



Tugâpvik NUNATSIAVUT

Fall 2023

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Archeologist unearths ulu artifact at Double Mer



Deidre Elliot, Nunatsiavut’s Heritage Program Coordinator, holds an ulu she excavated from Double Mer Archeology Site this summer.



A fully intact ulu dating back some 300 years was unearthed this summer in Double Mer near Rigolet.

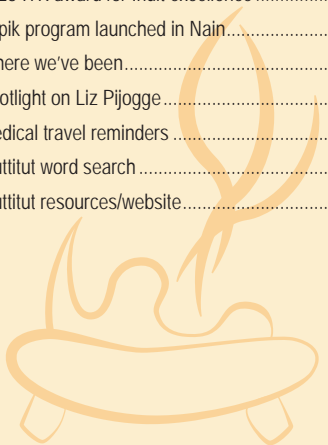
Deidre Elliot, Nunatsiavut’s Heritage Program Coordinator, couldn’t believe it when she unearthed a fully intact ulu at the Double Mer Point Archeology Site this summer. While the exact age of the object is yet to be determined, the artifact has the potential to be three centuries old.

“It’s probably the most special artifact that I’ve actually uncovered myself,” Elliott told CBC’s Labrador Morning. “We find thousands of artifacts every year and this is one that resonates particularly with community members and non-archeologists because it’s so intact, beautiful and identifiable that it very easily tells a story all on its own.”

The ulu shows years of use.

“This was some woman’s ulu that she probably used for several years,” said Elliott. “And it’s been worn down and worn down, and re-sharpened and reworked, and then eventually discarded probably because it got so worn down after many, many years of loving use, that she probably got a new one.”

The Double Mer Point site has been an active dig since 2015 under the direction of Lisa Rankin, Professor and Memorial University Research Chair, Northern Indigenous Community Archaeology.



Increased funding for high-speed Internet

The Government of Canada announced on August 15 an additional \$10.3 million in funding to bring high-speed Internet to Labrador's north coast.

The project, which received \$22 million in initial funding in March 2022, will benefit more than 1,000 households in the five Labrador Inuit communities of Hopedale, Makkovik, Nain, Postville and Rigolet, as well as the Innu community of Natuashish. It is supported by the Universal Broadband Fund (UBF), a federal initiative that aims to connect rural and remote Canadians to high-speed internet.

The Nunatsiavut Government recognizes the importance

Changes to Inuit Child First Initiative

The Department of Health and Social Development (DHSD) is advising of positive changes to the approval process for the Inuit Child First Initiative (ICFI). These changes ensure DHSD is responsibly delivering programs and services in a sustainable manner until Nunatsiavut Government (NG) is ready for the long-term approach of administering the ICFI.

The ICFI was established to assist families in navigating and accessing services and support for their child's medical, mental health and educational needs. It ensures Inuit children have access to the essential government funded health, social and educational products, services and supports they need when they need them. All caregivers of Inuit children between the ages of 0-18 and are recognized by an Inuit Land Claim Organization, no matter where they live in Canada, can request funding through ICFI.

NG is now responsible for reviewing all applications to Indigenous Services Canada from Beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement residing in Newfoundland and Labrador. This ensures services and supports are administered within the legislative authority of NG, and in the spirit of the Labrador Inuit Constitution.

Best Interests of Children (2.4.22): A Labrador Inuit child's best interests are of paramount importance in every matter concerning the child, which is to be decided by an institution of Labrador Inuit government, court or tribunal.

Water, Food, Health Care and Social Services (2.4.23): Every Labrador Inuk has the right to have access to water, food, health care and, if unable to support themselves and their dependents, appropriate social services. Every Labrador Inuk has a responsibility to provide for his or her own well-being in accordance with his or her abilities, to be a self-sustaining, productive member of Labrador Inuit society in accordance with his or her abilities, to share food and shelter with those Labrador Inuit who are in need, and to protect children, the elderly and those Labrador Inuit who are vulnerable or helpless. The revised program approach will be delivered through the lens of substantive equality, which

of reliable and affordable Internet access for Labrador Inuit communities and is pleased to be a partner in this initiative, says Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology Minister Tom Evans.

"This additional funding will enable better access to health care, education and economic opportunities; more productivity for businesses, Inuit Community Governments and organizations; better connections for family members living apart; and overall stronger communities throughout Nunatsiavut."

aligns with the intent of our constitution and creates opportunity to correct inequalities that exist in order to work toward equality in outcomes. The ICFI says some Inuit children may need supports that are beyond the mainstream in order to account for existing inequalities.

For more information, please call 1-855-572-4453.

Big River Camps issues apology for trespassing on Labrador Inuit Lands

As part of a proposed out-of-court settlement with the Nunatsiavut Government, representatives from Big River Camps (2012) Ltd. issued a public apology in Makkovik for trespassing on Labrador Inuit Lands.

In December 2017, the Nunatsiavut Government filed a lawsuit against the company – which owns and operates a sports-fishing camp on the Big River near Makkovik – after it began work, without proper authorization, to expand and improve a route for vehicle access on Labrador Inuit Lands.

"Ensuring adherence to the Constitutionally-protected Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement will always be a priority of the Nunatsiavut Government, and we appreciate the acknowledgement by Big River Camps of the harm that was done," says Lands and Natural Resources Minister Terry Vincent.

"We are hopeful that, by pursuing this process with Big River Camps, other operators and non-Inuit will have a deeper understanding of the sanctity and cultural significance of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement and the protection it is afforded under Inuit, provincial and federal law."

Details of the settlement will not be released.

Happy Retirement!



Tony Andersen resigned in early October from his positions as Minister of Education and Economic Development, Acting Minister of Language, Tourism and Culture, and Ordinary Member for Nain.

Mr. Andersen worked for the Department of Social Services in Nain for many years, before taking on the position of manager for Torngat Housing Corporation. In 1992 he was elected as a board member for the Labrador Inuit Association (LIA) representing the commu-

nity of Nain, before working for eight years with the Voisey's Bay Nickel Company as an advisor on Aboriginal issues.

Mr. Andersen found his way back to politics when he was elected to the board of LIA for the second time in 2001, and subsequently was appointed as Vice President. He served for one year as the Acting President of LIA. On Dec. 1, 2005, he became First Minister of the Transitional Nunatsiavut Government.

During elections for the first official Nunatsiavut Government in October 2006, Mr. Andersen was again elected as an Ordinary Member for the community of Nain, and was selected by the members of the Nunatsiavut Assembly to serve as the First Minister for the next four years. He has been an Ordinary Member for all but four years, during which time he served as the AngajukKâk for Nain.

Mr. Andersen has held several portfolios over the years, including Minister of Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology, and Lands and Natural Resources (acting).

The Nunatsiavut Government thanks Mr. Andersen for his years of dedication, and wish him well in retirement.

Kayak revivalist recognized with provincial award



Noah Nochasak, Nunatsiavut's former Project Lead for the Kajak Revival Program (Piuliniattik Kajannik), has been recognized with this year's Paddle Newfoundland and Labrador (PNL) *Jim Price Passion for Paddling Award*.

The award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated real excitement and enthusiasm for paddling in the province, and has inspired others to take up the sport of paddling or improve their current paddling skills. It was created to honour Jim Price's contribution to the paddling community.

Noah started the Nunatsiavut Kajak Revival Program in 2017 to provide Inuit with opportunities to develop kayaking skills, both in paddling and in construction. During the summers in Nain, he offers training from introductory to advanced levels for both youth and adults. The program follows a Paddle Canada standard with added Inuit cultural components such as rifle use from kayaks and paddling in polynyas and at the sina (ice edge).

By Election Called

Beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement residing in the Constituency of Nain will head to the polls on December 5 to choose an Ordinary Member to fill a vacant seat in the Nunatsiavut Assembly. The by-election was originally set for November 7, but no candidates were nominated prior to the October 23 deadline.

Nominations are now open for the December 5 by-election and will close at 2 p.m. (Atlantic Standard Time) on November 20.

For more information, or to obtain nomination forms, please contact Nunatsiavut's Electoral Officer, Nannette Blake, by e-mailing nannette.blake@nunatsiavut.com or by calling 709-896-0876.

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/ Emma-Rose Murphy 709-922-2492 Nain
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If you have any questions, please contact your local conservation officer

Nutâk Family Project

The Nutâk Family Project, derived from the Hebron Family Archaeology Project, went ahead August 14-18, but was cut short to three days due to weather and work commitments.

There were six survivors of the Nutâk areas, including Cutthroat/Silutalik, Ogatsiuvik and survivors family of UKak (Okak). They included Sarah Ponniuk, John Townley and Pauline Henoche who went to their old homestead foundations at Cutthroat/Silutalik, Timothy Townley who went to his birthplace of Ogatsiuvik, Simon Kohlmeister whose parents were born in the area, William Andersen who was born in UKak (Okak) and family support Helena Kautjasiak who also had family members that had homesteads in Silutalik area. Drivers/bear guards and support staff were Simon Kohlmeister, Richard Maggo, John Maggo, Emma Rose Murphy, Peter Dicker, Samuel Ittulak, Shawn Solomon, Lena Onalik Earle, and Rutie Lampe.

It was a wonderful 3 days for the survivors of the surrounding areas of Nutâk. They were completely grateful to be "home" again. Some thought this might be their last time home. They shared many stories and memories of the way they lived with their families, who their family members were, what they hunted and how they lived the best way off the land/sea and air.

Nunatsiavut IKalutsuanik kamannik / Shark Watch Nunatsiavut

In recent years there have been increased reports of shark sightings in Nunatsiavut, both as bycatch in coastal nets and seen swimming at the surface of the water by harvesters.

Shark Watch Nunatsiavut, a partnership between Oceans North and the Nunatsiavut Government, is a project to better understand shark presence in Nunatsiavut waters.

People are asked to share shark sightings to gather information on when and where sharks are present, which will be used to help focus shark research efforts to monitor sharks through satellite tagging and underwater cameras.

If you see a shark or catch it as bycatch, please report as

many details as possible to Sid Pain: spain@oceansnorth.ca, including:

- Photos or video of the shark
- Location of the sighting (as specific as possible, GPS coordinates or a map point)
- Time of day
- Estimated length and sex, if possible
- Any details about the appearance (colour/scars), behaviour, injuries.
- If caught as bycatch, what is the condition of the shark and was it released alive or deceased.

Nunatsiavut school principal wins 2023 ITK award for Inuit excellence



Julie Dicker is the winner of the 2023 ITK Award for Inuit Excellence. As the first Inuk to hold the title of School Principal in Nain, and an enthusiastic supporter of Inuit education and physical education, Julie exemplifies Inuit self-determination in education.

Julie is an educator and school principal at Jens Haven Memorial, a kindergarten to Grade 12 school in Nain. She completed a Bachelor of Education, and Bachelor and Master of Physical Education from Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN) and has now begun her PhD in Arctic and Subarctic Futures at MUN.

She has worked for the Labrador School Board for 14 years, becoming the first female Inuk to teach physical education, first at John Christian Erhardt Memorial in Makkovik, and then in her home community of Nain. When Jens Haven Memorial faced a two-year gap without a permanent Inuit teacher, Julie took on the role of teaching Inuit as well.

“Julie’s dedication and leadership serve to inspire people across Nunatsiavut and Inuit Nunangat. Her support of sports and language programs contribute to Inuit strength, wellness and pride,” said Natan Obed, President of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami. “We are pleased to honour her service to Inuit.”

Tupik program launched in Nain



The Department of Language, Culture and Tourism launched a new summer pilot program in Nain called Tupik (tent).

The goal of the program was to provide language and culture programming for all ages, and to promote family and peer learning. It was an opportunity for participants to learn/practice Inuit, hear cultural stories, participate in traditional activities like pitsik or iKalujak making and sewing, and much more.

The Tupik program was housed in a traditional Labrador-style tent located near the Nain ballfield. The department hopes to build on the success of the program by eventually expanding it to all Nunatsiavut communities.

Roxanne Barbour, Ordinary Member for Nain, along with Veronica Flowers, tried her hand at cleaning seal skins during the Tupik program in Nain.

Where we've been

Representatives of the Nunatsiavut Government are always on the move. Whether travelling for conferences, research opportunities, partnership prospects – the list is endless on how far NG staff will go to help strengthen the region and have the voice of Labrador Inuit heard.

- Archeologist travelled to Germany to honour the remains of Inuit taken from Nunatsiavut.
- Ministers attended ICC meetings in Greenland.
- Department of Lands and Natural Resources, along with Nunatsiavut Secretariat representative went to Australia to explore indigenous protected areas and governance.
- The tourism division promoted Nunatsiavut at the first provincial Indigenous Tourism Summit held in Corner Brook. Staff also visited each Nunatsiavut community to explore potential tourism offerings and encourage residents to see their towns through a visitor's lens.
- 45 Grade 9 students from throughout Nunatsiavut were treated to a career and learning trip through the Department of Education and Economic Development. This was an opportunity for youth to explore future educational opportunities.
- NG attended NASCO and presented on co-management in Indigenous subsistence fisheries. The NG are one of only two groups that presented to the NASCO delegation.

Medical travel reminders

- If departing home community 'early' and appointment/s get rescheduled or cancelled, client is responsible for reimbursing NIHB the cost of airfare.
- If client is departing home community 'early' or staying at destination longer, client is responsible for own accommodations and meals.
- Once client receives an appointment letter from any health care provider, client is responsible for submitting letter to community clinic well in advance of appointment to ensure NIHB medical transport have enough time to book travel.
- For clients residing in Upper Lake Melville, NIHB ground transportation requires 24 hour notice for client pick up.
- Ensure when travelling out of home community for medical appointment/s, client has valid ID and MCP.
- When traveling outside home community for medical appointments, please ensure you check in at the NIHB LGH office upon arrival to Happy Valley-Goose Bay. This ensures confirmation of your trip.

Spotlight on Liz Pijogge



Lisa Koperqualuk, ICC Canada President (left) and Liz Pijogge, Nunatsiavut Government, at the United Nations Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) in Paris. This was during the second week of negotiations for a global, legally binding instrument on plastics. (ICC photo)

Liz Pijogge, NG's Northern Contaminants Researcher is expanding on the work being done in Nunatsiavut. Liz has been partnering with Dr. Max Liboiron from Memorial University on plastic pollution (Microplastics). Together, they we have been monitoring mostly seal and intestines from fish (char, cod, turbot, rock cod etc). Liz samples the animals and sends the samples to Max at the CLEAR Lab in St. John's to be examined for microplastics. Other samples include snow, ice, and surface water with LADI (Low-tech Aquatic Debris Instrument). Samples will now be expanded to include seabirds and partridges.

It's because of this work Liz was asked by Inuit Circumpolar Council of Canada (ICC) to help represent Inuit on a global scale in Paris this past June at the United Nations Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) on plastic pollution.

"It was long hours and a lot of listening to interventions from all countries and NGOs from around the world, including Indigenous peoples," said Liz. "I felt our interventions were not being heard but it was heard and supported by other countries which makes me feel great to know that one voice can be relatable to so many other people around the world, specially other indigenous groups."

Inuttitut word search

o	p	k	j	O	n	a	t	t	u	s	u	a	k	O
n	i	l	l	a	s	i	m	a	j	u	k	p	i	n
a	S	j	i	p	K	O	p	u	n	u	K	l	t	a
t	S	m	s	u	k	g	m	K	o	p	l	k	t	t
t	a	k	a	n	n	i	S	u	a	K	j	t	u	i
u	t	a	n	j	p	O	a	m	k	j	p	t	g	l
s	t	i	u	k	u	i	s	i	K	K	a	l	i	S
i	n	l	m	O	j	n	p	t	u	I	j	n	a	j
a	O	l	i	j	K	M	t	o	n	i	u	t	t	m
v	p	u	n	a	K	t	n	K	a	k	o	k	S	u
a	n	k	u	j	t	i	u	p	k	J	u	m	a	n
k	u	i	j	S	o	u	m	t	n	K	p	O	s	K

WORD LIST

puitjuk - *puit-juk*

to swim

Kausinnak - *Kau-sin-nak*

wet weather

kittugiat - *kit-tu-giat*

mosquitos

Onattusuak - *O-nat-tu-sak*

very hot, as in weather

ikulliak - *i-kul-liak*

calm (sea, weather)

SilakKisiuk - *Si-lak-Ki-siuk*

to travel in good weather

nillasimajuk - *nit-ta-vuk*

the fog has lifted

onattusiavak - *o-nat-tu-sia-vak*

nice and warm

akKunak - *ak-Ku-nak*

storm

Kiuk - *Kiuk*

cold

Inuttitut Resources/Websites



Nunatsiavut Language and
Culture FaceBook Page



Mother Tongue Dictionaries

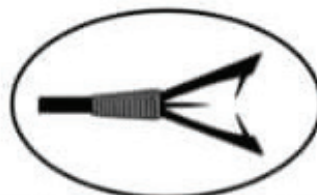


Inuktut Tusaalanga Website



Nunatsiavut Language and Culture
Resources

Hold your smartphone up to the QR code and it will take you to the site



Nunatsiavut
Language & Culture

For more information contact: 709-922-2942 ext 230/231

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