



Spring 2023

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Prime Minister visits Nain to participate in ICPC meeting..... 1
- Terminology Workshop ..... 3
- Refrain from harvesting migratory birds ..... 3
- High efficiency woodstoves heating up Nunatsiavut ..... 3
- ITK's Executive Training Program ..... 4
- Oanuippitaa? National Inuit Health Survey ..... 4
- Northern Lights 2023 ..... 5
- Charting a course towards growth and sustainability ..... 5
- Authors congratulated on winning Peter Cashin Prize..... 6
- Inuit overrepresented in the justice system ..... 7
- Promoting and Preserving our language..... 7
- Birds of a feather ..... 8
- Polar Bear Hunt 2023 ..... 8
- Harvesting Plants and Wildlife ..... 10
- Canada's Food Guide ..... 10
- Labrador Winter Games 2023 ..... 11



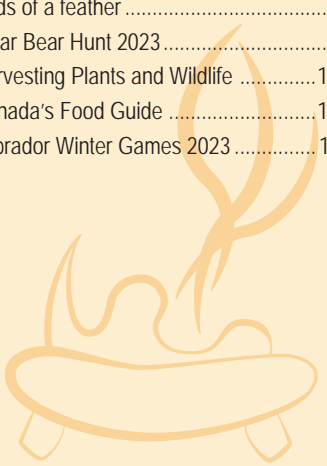
Photo credit: Prime Minister's photographer, Adam Scotti

## Prime Minister visits Nain to participate in ICPC meeting

Since the signing of the Inuit Nunangat Declaration in 2017, the Government of Canada and Inuit leaders have continued to meet annually and work together through the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee (ICPC) to advance shared priorities, strengthen the Inuit-Crown partnership, and create a more prosperous Inuit Nunangat.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami President Natan Obed, federal Cabinet ministers, and the elected Inuit leadership from the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Makivvik, and the Nunatsiavut Government gathered for a meeting of the ICPC in Nain on May 12. The Committee endorsed its evaluation report, which looks at the first five years of implementation of the ICPC, including its successes and challenges. ICPC serves to support collaborative and transformative action on issues affecting Inuit, and to advance the Inuit-Crown relationship. The report recommends developing options for making the ICPC a permanent mechanism and increasing staffing and management capacity to deliver on its work.

*continued on page 2*





During the meeting, the Prime Minister, President Obed, and ICPC members made progress on a range of priorities, including health and wellness, economic development, Inuktitut revitalization, sovereignty, defence, and security. Leaders also added homelessness as a new priority area.

The discussions represented an important step toward supporting Inuit self-determination and advancing the shared goal of creating a more prosperous Inuit Nunangat through meaningful collaboration. The Government of Canada will continue to work with Inuit leadership through the ICPC to build a renewed Inuit-Crown relationship and advance reconciliation based on affirmation of rights, respect, and partnership.

A community feast was held at Jens Haven Memorial School following the meeting.

The Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee was founded on the principle that an equal partnership between Inuit and the Crown is essential to reconciliation. The Committee meets three times a year. Once a year, it is co-chaired by the Prime Minister and the President of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami. The Committee also includes as permanent participants the presidents of Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada, the National Inuit Youth Council, and Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada.



**Prime Minister Justin Trudeau greeted by AngajuKak Joe Dicker upon arriving in Nain, While ITK President Natan Obed looks on.**



**ICPC members, along with Prime Minister Trudeau, gather for a photo outside of Ilusuak Cultural Centre in Nain.**

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# Terminology Workshop

Community members from the five Labrador Inuit Communities, Upper Lake Melville, and the Canadian Constituency, came together to discuss old Inuttituk terms. It was an initiative of the Department of Language, Culture and Tourism.

The Language staff successfully held the 2023 Terminology workshop from February 21-24. Thirty-two participants attended from all Labrador Inuit communities, Upper Lake Melville and the Constituency of Canada.



Johnson Asivak and Wally Andersen, Ordinary Member for Upper Lake Melville, helped hand out caribou to Beneficiaries on May 10. Those 65 to 74 were able to pick up meat, while deliveries were made to those 75 and older.

## Refrain from harvesting migratory birds

The Nunatsiavut Government is recommending that Beneficiaries in the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area refrain from harvesting migratory birds after May 30, 2023.

Based on previous discussions with experienced hunters in our communities, the Nunatsiavut Government is recommending that the spring harvest be kept to a minimum. Hunters should exercise good conservation practices and not exceed four (4) Canada geese and eight (8) freshwater ducks and divers per household.

Please keep in mind that this is the mating season of migratory birds and they should be harvested accordingly. Harvesting of Harlequin Duck (Lords and Ladies) is prohibited.

For more information, please contact your local Nunatsiavut Government Conservation Officer.

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## High efficiency woodstoves heating up Nunatsiavut

The 2023 High Efficiency Woodstove Replacement Program is well under way. Some 80 Beneficiary households throughout Nunatsiavut have traded in their old woodstoves for one that burns less wood and better heats their homes. The Nunatsiavut Energy Security Program concluded that 43 per cent of all homes in Nunatsiavut are inadequately heated.

Applications to replace woodstoves opened in early March and is set to conclude in June. A second round of applications closed on April 28 with the plan to replace an additional 100 woodstoves. Nunatsiavut Construction Inc. has been completing the installations and those who have made the change are reporting excellent results when the

new stoves are operated correctly.

“... (It) takes a little while to get the adjustments right. Burns less wood and burns longer. Would recommend this stove to anybody. My electrical bill has been cut down to less than half since this stove was installed!”

“Almost seems wrong not having to poke the fire every 20 minutes, just quietly goes about its own business for hours and hours on end. Before this stove, we burned an average 15 gallons of stove oil per week during the winter months, just running the furnace one to two cycles early mornings. Since the new stove, we have not bought 1 gallon of oil, nor used hydro to run the furnace fan.”



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# ITK's Executive Training Program

Senior managers within the federal government had the opportunity to gain insight and awareness of Inuit realities and priorities by taking part in a tour of Nunatsiavut as part of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami's Executive Training Program.

It's the first time the one-week experiential learning opportunity took place in Nunatsiavut since 2017. A total of 10 participants travelled to Nain and visited various facilities, including the Illusuk Cultural Centre, the Nain Research Centre, community health clinic, the Nunatsiavut Government Administration Building and Jens Haven Memorial School.

Following the visit to Nain, the group travelled to Hopedale and visited the Moravian Mission complex and church, the Nunatsiavut Assembly and the Nanuk Community Centre.

The highlight of the tour was an overnight excursion to the Department of Health and Social Development's healing lodge near Hopedale.

Inclement weather prevented the group from visiting the other three Labrador Inuit communities.



Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami's Executive during a training program in Nain. Photo courtesy of Mitch White.

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## Qanuippitaa? National Inuit Health Survey

Participation is an excellent opportunity for Inuit to have their voices heard on what matters to them in the areas of health, wellness and health services. Qanuippitaa? National Inuit Health Survey (QNIHS) is a permanent health research program that is national in scope and will include Inuit of all ages from every community in Inuit Nunangat. It is the only health survey determined and led by Inuit. The data collected by the QNIHS will be Inuit owned, and gathered through survey questions that reflect Inuit priorities and values.

Data collection for QNIHS began in Rigolet on March 13. Fieldworkers are currently being recruited to include other communities, and participation in this project is extremely important.



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# Northern Lights 2023

The Nunatsiavut Government has participated in Northern Lights Business and Cultural Showcase since its inception in 2008. An initiative of the Labrador North and Baffin Regional Chambers of Commerce, this year's event – which was supposed to take place last year,

but postponed because of the COVID-19 pandemic – was held from February 7-11 and was the largest to date with some 400 exhibitors and artists and 1,700 delegates participating.

The event featured conference sessions, a trade show, workshops and an arts and crafts pavilion, and provided an opportunity for meetings with federal politicians and officials, as well as other governments, businesses, groups and agencies.

Led by President Lampe, the Nunatsiavut Government held meetings with Crown-Indigenous Relations Minister Marc Miller, Transport Minister Omar Alghabra and Rural and Economic Development Minister Gudrie Hutchings, officials with ACOA and the Government of Greenland, among others.

The Nunatsiavut Government along with Nunatsiavut Group of Companies sponsored a luncheon with keynote speaker Natan Obed, president of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, as well as a session regarding community-led green energy initiatives.

The Director of Tourism, Jillian Larkham, who was representing the Newfoundland and Labrador Indigenous Tourism Association, participated in panel discussion on indigenous tourism development in Canada; Jodie Lane, Director of Education was on stage for a session titled North-to-North Research and Education; Klaus Dohring headed a workshop that revealed real data on solar energy systems in Nunatsiavut; Jamie Hewlett, Regional Energy Coordinator, participated in the panel on local-led and sustainable development; and Colin Gilbride, Director of Infrastructure and Planning participated in a panel discussion on Developing a Northern Infrastructure Strategy.



**Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology Minister Tom Evans with Federal Rural and Economic Development Minister Gudrie Hutchings met during the Northern Lights Conference to discuss broadband for Nunatsiavut.**

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## Charting a course towards growth and sustainability

Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology Minister Tom Evans handed down his first budget as Treasurer of the Fifth Nunatsiavut Assembly in March.

Revenues are projected to be \$369.7 million, of which \$344.6 million comes from the Fiscal Financing Agreement (FFA), negotiated between the Nunatsiavut Government and the governments of Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador. A total of \$115.6 million is the current year's transfer under the FFA, with the remaining funds being carried over from previous years; \$10.4 million from personal income tax earned in the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area; \$7.9 million from the Fisheries and Endowment Fund; \$4.0 million projected to be earned on investments and from the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Implementation Trust; and \$1.7 million from Goods and Services Tax collected in the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area.

Housing, infrastructure and language were highlighted items in the budget with funds being committed for the 2022-23 Affordable Warmth Nunatsiavut Home Repair and Emergency Repair programs; \$5.4 million for new housing units in the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area designated for vulnerable populations; \$54 million to address infrastructure needs as outlined in the Nunatsiavut Infrastructure Action Plan; and \$63 million to address health and social well-being of Labrador Inuit.





Authors of TautukKonik/Looking Back (Submitted photo)

## Authors congratulated on winning Peter Cashin Prize

The authors of *TautukKonik / Looking Back: A Portrait of Inuit Life in northern Labrador, 1969-1986* were the winners of this year's Peter Cashin Prize.

The Peter Cashin Prize is awarded annually by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of Memorial University for the best piece of scholarly work on the history and/or political economy of Newfoundland and Labrador published in the preceding calendar year.

The book's authors include Andrea Procter, Candace Cochrane and the Nunatsiavut Creative Group, which consisted of Peggy Andersen, Rutie Dicker, Minnie Gear, Maria Merkuratsuk, Katie Winters, Sue Webb, Bev Hunter, Fran Williams, Jade Holwell, Joe Dicker, and the late Levi Nochasak.

The Nunatsiavut Government was a partner on *TautukKonik*, which was a project that came out of the Tradition and Transition partnership with Memorial University. The book is a collaborative portrait of a time of change for Inuit in northern Labrador. It uses repatriated photographs of Inuit life taken by Cochrane between

1969 and 1986. The Nunatsiavut Creative Group, along with Procter and Cochrane, combined the images with Inuit recollections in both Inuktitut and English. Together, they created an inspired portrait of time and place.



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# Inuit overrepresented in the justice system

The Honourable David Lametti, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, Gary Anandasangaree, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, and Johannes Lampe, President of Nunatsiavut, announced funding on January 19 to help address the overrepresentation of Inuit in the justice system within the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area.

Over \$1.16 million was provided to the Nunatsiavut Government by Justice Canada to be used towards the creation of a new Inuit Cultural Awareness Educator, training to deal with the prevention and intervention of family violence in Inuit communities in Labrador, Inuit-led engagement to inform the development of an Indigenous Justice Strategy, and funds to support the continued work of the Nunatsiavut Government to increase access to community-based justice services.

“On behalf of the Nunatsiavut Government, I would like to thank Justice Canada for funding these initiatives, which

will serve as first steps towards addressing the systemic racism, as well as other factors, which contribute to Indigenous people’s overrepresentation in Canada’s justice system,” said President Lampe.

“Indigenous people are alarmingly overrepresented in Canada’s justice system. By providing support for community-based Indigenous justice services as well as Indigenous-led engagement on the development of an Indigenous Justice Strategy, we are helping bring systemic change to address this unacceptable reality.”

the creation of a new Inuit Cultural Awareness Educator, training to deal with the prevention and intervention of family violence in Inuit communities in Labrador, Inuit-led engagement to inform the development of an Indigenous Justice Strategy, and funds to support the continued work of the Nunatsiavut Government to increase access to community-based justice services.

## *In Recognition*

### **Pride of Profession**

Rita-Anne Voisey, Family Connections Manager with the Department of Health and Social Development in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, is the first Beneficiary of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement to receive the Pride in Profession Award.

The award is presented annually to a registered social worker who promotes the advancement of social work in their workplace, community and province, and demonstrates outstanding pride in the profession.



Rita-Anne Voisey

## **Promoting and Preserving our language**

A campaign aimed at promoting and preserving Labrador Inuttit was launched March 31 at the Illusuak Cultural Centre in Nain. The Inuttit Blitz is a program through the Nunatsiavut Department of Language, Culture and Tourism that is meant to engage and encourage Labrador Inuit to learn Inuttit through an array of events, activities and resources, both online and in person.

Developed from the 2021-26 Nunatsiavut Language Strategy, Inuttit UKálalluta, ilinniatitsiluta, InosiKalluta, the campaign will run from April until August 2023. Events such as an Inuttit speak-off and a declared

Inuttit week will provide opportunities for Labrador Inuit and communities to come together in an effort to promote Inuttit. Resources such as Inuttit books and the Tusálanga books and online platform will supplement further learning.

“I encourage all Labrador Inuit to participate in any way possible, and to continue taking the initiative to use Inuttit and pass it down to the next generations,” says Language, Culture and Tourism Minister Roxanne Barbour.



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## Birds of a feather

Participation is an excellent opportunity for Inuit to have the Eiders, pigeons, gulls and ravens were some of the species observed during an aerial bird survey conducted by the Department of Lands and Natural Resources Division in partnership with Environment and Climate Change Canada.

Ten staff members from Nain, Postville, Makkovik, and Happy Valley-Goose Bay attended a two-day

training course by Edgewise Environment, focused on how to conduct an aerial survey. Staff then observed and recorded seabirds spotted from Rigolet to Ryan's Gut, just north of Bay of Seven Islands. Data gathered during the four days of flight surveying is still being sorted. The survey is a replicate of one conducted in 2013, and it will provide important data on the overwintering of birds in Nunatsiavut.



Photo: Errol Andersen, Marty Allen, Joseph Townley, Richard Maggo, Carla Pamak, Michelle Saunders, Mary Denniston, Samantha Pilgrim, Sarah Wong and Regina Wells.

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## Polar Bear Hunt 2023

The 2023 polar bear hunting season opened on Feb. 2 with 12 licenses being offered – three for Nain, three for Hopedale and two each for Postville, Makkovik and Rigolet. The season is set to close on June 30 or when all licenses are filled if prior to that date.

### Did you know?

The growth rings inside polar bear's teeth can be counted to determine its age. Since 2011, harvested polar bears in Nunatsiavut have ranged from two to 25 years old, with females averaging six years old, and males averaging 11.



Photo: Geoff Goodyear



# Is it Safe to Hunt Birds this Year?



## YES!

It is **safe to hunt and eat healthy game birds!**

To date, there has been one case of AIV in Nunatsiavut in 2022

## Cooking Birds and Eggs

When preparing harvested birds, always wear gloves

Thoroughly clean your prep area including tools and clothing

Ensure meat is fully cooked with no pink meat and juices run clear

Eggs should be brushed off, not washed with water

Eggs should fully cooked, no runny yolks



## Avian Influenza in Birds

Avian influenza has been detected in birds populations in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and PEI

Symptoms of avian influenza in birds can look like:

- Tremors
- Lack of coordination
- Swelling around the head, neck and eyes
- Lack of energy
- Coughing or sneezing
- Diarrhea
- Sudden death



## Reporting sick or dead birds

**If you see a sick or dead bird, please do not handle the bird and report it to your community conservation officer:**

Joseph Townley 709-896-8582 HV-GB	Dean McLean 709-497-8752 NWR	David Wolfrey 709-947-3383 Rigolet	Samantha Pilgrim 709-479-9763 Postville	Errol Andersen 709-923-2365 Makkovik	Ian Winters 709-933-3337 Hopedale	Richard Maggo 709-922-2492 Nain
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If you have any questions, please contact your local conservation officer

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# Harvesting Plants and Wildlife

As defined under chapter 12, section 12.3.1 of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement, a Beneficiary of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement has the right to harvest wildlife and plants, under the terms of this chapter, throughout the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area, including Labrador Inuit Lands, at all times of the year, subject to:

- A. Inuit laws;
- B. a restriction on seasons imposed for the purposes of Conservation under laws of general application; or
- C. federal laws on firearm control.

In Nunatsiavut, there is no restriction currently on where you can harvest plants and animals. It should be noted licenses are needed for polar bear, moose and salmon. The harvesting of caribou is not permitted in any area in Nunatsiavut outside of the Torngat Mountains National Park.

If you have any questions or comments please contact your local conservation officer.

## Nunatsiavut in Norway

Theresa Baikie, Nunatsiavut Government's Impact and Benefit Agreement Coordinator, went to Norway in April to present at High North Dialogue 2023. She was part of a panel on business opportunities in the Arctic, and shared experience and the crucial role of involving Indigenous peoples and ensuring benefit and impact agreements are implemented. Interviews on the successful campaign carried out in Nunatsiavut, and utilized a bus to administer vaccines in several parts of the community.

Photo courtesy of @CanadaNorway

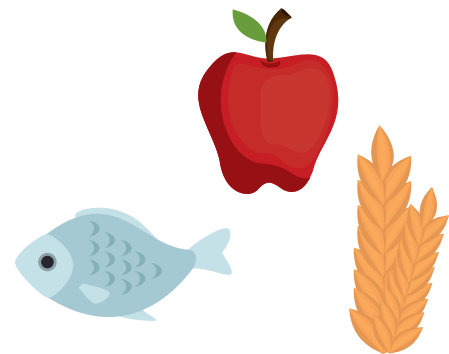


## Canada's Food Guide

New recommendations from Canada's Food Guide provides some healthy eating habits to consider. Healthy eating is more than the foods you eat. It's also about where, why, when and how you eat.

Be mindful of your eating habits

- Take time to Eat
- Notice when you are hungry and when you are full
- Cook more often
- Plan what you eat
- Involve others in planning and preparing meals
- Enjoy your food
- Culture and food traditions can/should be part of healthy eating
- Eat meals with others



Check out [food-guide.canada.ca](https://food-guide.canada.ca) for more information



# Labrador Winter Games 2023



The much anticipated Labrador Winter Games went ahead this year after being delayed by COVID. Mandatory sports included snowshoe racing, target shooting, cross-country skiing, snowshoe biathlon, northern games, northern duathlon and the Labrathon (cancelled due to weather conditions). Optional sports were table tennis, badminton, ball hockey, volleyball, road race darts, 50-plus snowshoe race and dog team race.

All five Labrador Inuit communities participated and results for top three placements are as follows:

**Makkovik:** Winners of badminton, third in arena ball hockey and snowshoe race relay, and third in volleyball. Jesse Ford took second in one foot high kick and third in the seal crawl; Andrea Andersen was first in female badminton; Chesley Evans and Andrea Andersen placed first in mixed doubles badminton; and Cory Pottle and Betty Sampson took third in male, female and mixed table tennis.

**Rigolet:** Carol Flowers was the winner of female target shooting. Sheldon Morris took third place in the male target shooting.

**Nain:** The community placed second in volleyball; Jeremy Holwell placed third overall in the northern games after getting first in the hurdles and second in the seal crawl. Sarah Karpik was second in female badminton, while Gustav Barbour and Samira Kohlmeister took first in mixed-doubles table tennis.

**Postville:** Winners of darts, and Hanson Jacque and Charlene Gear place third in mixed-doubles badminton.

**Hopedale:** Winners of volleyball, and third in darts



**Top:** Torngats MHA Lela Evans, Minister of Finance, Human Resources & Information Technology Tom Evans, Susie Abel-Nui with Team Natuashish, and LWG Board Member, John Andersen.

**Right:** Brooklyn Wolfrey of Rigolet skis her way to the finish line.

**Left:** Ches Evans of Team Makkovik steadies his hand and sights in his target.



# Wildlife Research Workshop Hopedale - May 24-26, 2023



**Are you interested in wildlife research? Have ideas or thoughts on how we can monitor and understand our wildlife?**



The Nunatsiavut Government in partnership with Torngat Wildlife Plants and Fisheries Secretariat, Canadian Wildlife Service, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and Memorial University are hosting a Wildlife Research Workshop May 24-26 in Hopedale.



We are looking for 3 participants from each community: Nain, Hopedale, Makkovik, Postville, Rigolet and Upper Lake Melville to attend. **If you are interested in attending, please send an email to [jason.dicker@nunatsiavut.com](mailto:jason.dicker@nunatsiavut.com).**

*Accommodations, travel and honorarium provided for participants*



For more information, contact [jason.dicker@nunatsiavut.com](mailto:jason.dicker@nunatsiavut.com)



**NUNATSIAVUT**  
Kavamanga Government



**TORNGAT  
WILDLIFE  
PLANTS &  
FISHERIES  
SECRETARIAT**



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CANADA



**Have information you'd like to see included in our newsletter? Send your ideas to [communications@nunatsiavut.com](mailto:communications@nunatsiavut.com). The newsletter will be published quarterly with the next issue scheduled for July 2023.**