



EDITION 18 - APRIL 2026





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CENTRAL COUNCIL

NORTH QIKIQTANI

ARCTIC BAY, GRISE FIORD, SANIRAJAK,
IGLOOLIK, POND INLET, RESOLUTE BAY

PRESIDENT:

BAILEY WALDER - IGLOOLIK

VICE-PRESIDENT:

LENA ENOAGAK - POND INLET

INUIT MEMBER AT LARGE:

NATASHA SIMONEE - POND INLET

NORTH KIVALLIQ

BAKER LAKE, CHESTERFIELD INLET,
CORAL HARBOUR, NAUJAAT

PRESIDENT:

JACQUES THERIAULT - CHESTERFIELD INLET

VICE-PRESIDENT:

JANE OLIVER - BAKER LAKE

INUIT MEMBER AT LARGE:

JEANNIE TAPATAI - BAKER LAKE

CENTRAL QIKIQTANI:

IQALUIT,
APEX

PRESIDENT:

JENNIE DAWSON -
IQALUIT

VICE-PRESIDENT:
SHAUNA BEATON -
IQALUIT

INUIT MEMBER AT
LARGE:
RITA KISA -
IQALUIT



KITIKMEOT:
CAMBRIDGE BAY,
GJOA HAVEN, KUGAARUK,
KUGLUKTUK,
TAYLOYOAK

PRESIDENT:

SUSIE HILLIER -
GJOA HAVEN

VICE-PRESIDENT:

ABHIMANYU
ABHIMANYU -
KUGLUKTUK

INUIT MEMBER AT
LARGE:

ELLEN ITTUNGA - GJOA
HAVEN

SECRETARY-TREASURER:
BEN SAJO - GJOA HAVEN

SOUTH QIKIQTANI

KINNGAIT, CLYDE RIVER, KIMMIRUT,
PANGNIRTUNG, QIKIQTARJUAK, SANIKILUAQ

PRESIDENT:

JOHN STEWART - KINNGAIT

VICE-PRESIDENT:

BRODY MCCASKILL

INUIT MEMBER AT LARGE:

CHARLOTTE CROW

SOUTH KIVALLIQ

ARVIAT, RANKIN INLET, WHALE COVE

PRESIDENT:

BAILEY GREENE - ARVIAT

VICE-PRESIDENT:

PATRICIA PITSEOLAK (KABLUTSIK) - ARVIAT

INUIT MEMBER AT LARGE:

APRIL OLLIE - ARVIAT





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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone,

I hope that everybody is enjoying the feeling of Spring in the air and all that it has to bring. This time of year is so incredibly welcome and rejuvenating in some of our communities, and I hope that you are enjoying all that this time of year has to offer.

Since our last message in December, there has been a continued focus on advocacy and member support across the territory.

Over the past few months, we have taken steps to strengthen how we represent the needs of educators in Nunavut. This included the submission of the NTA's first pre budget proposal to the Government of Nunavut, as well as continued work to ensure that issues such as retention, workload, and mental health supports remain part of ongoing discussions. We also saw strong participation in the Inuit Educators Conference, which continues to be an important space for connection, professional growth, and the strengthening of Inuit language and culture in our schools.

As we move into the spring months, there is a natural sense that change is in the air. The days are getting longer, routines begin to shift, and attention starts to turn toward what the next school year will look like.

In schools across Nunavut, that change is already starting to take shape. Staffing begins to come into focus, planning for next year is underway, and teams are starting to look ahead to what lies ahead. While there can be uncertainty during this time, it is also an important part of growth and moving forward.

What we hope will not change is the commitment that our members continue to show each and every day. The work being done in classrooms across Nunavut remains the constant. It is steady, it is meaningful, and it continues to have a lasting impact on students, families, and communities. We also recently came together for our Annual Meeting of Central Council. While I will share more on that later in this newsletter, it was a valuable opportunity for members from across the territory to connect, share perspectives, and help guide the direction of the NTA moving forward. Thank you for the work that you continue to do in your schools and communities. We will continue to build on this work as we move toward the end of the school year and begin preparing for what comes next.

Thank you,
Justin Matchett





EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

As the hiring season begins in our schools for the 2026-27 school year, I thought it would be helpful to review the most common questions we receive from members during this time of the year.

If I have resigned effective the last day of school for teachers, when do my benefits expire?

Even though you cease being a Government of Nunavut employee on your last day of work, your prescription drug, dental, and vision care benefits continue until you receive your final summer paystub in August. Receipts can still be submitted for reimbursement until August 31st. Eligibility for Long-Term Disability coverage ends as soon as you are no longer employed, regardless of whether you are still receiving income.

If I am retiring at the end of the school year, when will I be eligible to begin receiving my pension payments and benefits?

A retiring teacher is not eligible to begin receiving pension benefits until they are no longer receiving any summer salary from the Government of Nunavut. Although your summer pay is money already earned during the school year, pension contributions are made from it so that the summer months count as pensionable service time. For most of our retiring members, this means that pension payments cannot begin until September. The key for retiring members is to contact the National Pension Centre well in advance of September with their Personal Record Identifier (PRI) number (provided by Compensation & Benefits), to discuss their pension options and deposit information so that a gap in receiving income can be avoided.

If I am moving to another Nunavut community to teach that has a late start date, what happens to my pay during the extended summer break?

This is a common occurrence known as “calendar creep” for those moving from the Kitikmeot, Rankin Inlet or Baker Lake to the Qikiqtani region (or vice versa), where teachers who are traveling to another community for work in the upcoming school year either experience an extra-long summer break, or a break that is less than the regular roughly two months. Teachers must receive regular income throughout the summer break, or it will negatively affect their pensionable years of service, in the long run. This is the main reason why lump-sum summer pays are no longer an option for members.

In most cases, when a teacher's summer break is extended, their pay summer pay will be broken up into more than 5 equal pay periods. In cases where the summer break is decreased due to a move, the pay owed is condensed into fewer equal pay periods.

If you are changing schools this summer and the start date is more than 5 working days different from your previous school, I always recommend contacting your Compensation & Benefits officer in June to find out how your summer pay will be affected.

Can I apply on teaching positions in other Nunavut communities during the spring and summer months, after the 60 days resignation deadline?

Yes, you can, if you have successfully completed your probationary period. Teachers have the flexibility to apply on teaching positions across Nunavut right up until the first day of work at your current school. Once your current school year has started, you are only eligible to apply for promotional positions, as it would be considered a mid-year hire. We have members each year who end up changing communities in the middle of the summer.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to our team with any questions you may have throughout the break, and I hope everyone enjoys a safe and relaxing summer!

John Fanjoy





UPCOMING DATES

**8
APRIL**

SUBMISSIONS FOR "SHARE WHAT NOURISHES YOU" ARE DUE

Submissions for the Status of Women Committee contest are due.

**1-15
APRIL**

REGIONAL EXECUTIVE REPRESENTATIVE NOMINATION PERIOD

Nominations must be received by 5PM local on April 15.

**1-15
APRIL**

SCHOOL BASED REPRESENTATIVES NOMINATION PERIOD (CL&PD REPS)

Nominations must be received by 5PM local on April 15.

**22
APRIL**

EARTH DAY 2026

A global day to raise awareness about protecting the environment and taking action on issues like climate change, pollution, & conservation.

**4-10
MAY**

MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Canada Mental Health Week 2026 theme: Come Together, Canada. Stronger Connections. Better Mental Health.

**5
MAY**

RED DRESS DAY

A national day to honour and raise awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ people (MMIWG2S+), symbolized by red dresses.





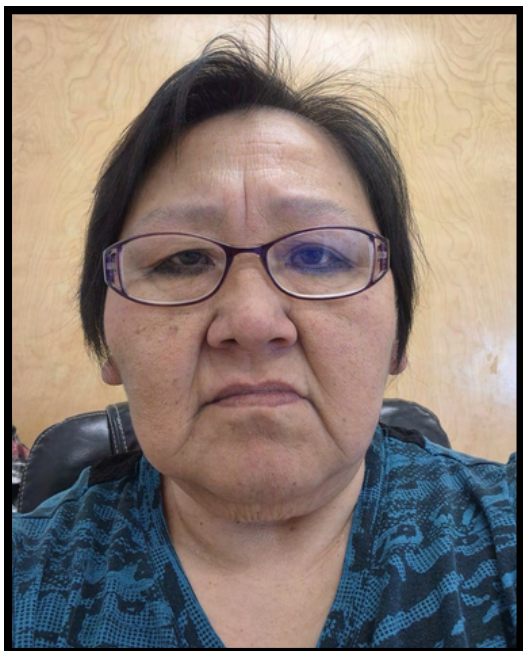
NTA AWARD FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

The NTA Award for Teaching Excellence celebrates creative, innovative, and outstanding teaching. Awards are presented in various categories including program and instruction, extra-curricular leadership, community engagement, language and culture, and student advocacy and welfare.

CONGRATULATIONS TO RHODA PALIAK-ANGOOTEALUK, THE RECIPIENT OF THE 2026 AWARD FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE.

Rhoda's colleagues share:

For over 30 years, Rhoda has demonstrated unwavering dedication to her students, her profession, and her community. Throughout her career, she has consistently created a learning environment grounded in respect, encouragement, and high expectations. Her commitment to student success extends far beyond academic achievement; she nurtures confidence, resilience, cultural pride, and a genuine love of learning in every student she teaches.



What truly distinguishes Rhoda is the way she seamlessly integrates Inuit culture, knowledge, and traditions into her teaching practice. She is deeply involved in Inuit cultural activities and ensures that students not only learn curriculum outcomes but also strengthen their connection to identity, language, and heritage. Through her leadership, students experience meaningful, hands-on learning in traditional Inuit skills such as sewing, cooking, baking, and other land-based and cultural practices. These cocurricular activities are not treated as extras—they are essential components of her holistic approach to education.

Rhoda understands that education is most powerful when it reflects the lived experiences and cultural foundations of students. Her classroom is a place where traditional knowledge is valued alongside academic learning, and where Elders, families, and community members feel welcomed and respected. She has built bridges between school and community, reinforcing the importance of cultural continuity and intergenerational learning.

Colleagues admire her professionalism, mentorship, and collaborative spirit. She has supported new teachers, shared resources generously, and consistently contributed to school-wide initiatives. Her three decades of service reflect not only longevity, but sustained excellence, adaptability, and leadership.

In every sense of the word, Rhoda exemplifies teaching excellence. Her impact spans generations of students and families, and her legacy is visible in the confidence, skills, and cultural pride of those she has taught.

*Congratulations
Rhoda!*





2026 ANNUAL MEETING OF CENTRAL COUNCIL

Annual Meeting of Central Council

This year's Annual Meeting of Central Council brought members together from across Nunavut for a series of important discussions and decisions that will help guide the work of the NTA moving forward.

As mentioned earlier, this time of year often brings a sense of change. That same feeling was present throughout AMCC. There was a clear focus on continuing to move the organization forward, to build on the work that has been done, and to look for ways to improve how we support our members.

Change is not always easy, and it does not happen all at once. But it is necessary if we want to continue to grow as an organization and respond to the evolving needs of educators across the territory. The conversations that took place at Central Council reflected that understanding, with members engaging thoughtfully and respectfully on a range of topics.

A key part of AMCC is the people in the room. Central Council members and Central Executive members are all educators who volunteer their time in addition to their responsibilities in schools and communities. The commitment required to take on this role is significant, and it plays a critical part in ensuring that the NTA remains representative, responsive, and member driven.

On behalf of the NTA, I would like to thank all members of Central Council and Central Executive for their time, effort, and dedication. Your willingness to step forward and take on this work is what allows the organization to continue to grow and move forward. As we leave AMCC and move into the final months of the school year, there is a sense of positive momentum. The work done at Central Council will help shape the direction of the NTA in the months ahead, and we remain committed to continuing to improve and strengthen the support we provide to our members.

Cheers, Justin Matchett





2026 ANNUAL MEETING OF CENTRAL COUNCIL



Premier of Nunavut -John Main and Justin Matchett



Jeannie Arreak-Kullualik and Natasha Simonee, Quilliq Lighting



CTF President -Clint Johnston, Elizabeth Ryan, Justin Matchett



Justin Matchett, CTF President-Clint Johnston, President of Elementary School Teachers Federation of Ontario - David Mastin



Central Executive



Justin Matchett and Elizabeth Ryan, AMCC Banquet



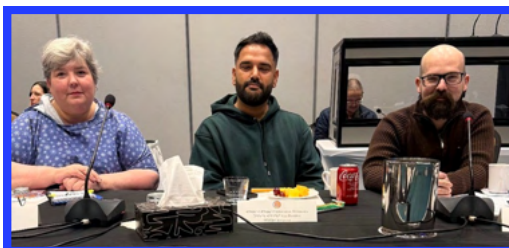
Central Qikiqtani Regional Executive



Elizabeth Ryan, Quilliq Lighting



South Kivalliq Regional Executive



Kitikmeot Regional Executive



South Qikiqtani Regional Executive





TAKULIRIT CONTESTS!

TAKULIRIT "YEARBOOK" CONTEST

IN EDITION 19 OF TAKULIRIT WE WILL BE DOING A YEARBOOK STYLE RECAP OF THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR.

SUBMIT PHOTOS OF THINGS YOU OR OTHER NTA MEMBERS HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THIS SCHOOL YEAR FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A PRIZE.

Share photos to: editor@nta.nu.ca

EVERY PHOTO SUBMITTED WILL BE AN ENTRY INTO A DRAW TO WIN A GIFT CARD!

TAKULIRIT TRIVIA CONTEST

- 1 What is "Starling Minds"?
- 2 What is one resource that Embrace Life Council has for teachers/schools?
- 3 What committee is doing a "Share What Nourishes You" contest?

SUBMISSIONS FOR BOTH CONTESTS CAN BE SENT TO EDITOR@NTANU.CA

SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL MAY 25, 2026.





CONTEST WINNERS

TAKULIRIT TRIVIA WINNER:

GIFT CARD WINNER!

We have a winner!

Cheryl O'Keefe

TAKULIRIT IQ CONTEST WINNER:

GIFT CARD WINNER!

We have a winner!

Karen Chan

PR COMMITTEE "I FOUND THE SMILEY" WINNER:

NTA SWAG WINNER!

We have a winner!

Janice Young

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WINNERS! AND THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED!

IQ CONTEST WINNER

Look at what Karen Chan had to say about how her school incorporates Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit into their school community.

“At Kullik Ilihakvik, we have classes present the IQ Principle of the month skits. Classes write a script for short skits with their teacher or choose a song related to it and present it to the school on Monday.”



In this photo we see one of the classes at Kullik Ilihakvik presenting their skit to their school.





VIOLENCE & HARASSMENT REPORTING

The Nunavut Teacher's Association reminds members of their Violence and Harassment Reporting Form. This form is an online form and available in Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtun, English and French.

The purpose of this form is to collect data on incidents occurring in schools across Nunavut. The information gathered will be shared confidentially (unless otherwise indicated) with the Nunavut Teachers Association (NTA) and the Department of Education (EDU) for statistical purposes only.


This Violence & Harassment Reporting Form takes approximately five minutes to complete and is intended to help identify trends and inform supports. Please note that completing this form will not initiate an incident investigation or follow-up actions where required.



<https://ntanu.ca/events/bylaw-policy-resolutions/>

Violence and Harassment Reporting Form

The purpose of this form is to collect data on incidents happening in schools. The contents of forms submitted will be shared confidentially (unless otherwise requested) with the NTA and the Department of Education as statistical data.



GO TO FORM



Violence & Harassment Reporting Form



Please Select your Preferred Language

Prière d'indiquer votre préférence linguistique

ᑕᑕᑎᑦ ᑕᑕᑎᑦ ᑕᑕᑎᑦ ᑕᑕᑎᑦ

Tikuatjavat Atulluarumayat Uqauhiq

English

Français

ᑕᑕᑎᑦ (Inuktitut)

Aanniaqialinimun (Inuinnaqtun)



PD WEEK HIGHLIGHTS

This year's PD Week brought together educators from across the region for a rich mix of professional learning, cultural connection, and community-building.

Connected North Virtual Conference

This past PD week, teachers also tuned in from across Nunavut for the Connected North online conference, February 16–20, featuring a diverse lineup of sessions spanning digital citizenship, Indigenous knowledge, inquiry-based learning, teacher well-being, leadership, and more. Sessions were offered across time zones to ensure access for all regions.

Universal Screener Training & Science of Reading Masterclass

To support the Department of Education initiatives, we offered full-day training on Academic Assessments (AcademicAssessments.ca) with Learn Different, covering the Culturally Relevant Universal Screening training. Participants also had access to Learn Different's Science of Reading online course, a self-paced, 10-module program covering phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics and decoding, vocabulary, fluency, reading comprehension, writing, and more.

PD Week wouldn't be complete without some hands-on group PD activities that showcased community spirit and learning together! Educators in Baker Lake came together for a week-long activity called "Igloos as Alternate Education Spaces", exploring land-based and experiential learning in action, and Educators at Nakasuk took part in making Ajagaq for classes at the school. They enjoyed celebrating Inuit traditions and the joy of learning together.





2026 INUIT EDUCATORS CONFERENCE

This was held February 16–20 in Iqaluit and was a fantastic event that brought together approximately 246 educators from 25 communities across all three regions of Nunavut under the theme “Honouring Our Past, Leading in the Present, Shaping Our Future”. The conference was coordinated by Dave and Rebecca Penney and supported by an extremely strong, well-organized planning committee representing every region of the territory. The Nunavut Teachers’ Association would like to extend our appreciation to NTI for their financial contribution to support travel for this conference, for sponsoring a Movie Night for conference attendees, and for the cultural setup in the Tisi at the High School.

The week opened and closed with the lighting and extinguishing of the qulliq. It featured three outstanding keynote speakers: Niigaan Sinclair (University of Manitoba), Leena Evic (founder of the Piruvik Centre), and Elder Harry Maksagak of Cambridge Bay. Each day included facilitated panel discussions moderated by Kevin Kablutsiak, exploring themes of Indigenous history and empowerment, Inuit leadership, and the integration of Inuit language and culture in education.

Breakout sessions at Inuksuk High School over three days offered about 15 options each, focusing on Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit, Inuktitut language, and cultural workshops such as tattooing, place names, seal-skin sewing, and the Inuktitut Terminology Development Database. Evening events featured a Craft Fair, a Movie Night screening the TIFF-winning Inuit film Uiksaringitara (Wrong Husband), and a closing banquet with performances by Leanna Wilson, Tooma Laisa and Susan Aglukark. We would like to send a special shout-out to the Inuit Educators in Igloolik who were unable to attend the conference due to the weather, but pulled off some amazing PD as a group on short notice.



Check out the collection of photos from the Inuit Educators Conference on the next page.





2026 INUIT EDUCATORS CONFERENCE





PD WEEK IN BAKER LAKE



During PD week in Baker Lake a group of teachers did “Igloos as Alternate Education Spaces”.





PD WEEK IN IGLOOLIK

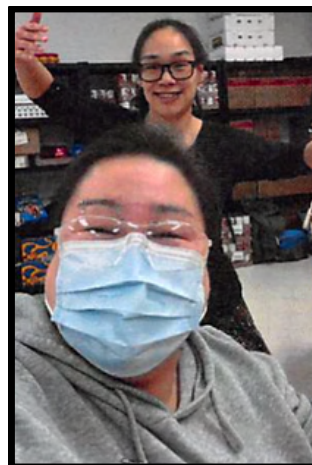
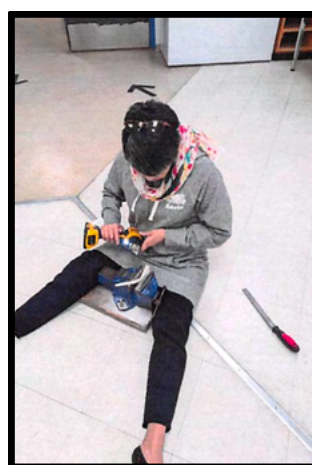
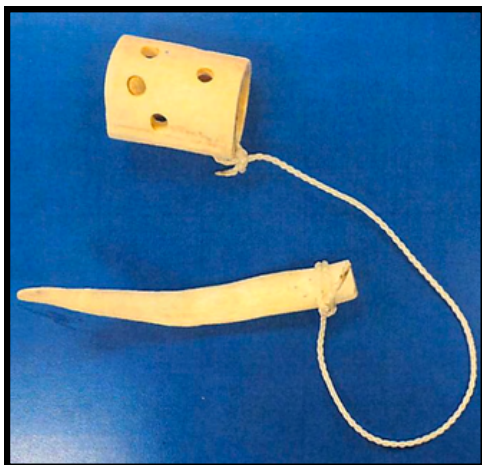
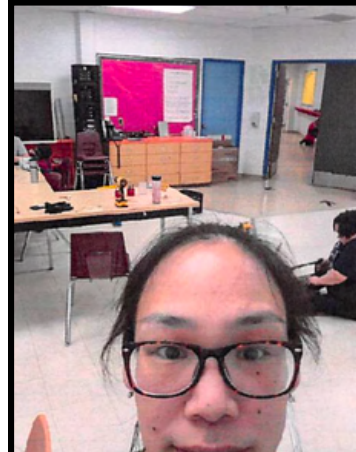
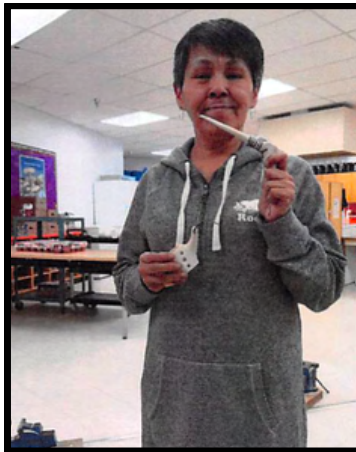
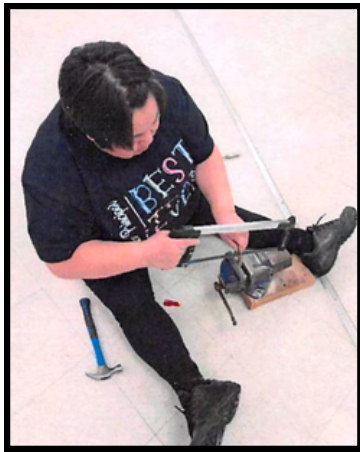
Igloolik was unable to attend the Inuit Educators' Conference due to weather. They pivoted to learn together at home.





PD WEEK AT NAKASUK SCHOOL

At Nakasuk Elementary School in Iqaluit, members used their Monday and Friday of PD week to learn how to make Ajaqaq for their classroom!





FINAL MESSAGES FROM THE PD COORDINATORS

Coming Up

The Substantiation Deadline for PD week 2026 is fast approaching on April 3rd. Please ensure your documentation is submitted on time. If you need support with this, please connect with your school's PD Liaison or one of the PD coordinators here at the NTA office.

Have Your Say for PD Week 2027!

If you are a teacher in Central Qikiqtani or North Qikiqtani, the NTA wants to hear from you!

In response to member feedback, the 2027 North and Central Qikiqtani PD Week conference is exploring a new hybrid model. We are moving away from the traditional keynote format toward job-alike, specialty-focused sessions that target your specific teaching area and challenges. Your input will directly shape what PD Week looks like next year. The survey will take only a few minutes and covers your teaching context, preferred learning formats, and areas of focus. We want your input. The survey has been sent out to members and can be found in your inbox.

PD Benefits for Members Second PD Week Applications

- NTA members may submit a second application to access any part of their remaining PD Week funding allocation after PD Week has been completed under the following circumstances: their initial PD Week activity has been completed and fully substantiated;
- Any second application must be submitted and acknowledged no later than April 1st;
 - a. The activity will take place during the member's personal time (i.e. evenings, weekends, and/ or holidays) prior to the end of the school year;
 - b. Applications will be approved based on the same guidelines as all other applications; and
 - c. The combined funding for both activities will not exceed the individual's maximum allotment for that year.

FAQs

Q: I did not end up using all the funds I was allotted for my PD Week activity; how do I return the unused funds?

A: The easiest and fastest way to return unused PD Week Funds is via EMT (email money transfer) send to our Financial Controller, Brian Barry (bbarry@ntanu.ca).





REGIONAL ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT



REGIONAL ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT

NOMINATION PERIOD NOW OPEN!

APRIL 1 - APRIL 15, 2026
 MUST BE RECEIVED BY SPM (LOCAL) ON APRIL 15, 2026

The Election Committee is announcing the opening of the nomination period for all Regional Executive representatives:

<u>South Qikiqtani</u> President* Vice President** Inuit Member at Large**	<u>North Kivalliq</u> President* Vice President** Inuit Member at Large**
<u>Central Qikiqtani</u> President* Vice President** Inuit Member at Large**	<u>South Kivalliq</u> President* Vice President** Inuit Member at Large**
<u>North Qikiqtani</u> President* Vice President** Inuit Member at Large** Secretary-Treasurer**	<u>Kitikmeot</u> President* Vice President** Inuit Member at Large**

*all Regional Presidents are members of Central Executive (and Central Council)
 **all other members of Regional Executive are members of Central Council

All regional positions are two-year terms - July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2028.

Nominations forms are available on Page 80 of the 2025-2026 By-law and Policy Book. Any questions can be directed to slonsdale@ntanu.ca.
 Chief Returning Officer.





SCHOOL-BASED REPS ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT



SCHOOL-BASED REPS ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT

NOMINATION PERIOD NOW OPEN!

APRIL 1 - APRIL 15, 2026

*****MUST BE RECEIVED BY SPM (LOCAL) ON APRIL 15, 2026*****

The Election Committee is
announcing the opening of the
nomination period for school-based
representative positions for the
2026-2027 school year:

**Communication Liaison (CL)
Professional Development Liasion (PDL)**

*****this position is a one-year term - July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027*****

Nominations forms are available on Page 79 of the 2025-2026 By-law and Policy Book. Any questions can be directed to slonsdale@ntanu.ca, Chief Returning Officer.





MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

OLIVIA TAPATAI

 BAKER LAKE

Name: Olivia Tapatai

School: Jonah Amitnaaq Secondary School

Community: Baker Lake

Role/Classes you teach: Senior High Science



How long have you been teaching for?

9 years!

What is your favourite thing to do when not teaching?

When the time allows, crochet and knit. I also love running after my two young children.

What is the highlight of your job?

When we get to set up experiments!

What is your favourite thing to do outside of school?

Baking! Cookies and cupcakes especially.

Where did you go to teachers college or do your B.Ed?

University of Manitoba. Go Bisons!

What is one piece of advice you have for other teachers?

Ask questions, be okay with learning new things from those around you. Be ready to unlearn some things too!

THIS OR THAT?

SWEET

OR

SAVOURY



SUMMER

OR

WINTER

COFFEE

OR

TEA



READ A BOOK

OR

WATCH NETFLIX





MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

ELIJAH GOSMAN

 PANGNIRTUNG

Name: Elijah Gosman

School: Attagoyuk Ilisavik School

Community: Pangnirtung

Role/Classes you teach: Student Support Teacher



How long have you been teaching for?

I have been teaching at Attagoyuk Ilisavik for 3 years.

What is your favourite thing to do when not teaching?

My favourite thing to do when not teaching is facetimeing my neices and nephews down south.

What is the highlight of your job?

In Pangnirtung the school is the “heart of the community”, to be able to work in such an important place, you can feel daily the impact you make in students’ lives.

What is your favourite thing to do outside of school?

My favourite thing to do outside of school is definitely doing some downhill skiing down the many mountains around Pangnirtung!

Where did you go to teachers college or do your B.Ed?

I did my B.Ed at the University of New Brunswick (UNB).

What is one piece of advice you have for other teachers?

Make an effort to connect with other community members and elders. They have so much they can teach you.

THIS OR THAT?

SWEET

OR

SAVOURY



SUMMER

OR

WINTER

COFFEE

OR

TEA



READ A BOOK

OR

WATCH NETFLIX





HIGHLIGHTING ANOTHER NTA LOVE STORY



Cale Duffus and Shelley Sturge (Duffus) first met in the Iqaluit airport while traveling to Kinngait to work at Peter Pitseolak School—Cale as a junior high teacher and Shelley as a Student Support Teacher. Originally from Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, and New-Wes-Valley, Newfoundland, they quickly became friends, and by Christmas of that year, they were dating. Their relationship grew over the years, leading to their marriage in the summer of 2023. They recently welcomed their daughter, Kennedy, on October 31, 2025.

Fun fact about Cale and Shelley: we have the exact same debit card PIN number (before we met each other). We found that out while we were in the Co-op grocery shopping and she told me to use her debit card. I asked what her PIN number was, and I couldn't believe it because it was the same as mine!





COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT FROM THE PR COMMITTEE

Community Spotlight

GJOA HAVEN

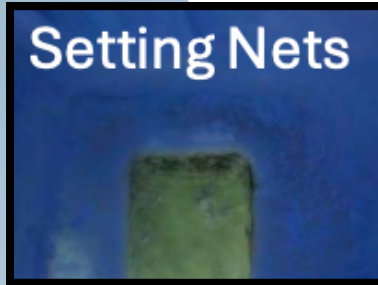
QUICK FACTS ABOUT PANGNIRTUNG

- Population: 1,399 (2024)
- Average Age: 20
- Schools: 2
- Stores: 2
- NTA Members: 28
- Airports: 1

Gjoa Haven is located on the Southeast coast of King William Island at the heart of the Northwest Passage. Gjoa Haven was named after Roald Amundsen's ship, the Gjoa. In Inuktitut, it's called Uqsuqtuuq, meaning "place of plenty blubber."

Local Activities

Setting Nets



Special Events in Gjoa Haven



Schools in Gjoa Haven



Quqshuun Illihakvik Elementary School



Qiqirtaq Illihakvik High School





NTA MEMBERS AT AWG

Many NTA Members and Staff were a part of the 2026 Arctic Winter Games with Team Nunavut!



NTA at AWG





INUUSIQ.COM RESOURCES FROM EMBRACE LIFE COUNCIL



Isaksimagit Inuusirmi Katujjiqatigiit
Embrace Life Council
102-350 Queen Elizabeth Way
Iqaluit, Nunavut, X0A 2H0
Phone: (867) 975-3233
Toll Free: 1-866-804-2782
Email: embracelife@inuusiq.com

March 16, 2026

We hope this message finds you well. Your school will receive or may have already received resources developed by the Isaksimagit Inuusirmi Katujjiqatigiit Embrace Life council (IIKELC) team. These resources address themes such as grief and loss and sexual abuse. The resources were developed based on the needs of the communities and we hope that the culturally relevant content assists you in supporting the students at your school.

Here is a list of the resources included along with a description of them:

Grief Journal for Children (ages 5-9): This resource is a part of the Navigating Grief, a Guided Journal series - with this one specifically designed for children. Inside this journal, children will find activities that can help them emote. Based on their level of comfort, they can work through this journal by themselves or with a grown-up.

Grief Journal for teenagers: This resource is a part of the Navigating Grief, a Guided Journal series - with this one specifically designed for teenagers. For Nunavummiut youth who have survived the passing of another person. This journal is a guide to help them process their feelings throughout their healing journey.

Understanding Grief and Loss: If individuals would like to learn a little more about grief and the emotions associated with it, we encourage them to go through this handout.

My Heavy Secret series, Jayko and Adamie's story/Lisi's story: Jayko and Adamie's story is about surviving and healing from child sexual abuse. While the story centres two boys, aged 6 and 8, it serves as a resource for all children aged 5-10, explaining concepts such as sexual abuse, unsafe touches, personal boundaries, and the importance of identifying safe adults. For a version featuring girls, please refer to Lisi's story. Both stories feature diverse characters aiming to support all children in navigating these critical issues.

Guide for parents and caregivers - Supporting children and teens with grief, loss, and healing: Each child is different in how they understand and respond to grief. Their response depends on their age, maturity, their level of development and their ability to understand death. This resource outlines ways in which parents and caregivers can support their children through the grieving process.

****All Resources related to Grief & Loss are available for download at inuusiq.com****

Warm regards,
IIKELC team





STARLING MINDS

What is Starling Minds?

About us

Effective mental health support accessible and affordable to everyone

Quick answer: Starling delivers personalized, effective and affordable mental health support and training to anyone, anywhere.

Starling delivers personalized, effective and affordable mental health support and training to anyone, anywhere.



Digital mental support and training in one comprehensive platform

Quick answer: Starling provides immediate, unlimited access to highly effective mental support and training while also reducing costs associated with absence and disability due to stress, anxiety, and depression.

Starling provides immediate, unlimited access to highly effective mental support and training while also reducing costs associated with absence and disability due to stress, anxiety, and depression.

Contact Us



What does Starling Minds offer?

How We Partner

Starling offers on-demand mental support and training, tailored by professions like educators. We deliver support through psychoeducation, an approach perfectly fit for educators to learn the skills and tools they need to build mental resilience, at work and at home.

Program Features

- ✔ **Customized Configuration** to make set-up and registration seamless and easy
- ✔ **Personalized mental health support and training** designed for educators and how they build mental resilience
- ✔ **On-site or virtual mental fitness workshops** to foster a workplace of support, caring, and wellbeing
- ✔ **Standardized reporting and insights** on usage, status, symptom scores and efficacy

Education specific resources



Starling Minds is available for all NTA Members. Visit: www.starlingminds.com



MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear: NTA Members,

I want to once again thank everyone for their continued support and contributions to Takulirit. This experience continues to be so great, I have enjoyed getting to connect with new members across the Territory and learn about all the great things going on in Nunavut schools.

The final Takulirit edition of the 2025-2026 school year is set to come out in early June and I encourage all members to send along any stories from the school year that they would like shared!

From: Samantha Lake, Takulirit Editor

I can be reached by e-mail at: editor@nta.nu.ca

MEMBER BENEFITS

DISCOUNTS

As NTA members there are many discounts you can use.



CALM AIR:
Teach15



CANADIAN NORTH:
NTA99



Register as an NTA member with Union Savings to access great discounts from various companies!

