge and discussions on the future of Inuit education. Members of the National Inuit Youth Council (NIYC) also elected a new president, Jennifer Watkins of Kuujjuaq, Nunavik, who began her two year term on the final day of the Summit.

With input from NIYC, ITK launched a new magazine for Inuit youth, called Nipiit. The magazine is a platform for youth from all four regions to express their concerns, opinions and ideas. It also acts as a forum through which youth can share information, encourage community/cultural wellness and build better futures together. The first issue was distributed in August 2010. The second issue will be distributed in June 2011.

NIYC board members also held a meeting in Ottawa in November 2010 to develop a plan to respond to the priorities developed at the Summit, to clarify the organization's governance and structure and to spell out the key working relationships between NIYC, ITK and other partners.

Health and Social Development

Director: Elizabeth Ford

Senior Health Policy Coordinator: Tanya Nancarrow

Technical Advisor: Meghan McKenna

Senior Policy Advisors: Tina Price, Jennifer Forsyth, Selma Ford, Jim Cincotta, Maria Wilson

Project Coordinators: Anna Claire Ryan, Looee Okalik

Senior Researcher: Soha Kneen

Youth Project Coordinator: Shelly Watkins

Senior Policy Coordinator: Susan Scullion

Administrative Assistant: Meeka Serkoak

Environment and Wildlife

A re-organization in August 2010 created the new Department of Environment and Wildlife, combining the environment files of the former Department of Health and Environment, and the wildlife files held jointly by Health and Environment and Executive. John Cheechoo serves as inaugural director of the department.

European Union Seal Ban Litigation

In September 2009, the European Parliament and the European Council adopted a ban (EU Regulation No. 1007/2009) on all seal products imported into and sold in the European Union. The regulation was published in the EU official journal on October 30, 2009, bringing the regulation into force 20 days later. The intent of the regulation is to halt the commercial trade and sale of all seal and walrus products, regardless of species, age, part of the mammal or form of the product (skin, meat, oil, ivory) within the trade and economic zone of the EU's 27 member-state countries.

The regulation also contains three types of "exemptions," including products for personal use, products derived from management culls and traded on a non-profit basis and products from Inuit and other indigenous communities that hunt on a non-commercial and traditional/subsistence basis.

The new EU Treaty of Lisbon, which came into effect on December 5, 2009, allows non-EU parties to file legal action within the EU against EU parties, with a January 2010 deadline for action on the seal ban. On January 11, 2010, ITK, along with Inuit organizations and individuals in Canada and Greenland, filed an application to annul the regulation. The case argues that EU laws provide no legal grounds for the regulation. A second case seeks to annul the implementing measures of the regulation that contain the Inuit "exemption," and a third case appeals the General Court's decision to disallow an application for an interim injunction until the case had been decided.

United States Endangered Species Act

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) forwarded a proposal in December 2010 to list ringed seals and bearded seals as threatened in the United States Endangered Species Act based on future predictions of the impact of climate change on habitat. ITK and regional Inuit organizations have written to the U.S. government to respond to the proposal and point out the current good health of seal populations.

North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission

During the summer and fall of 2010, the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) held a series of consultations with ITK and other Inuit organization to discuss whether Canada should join the North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO). Members currently include Norway, Iceland, Greenland and Faroe Islands. NAMMCO is a cooperative forum that allows members to share management and harvesting information, as well as local knowledge, on North Atlantic and Arctic marine mammals. Inuit supported the call for Canada to become a full member of NAMMCO as long as membership entailed coordination with Canadian Inuit organizations, Inuit participation in delegations

(and funding to support that participation), as well as respect for Inuit land claims and Inuit knowledge. DFO representatives have not yet confirmed their intentions.

Convention on the Trade in Endangered Species

ITK and other Inuit organizations, as well as Environment Canada, have begun planning for the 16th Convention on the Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) Conference of the Parties (COP) in Thailand in March 2013. These advanced efforts will help the partners prepare for the possibility of a proposed reclassification of species such as polar bear, seal, walrus and narwhal. ITK was involved in efforts to successfully argue against a United States proposal to upgrade the listing of polar bear on CITES from Appendix II to Appendix I at COP 15 in March 2010. An Appendix I listing would have meant an international trade ban on polar bear, with direct consequences for Inuit.

Boreal Caribou Aboriginal Advisory Group

ITK participated on a voluntary basis in the Boreal Caribou Aboriginal Advisory Group throughout most of 2010. However, the terms of reference for the group were never finalized. ITK provided input into the boreal caribou Aboriginal knowledge consultation process and the Environment Canada process to link Aboriginal knowledge and western science in the National Recovery Strategy to be released in 2011.

ArcticNet

In 2010, ArcticNet was renewed for another phase under the Networks of Centres of Excellence program. Inuit contributed significantly to renewal efforts, working to ensure that a renewed ArcticNet would continue to enhance its relevance to and engagement with Inuit. With the renewal of ArcticNet comes the continued support of the national and regional research coordination positions, as well as a growing program of research that improves our understanding of the well being of Inuit.

Udloriak Hanson replaced Mary Simon on the ArcticNet Board and Duane Smith was unanimously elected co-chair. Hanson and Smith continue to advocate for research of interest and importance to Inuit (including social science), and science and research training opportunities for Inuit youth. Inuit hope that many of these efforts can be furthered through a formal partnership between ArcticNet and Inuit Qaujisarvingat: The Inuit Knowledge Centre.

The 2010 ArcticNet Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) was held in December in Ottawa. It attracted several Inuit representatives, many of them recipients of the ArcticNet/Northern Contaminants Program (NCP) Inuit Travel Bursary. The location of the meeting also provided a great venue for an exchange between policy makers and the research community. In addition to the research presentations, Zacharias Kunuk showed his climate change film, Qapirangajuq, Inuit Knowledge and Climate Change.

Northern Contaminants Program

ITK provides guidance and direction to Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (formerly Indian and Northern Affairs Canada), Health Canada and other Northern Contaminants Program (NCP) partners, bringing Inuit perspectives to NCP management and liaison committees. In addition to its regular communications about contaminants in the North, ITK works with the Inuit Circumpolar Council (Canada) on the international stage to persuade nations to reduce the generation and use of persistent

organic pollutants and heavy metals that end up in the Inuit diet. ITK has also begun working with other research programs, such as ArcticNet, Nasivvik, the Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Nutrition and Environment, Health Canada's Climate Change Program and the International Polar Year to make sure that research on contaminants is conducted in a coordinated fashion.

In 2010-2011, NCP funding allowed ITK to assess information and research generated by the program, play an informed role in influencing present and future NCP management priorities, and set national and international priorities. ITK involvement ensures that Inuit understand Canadian positions in international negotiations to reduce and eliminate chemicals contaminating the environment and country food, and threatening Inuit health. ITK participation in the NCP also empowers Inuit to persuade federal agencies of Inuit perspectives on domestic and international policy development.

Climate Change

The National Inuit Climate Change Committee (NICCC) convened in 2011 for the first time since 2009. The committee includes representatives from regional and national Inuit organizations, as well as the Nasivvik Centre for Inuit Health and Changing Environments and the National Aboriginal Health Organization's Inuit Tuttarvingat.

In recognition of the over-arching and increasing influence of climate change on almost every aspect of life in Inuit communities, ITK is working to address not only the environmental aspects of climate change issues, but the interconnected health, socio-economic, research and communications aspects of climate change impacts and adaptations. ITK recognizes that the most important areas that connect climate change and the variability of impacts to adaptation for Inuit are wildlife and harvesting, traditional knowledge, human health, food security, nutrition and contaminants, socio-economic implications, infrastructure, sovereignty and environmental security.

The NICCC is pursuing a number of specific priorities, including the development of a national Inuit strategy on climate change, determining ways to improve and influence federal climate change programming, finding the means to increase community awareness and capacity to take advantage of existing programs, providing input to ICC (Canada) on how to bring Canadian Inuit perspectives on climate change to international fora and linking Inuit priorities on climate change to research at various levels, including within ArcticNet, one of Canada's Networks of Centres of Excellence.

Environment and Wildlife

Director: John Cheechoo

Senior Researcher: Eric Loring

Senior Policy Advisor: Anne Kendrick

ArcticNet Coordinator: Kendra Tagoona

Inuit Qaujisarvingat: The Inuit Knowledge Centre

Inuit Qaujisarvingat: The Inuit Knowledge Centre (IKC) launched in early 2010 with a vision to advance Inuit knowledge for sustainable Arctic science and policy. It focuses efforts to ensure an increasingly active role for Inuit in research that leads to the generation of innovative knowledge for improved research, science and policy decision making within a Canadian, circumpolar and global context. With the addition of five new staff, Inuit Qaujisarvingat has grown substantially since its launch. The recent expansion means that much focus over the past year has been placed on mentorship and internal process development.

Inuit Knowledge Centre National Committee

Following a series of regional consultations, it became evident that a priority need was the establishment of a national committee to oversee and provide strategic direction to the IKC and ITK in the area of science and research. On November 18, 2010, the ITK Board of Directors passed a resolution to establish the Inuit Knowledge Centre National Committee (IKCNC). The members represent the regional Land Claim Organizations as well as Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada, the Inuit Circumpolar Council (Canada), and the National Inuit Youth Council, following the structure of the ITK Board. The IKCNC provides technical guidance and recommendations on Inuit research priorities, research practices, and research policy development at the international, national, regional and community levels. It will provide a forum for discussion among members, and for setting out the overarching direction of the IKC on Inuit research issues.

Connecting Inuit Research Priorities, Processes and Protocols

Regional consultations in 2010 showed that Canadian Inuit are in agreement that research can influence Inuit well being and policy making. Each regional Inuit organization is committed to ensuring a coordinated approach to research conducted in Inuit communities, and that research contributes to a broader legacy in those communities.

Specifically, the IKC is seeing a growing list of research interests and objectives in the regions, including: increased research capacity; effective coordination to ensure multi-disciplinary or integrated research approaches; identification of Inuit research needs and priorities; communication to ensure understanding of the relevance to Inuit of research with Southern researchers; promotion of Inuit knowledge and its usefulness and practicality for planning, decision making and policy making; capitalizing on the positive economic benefits that research may bring to communities; and building confidence in Inuit, particularly youth, to pursue education and careers within academia, cultural skill development, and science-based careers.

Information Management

The IKC is in the process of developing an integrated information management system that will preserve Inuit knowledge and community-based information. Such a library would provide access to books, bibliographic resources, peer-reviewed literature, government documents, geographic data, photos and videos, interlibrary loans, and general reference materials specific to Inuit.

Naasautit

Naasautit: Inuit Health Statistics provides comprehensive statistics and information regarding the health of Inuit in Inuit Nunangat. It launched in 2011 as a distinct section of the IKC website. Its main feature is a directory of statistics for Inuit. It also provides access to selected Inuit-specific research and research tools through information pages, links and downloads. Content is managed by the Naasautit Management Group, which consists of representatives from ITK, the National Aboriginal Health Organization (NAHO), and the four regional land claim organizations.

Circumpolar Flaw Lead System Study

The International Polar Year Circumpolar Flaw Lead System Study (CFL) included a team of researchers focused on integrating local and traditional knowledge into other CFL teams with the goal of incorporating community needs and research objectives. Team partners included the IKC, ICC (Canada), Trent University in Peterborough, Ont., Carleton University in Ottawa, and Inuvialuit Settlement Region communities and organizations.

With the guidance of a Traditional Knowledge Steering Committee, the primary objectives of the team were to document past and current knowledge on changes in sea ice in the circumpolar flaw lead west of Banks Island, understand the significance of the sea ice for the surrounding communities of Sachs Harbour, Uluhaktok and Paulatuk and the resident and migratory wildlife, the importance of sea ice in harvesting activities from these communities and how use of the sea ice has changed. The IKC will work with the CFL team to ensure that further data will be reported, as there is a wealth of information from this project still in need of analysis that will not be conducted within the IPY.

Climate Change Literature Review/Gap Analysis Project

The goal of this Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada-funded project is to investigate the state of knowledge and gaps with respect to climate change vulnerability and adaptation in the four Inuit regions. The IKC worked with a team at McGill University in Montreal to conduct a climate change vulnerability and adaptation systematic literature review in Nunavut, Nunavik and Nunatsiavut to complete the review done in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region in 2009.

Additionally, researchers identified similarities and unique challenges facing communities across all Inuit regions, and developed a list of priorities for future research and action. The final report includes a formal gap analysis (including the incorporation of missing data) for each of the four regions using information contained in the systematic literature reviews. This project reconvened the National Inuit Committee on Climate Change (NICCC), helping to build capacity at the regional level to address climate change.

Online Training Modules

In early 2011, the IKC began promoting eLearning to support knowledge exchange and capacity building among both Inuit and non-Inuit front-line workers, such as representatives of community health organizations and hunters and trappers organizations. Niqit: The Story of Contaminants in the Arctic is an interactive online course that explores the impact of contaminants on the environment, wildlife and

people of the Arctic. The course follows two Inuit “seekers” in their quest to learn about contaminants within the context of a virtual Inuit community. Future projects will include eLearning modules related to climate change and food security.

Inuit Qaujisarvingat: The Inuit Knowledge Centre

Director: Scot Nickels

Research and Development Manager: Carrie Grable

Researchers: Martin Lougheed, Deborah Webster, Karen Kelley, Rebecca Mearns

Visiting Research Fellow: Peter Pulsifer

Communications

The department is responsible for communicating activities about ITK to the media and general public, as well as the creation of key corporate documents. It responds to inquiries about the Inuit of Canada, and supports ITK departments and leaders in educating target audiences about Canadian Inuit. The department provides strategic communications support and coordinates ITK's Parliamentary presentations to House of Commons, Senate and joint committees.

ITK@40

On November 1, 2011, ITK will mark its 40th anniversary. In preparation for the occasion, a commemorative logo has been developed, and a 2011 wall calendar has been produced with 12 historic photographs to illustrate the months of the year. The second-annual A Taste of the Arctic also celebrated this important milestone, as reflected in Mary Simon's address, and that of former Governor General Michaëlle Jean, the event's guest of honour.

The past 40 years – as well as the next 40 – will be the subject of an ITK conference November 1-3, 2011, at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa. The conference will be the site of the launch of the ITK Inuit Editorial Cartoon wall, developed with the assistance of Terry Mosher, who draws under the pen name "Aislin" for the Montreal Gazette.

Leading up to the anniversary, historic facts are being regularly updated on the ITK website. Finally, a special double issue of Inuktitut magazine will be published in the fall.

Parliamentary Committees

In 2010, the department took on the function of Parliamentary Coordinator. This involves supporting the policy and political work of ITK's executive and policy departments by coordinating appearances and written submissions to House of Commons, Senate, and joint committees.

Media Support

The department communicates key developments by issuing press releases, statements, media advisories, and writing commentaries for publication in major dailies. Communications staff also coordinates media interviews for Mary Simon.

Inuit Executive Arctic Training

In 2003, ITK developed the Inuit Arctic Tour to raise awareness among senior federal bureaucrats about Inuit-specific issues, and to bring high-level public servants to the Arctic. In 2010, the initiative was renamed Inuit Executive Arctic Training to reflect the trip's focus on education and awareness building. The 2011 session included 20 senior officials representing 12 federal departments, and travelled to the Kivalliq region of Nunavut. The 2012 tour will be held in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region.

Publishing

Inuktitut is a biannual magazine published in Inuktitut syllabics and roman orthography, as well as English, and French. It has been published for over 50 years, and is the oldest Inuit language publication

in Canada. Communications staff also assisted with the inaugural issues of Nipiit, Canada's Inuit Youth Magazine.

Technology

ITK's web presence (www.itk.ca) attracts visitors from around the world who are increasingly interested in developments in the Canadian Arctic. The communications department also develops websites for other ITK departments, notably Inuit Qaujisarvingat: The Inuit Knowledge Centre, and the National Inuit Youth Council (NIYC).

ITK's social media presence grew during the year, with an increase in the posts on Mary Simon's blog, ITK's Twitter feed, YouTube presence and Facebook page.

Communications

Director: Stephen Hendrie

Senior Communications Officer, Parliamentary Coordinator: Patricia D'Souza

Communications Officer, Inuktitut Magazine Editor: Melissa Irwin

Communications Officer, Social Media: Marcel Mason

Senior IM/IT Advisor: Craig Clark

IT Officer: Jaymes Ellsworth

Communications Researcher: Kevin Kablutsiak

Finance

ITK's Department of Finance uses systems and controls to ensure ITK's financial operations are transparent and accountable. It ensures that all departments receive timely and precise financial information and support. The department also completes travel arrangements for ITK staff and maintains the ITK donor list.

Finance

Director: Carol Jattan

Finance Officer: Natalia Haldorsen

Finance Clerk: Koomook McLister

Travel/Administrative Coordinator: Irina Appa

Receptionist: Leevee Latreille

Independent Auditors Report

The accompanying summary financial statements of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at March 31, 2011 and the summary statements of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended are derived from the audited financial statements prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles, of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami as at and for the year ended March 31, 2011.

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those financial statements in our report dated June 1, 2011.

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian generally accepted accounting principles applied in the preparation of the audited financial statements of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami. Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami.

Management's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of a summary of the audited financial statements.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 810, "Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements".

Opinion

In our opinion, the summary financial statements derived from the audited financial statements of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami as at and for the year ended March 31, 2011 are a fair summary of those financial statements.

Chartered Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "KPMG LLP". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. Below the signature is a horizontal line that starts under the 'K' and ends under the 'P', with a small upward tick at the end.

June 1, 2011

Ottawa, Canada

*Note: The audited financial statements are available at
<http://www.itk.ca/publication/2010-2011-audited-financial-statements>*

Summarized account balance sheet

March 31, 2011 with comparative figures for 2010

	2011	2010
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 674,486	\$ 1,388,610
Amounts Receivable	277,281	215,796
Contributions Receivable	1,564,101	806,537
Prepaid Expenses	34,572	87,759
	2,550,440	2,498,702
Capital assets	198,407	237,280
	\$ 2,748,847	\$ 2,735,982
Liabilities and net assets		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 971,643	\$ 1,112,207
Deferred contributions	1,085,098	874,334
	2,056,741	1,986,541
Net assets:		
Invested in capital assets	198,407	237,280
Internally restricted	299,437	299,437
Unrestricted – general operation and funded projects	194,262	212,724
	692,106	749,441
	\$ 2,748,847	\$ 2,735,982

Summarized Statement of Operations

March 31, 2011 with comparative figures for 2010

	General Operations	Funded Activities	2011 Total	2010 Total
Revenue:				
Contributions received and receivable	-	\$ 7,201,447	\$ 7,201,447	\$ 7,289,913
Other	396,728	-	396,728	263,531
	396,728	7,201,447	7,598,175	7,553,444
Deferred contributions, beginning of year	127,498	746,836	874,334	216,092
Deferred contributions, end of year	(137,998)	(947,100)	(1,085,098)	(874,334)
	386,228	7,001,183	7,387,411	6,895,202
Expenses:				
Administration	-	-	-	2,524
Advertising	24,676	11,649	36,325	19,752
Bank charges	8,934	-	8,934	5,431
Communications	20,206	47,459	67,665	89,942
Distribution	14,649	44,456	59,105	45,424
Equipment rental	16,848	14,554	31,402	9,918
Insurance	15,566	-	15,566	14,740
Office	71,321	67,540	138,861	174,041
Printing	9,068	149,483	158,551	103,157
Professional fees	67,753	1,047,929	1,115,682	1,148,769
Legal fees	-	227,477	227,477	104,736
Rent	253,495	167,460	420,955	409,934
Repairs & maintenance	-	-	-	4,849
Salaries and benefits	290,555	2,692,801	2,983,356	2,678,372
Translation	1,312	44,832	46,144	48,173
Travel	181,955	740,286	922,241	1,398,121
Capital:				
Furniture/equipment	34,613	-	34,613	29,723
Leasehold improvements	11,896	-	11,896	-
Affiliated organizations participation:				
Project activities	-	1,127,100	1,127,100	842,000
	1,022,847	6,383,026	7,405,873	7,129,606
Administrative overhead charges	(633,851)	633,851	-	-
Total expenditures	388,996	7,016,877	7,405,873	7,129,606
Deficiency of Revenue Over Expenditures Before Undernoted	(2,768)	(15,694)	(18,462)	(234,404)
Amortization of capital assets				
Amortization of capital assets	(85,382)	-	(85,382)	(96,656)
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	-	-	-	3,690
Transfer of capital expenditures to net assets	46,509	-	46,509	29,723
Deficiency of Revenue Over Expenses	\$ (41,641)	\$ (15,694)	\$ (57,335)	\$ (297,647)

Summarized Statement of Changes in Net Assets

March 31, 2011 with comparative figures for 2010

	Invested in capital assets	Restricted	Unrestricted	2011	2010
Balance, Beginning of Year	\$ 237,280	\$ 299,437	\$ 212,724	\$ 749,441	\$ 1,047,088
Deficiency of revenue over expenses	-	-	(57,335)	(57,335)	(297,647)
Amortization of capital assets	(85,382)	-	85,382	-	-
Additions to capital assets	46,509	-	(46,509)	-	-
Balance, End of Year	\$ 198,407	\$ 299,437	\$ 194,262	\$ 692,106	\$ 749,441