

BAFFIN LEADERSHIP SUMMIT MEETING

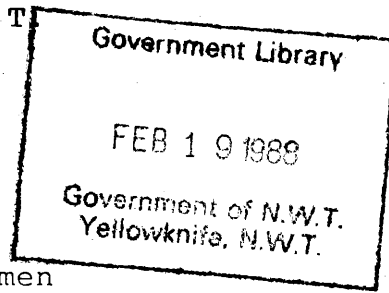
DECEMBER 1-4, 1987

NAVIGATOR INN, IQALUIT, N.W.T.

M I N U T E S

57-88(1)
TABLED DOCUMENT NO.
TABLED ON

FEB 17 1988



PARTICIPANTS:

Mark Evaloardjuk, Louis Tapardjuk	Co-Chairmen
Joanni Ikkidluak	Baffin Regional Hunters & Trappers Committee
Inookie Noah	Baffin Regional Alcohol & Drug Information Committee
Joanasie Kooneliusie	Baffin Tourism Association
George Eckalook	Baffin Regional Health Board
Joe Enook	Baffin Divisional Board of Education
Peter Iqalukjuag	Baffin Youth Society
Annie Nattaq, Suzanno Monteith	Baffin Regional Agvvik Society
Harry Kilabuk, Shelley Howell	Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik
Jacques Belleau	Baffin Chamber of Commerce
Joe Arlooktoo	Member of the Legislative Assembly for South Baffin
Ipeelie Kilabuk	Member of the Legislative Assembly for Central Baffin
Pauloosie Keyootak Pudloo Mingeriak Caleb Apak Annie Nattaq	B.R.I.A. Executive Committee
Paniloo Sangoya Joanasie Maniapik Andy Theriault Charlie Manning	B.R.C. Executive Committee
Ron Mongeau, Executive Director Nick Arnatsiaq, Executive Assistant	B.R.C.
Sharon Whims, Admin. Officer	B.R.I.A.

The meeting was opened with a prayer by C. Apak.

Opening statements were made by M. Evaloardjuk, L. Tapardjuk and A. Theriault at which time they stressed the importance of the meeting to the development of the region. They also impressed upon the members to be aware of the resolutions and to show solidarity in their implementation. The members then introduced themselves individually.

Approval of the Agenda:

The agenda was approved with the addition of the Agvvik Society under item 5 ^{d)}_{e)}.

Resolution Committee: Joe Enook
 Nick Arnatsiaq
 Charlie Manning

SOCIAL ISSUES

a) HEALTH:

G. Eckalook gave an update on events and progress of the health board since the last summit meeting. One item brought to the members' attention was a proposed vehicle by-law to be implemented in each community for the protection of residents. The board had found that there were an increasing number of accidents caused by ATV's in the communities. These have caused most injuries and medivacs thus increasing costs. He also explained his participation at the AIDS workshop and encouraged more programs such as this.

R. Mongeau gave a report on Baffin House in Montreal and the publicity it spawned. Within 5,400 patient days last year, the actual complaints were minimal. He explained that most of the complaints stem from the behavior of escorts of patients, not the patients themselves. They will implement a system of eligibility for future escorts. It was pointed out that there are problems in the boarding homes in Iqaluit and that owners should group to form houserules for boarders since the hospital has no policy or control over them.

The hospital executive had begun looking into construction of a boarding home in Iqaluit for long-term/maternity patients. He reported that the dentist in Igloolik is doing well and the board may hire 3 more dental therapists for the region. Funding will be available for community health worker positions in every community and this training may be available through Arctic College. The hospital is to be extended at a cost of up to \$10 million. Also a new health centre is to be built in Grise Fiord next summer. He solicited support from the members on mental health services. The board believes that they are best suited to administer these services but are having problems convincing the Dept. of Social Services (Yellowknife). There was discussion on the number of nurses in communities where they would prefer to have resident doctors. Mr. Mongeau explained that this is a longterm goal but at present is not feasible as there is not enough fulltime work in one community to warrant having a doctor. However, the board is committed to decentralized services therefore, any community that can justify having a doctor should write formally to the health board.

The remainder of the discussion focused on mental health and the suicide problems in the region.



b) ALCOHOL & DRUGS:

I.Noah reported on Tuvvik and the planned detox centre in Iqaluit. He explained that Tuvvik and the detox centre are for the entire region not just Iqaluit and that if any local committees wish to implement programs i.e. with the help of elders, they should solicit assistance from B.R.A.D.I.C./TUVVIK.

The discussion then turned to the I.T.C. Resolution on leaders' behavior. Included in the appendix is a draft resolution which was drawn up for discussion only. The consensus was to not approve the I.T.C. resolution as each organization has its own by-laws for the removal of members. They agreed that each organization should be responsible for their own policies.

On solvent abuse, the members agreed that business/suppliers should be responsible for keeping the chemicals stored properly. A. Theriault informed them that the Municipality of Iqaluit has been looking into forming a by-law to control/reduce the dangers of solvents: To force businesses to lock up any and all solvents in their possession or on their property.

The discussion returned to the subject of suicide. It was noted by P. Keyootak that not all suicides stem from the use of alcohol/drugs. The members attempted to find ways of reaching the young people who are having problems i.e. depression, drug abuse. They tried to identify ways to inform young people that elders still feel responsible and still care. Keyootak suggested that each community should appoint someone to speak personally to these youth as some are not open to airing their feelings in public. This will be a major topic at the January '88 Social Services Conference in Iqaluit.

c) JUDICIARY:

Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik has been encouraging more legal education to inform the public of the laws and their rights. At present, they have lawyers and para-legals and are training on-the-job court workers (they are trying to have this training formally recognized). Some of their concerns are the strengthening of custom adoption, community control of solvents and having children's aid societies in place of social workers in communities.

The Law Reform Committee is studying custom adoption and how to have it put into legislation. Under the Aboriginal Rights Committee this system is being looked at by Indians and non-natives with no Inuit representation. All agreed that Inuit must have a seat on this committee.

It was noted that there should be a campaign by Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik to encourage young people to follow the legal profession and take more active roles in the judiciary through post-secondary education as most native people submit to laws because they don't understand them.

L. Tapardjuk expressed the difference between traditional and non-native judicial systems: The Inuit system has always been to eliminate conflict and restore harmony whereas the non-native system was developed to punish.

d) ELDERS:

A. Theriault and H. Kilabuk reported to the members on the progress of elders' groups in Iqaluit, how they have organized themselves and plan their own activities. They are active in the Nunatta Sunaqtangit Museum work in collecting information and stories on tradition and culture as well as oral history. The Municipality of Iqaluit wants to construct an elders' centre managed by them alone.

A point made was that there are special housing needs for elders: 180 elders' housing units are available in the west but none in Nunavut. This must be rectified.

P. Iqalukjuaq emphasized that youth must come to terms in their relations with elders as young people are increasingly losing traditional culture and values. They must deal with this generation gap as soon as possible.

e) AGVVIK SOCIETY:

Suzanne Monteith, coordinator of **NUTARAQ'S PLACE**, explained some of the problems encountered by their organization.

A major concern is the lack of housing for those who have to leave their home due to violence. Many who go to the transition house are uninformed of the laws to protect them and tend to drop charges when they realize the court docket is backed up for 6 months. Others who decide to end their relationship, find they have nowhere else to go and end up returning to the same situation simply because there is no housing available to them. Agvvik already approached the Housing Corporation but with no success. They solicited support from the leaders of the organizations present in order to have more clout when they re-apply to the Corporation. The subject of the homeless was raised as some members questioned how if Baffin has the highest population, the Housing Corporation allocates fewer houses here than the rest of the Territories. They also questioned why, in Iqaluit, people are living in shacks on the beach in winter. An explanation was given that those on the beach were most probably evicted due to non-payment of rent or damages. P. Iqalukjuaq noted that in Clyde River some families who were moved out while their homes were being retrofitted were unable to return. He also suggested that instead of continually renovating these houses, the Corporation should be building new ones.

Another point made was that family violence sometimes stems from unemployment, alcohol/drug abuse and/or pornography and how these problems could be remedied. They estimated that by the year 2000 there will be 9000 graduates looking for jobs which will only accentuate the problems in families. J. Arlooktoo informed the members that the Legislative Assembly has formed a special committee titled **"Employment and Creation of Jobs in the North"** which would be touring the communities in the future, possibly the spring of '88. As for pornography, some communities already have by-laws in place to restrict the rental/sale of such materials.

Wednesday, Dec. 2/87

The meeting was opened with a prayer by H. Kilabuk.

SOCIAL ISSUES, cont'd.

f) SOCIAL SERVICES:

There was a general discussion on the committees active in each community. The members found that for the most part there are too many committees doing the same jobs and that these should be amalgamated to form a more concentrated effort. Money could be saved if all those working for the same end were better coordinated and worked together, each with their own responsibilities. A. Nattaq noted that when too many are working at the same job, duplication occurs which deteriorates services rather than improving them. G. Eckalook suggested that the leaders should establish guidelines and then consult with the hamlets, however, many committees don't want to be responsible to the hamlets.

Concerns to be forwarded to the January Social Services Conference included: "How does the public see government agencies? What is the job of the social worker in the communities? What is the job of the church?"

g) EDUCATION:

J. Enook explained the work of the Board to date including the survey that had been circulated throughout the region. He asked for input from the leaders on what direction to take with the results. He was pressed by the members to explain why traditional education i.e. hunting, fishing, survival, independence, were not recognized as formal education and why students were punished whenever they missed school to go on the land. This is being investigated although the government still does not recognize cultural education. He impressed upon the members that those parents who do not send their children to school are at fault since the implementation of compulsory education and are impeding their children's development and success in the future.

There were complaints made about conditions at the Ukiivik Residence in Iqaluit. The atmosphere for learning is inadequate as well as the quality of the food which is important to the well-being of the individual who is learning. Mr. Enook promised that the contractors were to improve otherwise their contract would not be renewed in 1988. He also asked the communities for donations of country food to be sent to Ukiivik through the local education societies (freight costs to be paid by B.D.B.E.).

The members made a resolution to acknowledge the progress made by the Board.

CULTURAL ISSUES

a) Language:

The general discussion was centered around the procedures for having Inuktitut recognized as an official language. The delegates were adamant in finding safety measures to safeguard the language. It was noted that many public services i.e. the bank, airlines, the hospital and restaurants, are still lacking in providing Inuktitut instructions, menus and Inuktitut-speaking personnel.

Reference was made to the Language Task Force recommendations of 1986. The M.L.A.s were questioned as to what progress had been made to date in implementing these recommendations. I. Kilabuk will be looking into this.

All agreed that the primary responsibility was to the family in encouraging and improving the use of Inuktitut in the home. A resolution was drawn up to be addressed to T. Alloo, Minister of Culture and Communications of the G.N.W.T., on developing programs to preserve the language.

b) Policy:

The members approved a list of goals and objectives for the Baffin Region as outlined by L. Tapardjuk:

GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR THE BAFFIN REGION

- Ensure the survival of Inuit as a distinct people and to integrate Inuit cultural values;
- Emphasize the importance of an economic base in the North and the right of Inuit to participate in the management and development of the Arctic and its resources;
- Inuit have the right to exercise sufficient control over matters affecting their interests, communities;
- Inuit must enjoy the right to participate in, and ultimately determine, the planning and management of health care and social service systems;
- It is fundamental that Inuit enjoy the right to use their own language in education, public affairs and business
- Government and private institutions should be urged to support Inuit research centres for the co-ordination of Arctic research and eventually the establishment of an Inuit research foundation and university system.

The ensuing discussion centered around the importance of strengthening the relationship between youth and elders as the gap is widening at an ever increasing rate. Youth are unable to cope in today's world since they lack the values and customs of the past which they can only learn from their elders. It was noted that the educational system has also lent itself to alienating young people from their parents.

c) Cultural Institutions:

The topic of discussion was on the relationship between the Inuit Cultural Institute (I.C.I.) and the Baffin Region. The members were given an update on the progress of the development of the Baffin Cultural Institute (B.C.I.) and how they hope to have a better understanding and be able to work with the I.C.I. in the future.

They noted that each community in the region had been approached by the Steering Committee of the B.C.I. to contribute \$1,000.00 to a feasibility study on this project.

Thursday, December 3, 1987

The meeting was opened with a prayer by C.Apak.

POLITICAL ISSUES

a) Nunavut Constitutional Forum:

The M.L.A.s present (Arlooktoo and Kilabuk) stated that it was not yet clear as to which of the remaining M.L.A.s were pro-Nunavut. They even informed the members that some M.L.A.s considered Nunavut a "dead issue". They added that they still have the Nunavut caucus meeting behind closed doors. The subject of the capitol was raised but it was decided that that this decision was still far in the future.

b) Partisan Politics:

The main issue discussed was division of the territory, not splitting into political parties. In order to establish parties, Baffin alone would have 39 groups (13 communities times 3 parties) plus 3 headquarters per community and region. The Legislative Assembly already has a system in place whereby east and west form each other's opposition.

c) Regional Government:

Baffin and the Baffin Regional Council have far exceeded other councils in the N.W.T. It has been in existence for a much longer time and has more experience. B.R.C. has stronger relationships with other regional organizations i.e. B.R.I.A., government bodies, M.L.A.s and Ministers.

The following principles were agreed to by the Territorial Regional and Tribal Councils in Yellowknife, Nov. 17-18, 1987:

1. The Regional and Tribal Act shall remain entrenched in GNWT Legislation. This would not preclude the ultimate entrenchment of Regional and Tribal Councils in an NWT Constitution.
2. Regional and Tribal Councils shall be the prime public body for the Region.
3. Regional and Tribal Councils shall be guaranteed funding to adequately deliver programs the Council is responsible for.
4. The Government of the Northwest Territories should be responsible for the development of legislation and the setting of standards for programs and program delivery in the NWT with input from Regional and Tribal Councils. The Territorial Government and Regional and Tribal Councils shall then jointly develop regional policies for programs and program delivery and negotiate funding for programs delivered by the Councils on behalf of the GNWT.
5. Regional and Tribal Councils shall have regulatory and administrative responsibilities over programs and services, including those that are vital to the preservation of the cultural identity and values of its residents.

6. Regional and Tribal Councils shall be accountable to their member communities. Communities shall have the ability to opt out of a Regional and Tribal Council. If a community opts out, it is the responsibility of the community to negotiate delivery of programs under the jurisdiction of the Regional and Tribal Council.
7. Territorial, Regional and Tribal Councils shall meet annually or as required by the Councils to evaluate and co-ordinate regional program policies and program delivery. Such meetings shall be funded by the Territorial Government.
8. The Legislative Assembly shall develop a process of consultation with Regional and Tribal Councils prior to amendments to the Regional and Tribal Councils Act.
9. To be more effective Regional and Tribal Councils require decentralization of programs and personnel to the regions and if necessary communities.

If this proposal is accepted by the Legislative Assembly, then regional councils will be able to run programs independently (see #4). Also, territorial employees would in essence become council employees as the territorial budget would become the council's to administer. Political development in the north is critical to these proposed principles.

These recommendations are to be reviewed, then presented to the government leader for approval.

d) Land Claims:

Paul Okalik, Baffin negotiator, gave an update on the progress on the agreements-in-principle (A.I.P.). He discussed the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB), how quotas and international harvesting agreements are set; the Inland Waters Management Board (IWMB) to regulate the use of lakes and rivers within Nunavut; Mining, Oil & Gas Management Board; Culture & Language Management Board where the government is adamant about keeping control.

Those items that are non-negotiable include oil exploration, pollution and social issues i.e. education, justice, health, where the government has offered advisory status with no judicial powers. They cannot negotiate language or self-government.

Discussion then turned to resolutions on language and housing shortage. Referring to the housing shortage the members were informed that it was not necessary to rely on the Housing Corporation as other programs exist to benefit from (the federal Rural and Remote Housing Program and housing co-ops). Inuit Non-Profit Housing Corporation (I.N.P.H.C.) was brought up when the members questioned why most of their housing units are in the south when the corporation was developed to benefit Inuit in the north. N. Arnatsiaq, I.N.P.H.C. board member, explained that their mandate was to build houses in the north but they have encountered obstacles from the N.W.T. Housing Corporation.

After lunch, Ann Hanson, Deputy Commissioner of the N.W.T., was introduced to the members. She talked for a short time on the establishment of Inuit organizations in the 60's and how they have developed to date.

ECONOMIC ISSUES

a) Economic Strategy:

Jacques Belleau, President of the Baffin Chamber of Commerce (B.C.O.C.), explained the purpose of the organization as a vehicle to promote and protect the interests of regional businesses. The B.C.O.C. is open to all businesses in Baffin and has distributed information (newsletters) to over 150 individuals and businesses over the past 6 months. At present, most members are from Iqaluit but 8-9 other communities are also represented.

The B.C.O.C., along with the B.R.C., planned to hire an economic planner to devise a 5-year strategy for the region's economy and employment. They see renewable resources and tourism as having the highest potential for improving the economy as well as giving more employment through the private sector instead of government jobs.

BAFFIN LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

a) Ongoing Process:

The members found that many of the issues discussed at this meeting were duplicating those from the B.R.C. sessions as the same organizations were invited. It was explained that B.R.C. invites delegates for specific items but the summit allows for greater open discussions and that it is valuable that all members assemble to give their input on the diverse topics that are presented. They did decide that if they were to meet again that the church and the R.C.M.P. should be invited to participate. There was general consensus on holding the meeting annually if funds are available.

MOTION: To hold a Baffin Leadership Summit meeting in 1988.

Moved: C. Apak

Seconded: H. Kilabuk

Opposed: C. Manning **CARRIED**

b) Funding:

It was uncertain as to whether or not funding would be available for another summit. The members found that it would be necessary to press for support earlier and that if DIAND is unable to assist again, there may be access to other programs and/or loan funds. They also expressed concern that it should be made clear to the participating organizations exactly what they would be financially responsible for.

CONCLUSION

In closing, the members found that before the first summit, there was a lot of duplication of work being done between the different organizations. After the clarification of responsibilities, most are running more efficiently than before and hopefully this will continue. BRIA/BRC will review the resolutions made at this meeting and submit them to the proper authorities for action.

The president of the Baffin Youth Society (B.Y.S.), Peter Iqalukjuaq, stated that the society is not really active due to a lack of funding but this has not stopped them from continuing to help each other. He thanked the members for the opportunity to see youth and leaders meeting together towards a common goal.

M. Evaloardjuk and L. Tapardjuk thanked everyone for their participation and reminded all of the upcoming Social Services Conference to be held in January '88.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

A P P E N D I X

I

R E S O L U T I O N S

Baffin Leadership Summit
December, 1987
Iqaluit, N.W.T.

B A F F I N L E A D E R S H I P S U M M I T

1987

R E S O L U T I O N S

LEGAL EDUCATION.....87-01

ELDERS.....87-02

BAFFIN DIVISIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION.....87-03

LANGUAGE.....87-04

HOUSING.....87-05

FAMILY VIOLENCE.....87-06

ECONOMICS.....87-07

BAFFIN LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

RESOLUTION # 87-01

LEGAL EDUCATION

WHEREAS a need has been identified for special attention to be given in the development and training of young Inuit in the legal field; and,

WHEREAS no specific attention has been given to the academic development of young Inuit preparing them for careers as lawyers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Baffin Divisional Board of Education, in cooperation with Arctic College, undertake to identify the possibilities of the preparation of an initial training requirement outline based on the Teacher Education Program concept, which would provide young Inuit with the opportunity of career development and training assistance in the study of the legal profession.

FURTHERMORE, it is recommended that the assistance of the N.W.T. Bar Association be solicited in consideration of this matter.

MOVED: A. THERIAULT

SECONDED: I. KILABUK

CARRIED

DATE: DECEMBER 2, 1987

BAFFIN LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

RESOLUTION # 87-02

E L D E R S

WHEREAS the Baffin Summit Meeting having given consideration to the status and needs of community elders, as a special and deserving group of residents.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Baffin Regional Council be requested to contact all its members and obtain outlines of programs and activities provide to elders in each community of our region and that on receipt of this information, it be distributed to all community councils thus providing them with outlines of programs, activities and suggestions which could be considered for implementation in other communities in support of activities identified by the elders, themselves, of each community.

MOVED: P. IQALUKJUAQ

SECONDED: C. MANNING

CARRIED

DATE: DECEMBER 2, 1987

BAFFIN LEADERSHIP SUMMIT
RESOLUTION # 87-03
BAFFIN DIVISIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION

WHEREAS the Baffin Leadership Summit members having been briefed and having discussed the status of education development in the Baffin region and having noted the activities of the Baffin Divisional Board of Education (B.D.B.E.), wishes to record the views of members attending the summit meeting;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the record of this meeting shall indicate:

- A) The recognition and appreciation of the work carried out by the B.D.B.E.
- B) The recognition of the progress being made in our region through the work and activities undertaken by the B.D.B.E.
- C) Continued confirmation of support and assistance from leaders of Baffin Region Organizations and members of the Baffin Leadership Summit Organization.

MOVED: A. THERIAULT

SECONDED: G. ECKALOOK

CARRIED

DATE: DECEMBER 2, 1987

BAFFIN LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

RESOLUTION # 87-04

L A N G U A G E

WHEREAS during the Baffin Leadership Summit of December 1-4, 1987, extensive discussion took place on the topic of Inuktitut language, and it became evident that, Inuktitut language be a priority;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Minister of Culture and Communications, Honourable Titus Allooloo, should press for legislation to get Inuktitut as an official language for N.W.T.

MOVED: P. SANGOYA

SECONDED: G. ECKALOOK

CARRIED

DATE: DECEMBER 3, 1987

BAFFIN LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

RESOLUTION # 87-05

H O U S I N G

WHEREAS 1987 is the international year of shelter for the homeless; and,

WHEREAS the lack of shelter for the homeless in Baffin region has caused enormous social problems and unrest especially for those affected by family violence; and,

WHEREAS the N.W.T. Housing Corporation has admitted the virtual impossibility of providing housing in the immediate future for all Territorial residents who require it.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Baffin Leadership Summit petition the Legislative Assembly to again state this Region's longstanding concerns about our severe lack of housing; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this summit encourage Baffin Municipalities to examine all available options to provide more housing for their communities including the Federal rural and housing program and Housing Co-ops.

MOVED: A. NATTAQ

SECONDED: J. ENOOK

CARRIED

DATE: DECEMBER 3, 1987

BAFFIN LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

RESOLUTION # 87-06

FAMILY VIOLENCE

WHEREAS family violence is a serious problem which affects the quality of life in all Baffin communities; and,

WHEREAS the Agvvik Society has asked this summit meeting to support community-based family violence prevention groups; and,

WHEREAS this summit meeting has indicated its concern for the proliferation of social service committees at the community level

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Baffin Leadership Summit encourage all Hamlet Councils to support the Development of Family Violence prevention programs in their communities; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these programs be developed by existing committees and social agencies wherever feasible.

MOVED: A. NATTAQ

SECONDED: C. APAK

CARRIED

DATE: DECEMBER 3, 1987

BAFFIN LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

RESOLUTION # 87-07

E C O N O M I C S

WHEREAS unemployment in the Baffin region is far greater than the Canadian average; and,

WHEREAS this lack of employment will impact most on future generations who may not be able to find adequate employment; and,

WHEREAS there is no strategy in place to plan for economic development in this region.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this summit encourage the Baffin Regional Council and the Baffin Region Chamber of Commerce to access EDA funding to hire a regional planner to begin this most important work.

MOVED: J. ENOOK

SECONDED: J. NOAH

CARRIED

DATE: DECEMBER 3, 1987