



Tugâpvik NUNATSIAVUT

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Message from the President Making Muskrat Right

The Nunatsiavut Government and our research partners spent more than four years ensuring that science, traditional Inuit knowledge and the precautionary principle were at the forefront of evidence-based policy and decision-making with respect to the potential downstream effects of the Muskrat Falls hydroelectric project.

The research allowed us to expand our understanding of methylmercury and the potential consequences on the health and wellbeing of our people, on our culture and a way of life. We became knowledgeable and then capable of linking our concerns with others throughout Labrador, Newfoundland, the country and other parts of the world. This research and traditional knowledge guided us, and helped lay the foundation for a Make Muskrat Right campaign.

When I stood with Innu Grand Chief Qupee and NunatuKavut President Todd Russell during what is known as the “Rally in the Valley” this past June I sensed something very powerful was about to take place. I was moved by the overwhelming support we received from people from all walks of life – people who came together to stand up for what they believed in. I believe we started to make progress that day, but we knew that much work still needed to be done.

We continued to push forward with our campaign, so much so that it sparked a movement – one of unity, of strength and determination.

I want to thank all Beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement, the land protectors and supporters for the tremendous role they played in our fight to protect the health and wellbeing of our people, as well as our culture and way of life. I also want to acknowledge the leadership of Grand Chief Qupee and President Russell, and to thank them for standing alongside us in what has been a very difficult and trying time, not only for Labrador Inuit, but for many throughout Labrador.

Our Muskrat Right campaign ignited a flame, but it was the people who carried the torch. It was this growing movement, I believe, that pressured the Premier and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to finally admit that Muskrat was wrong, and that it was time to make it right.

The Premier reached out to me, Grand Chief Qupee and President Russell on October 20, days before the land protectors arrived onsite and virtually shut the project down. We met with the Premier, Environment and Climate Change Minister Perry Trimper, Natural Resources Minister Siobhan Coady and Labrador’s other three

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MHAs on October 25 in St. John's. At the beginning of the meeting we all agreed that our main focus would be on protecting health, culture and a way of life.

I believe the commitments that were made during that meeting are unprecedented for a project of the magnitude of Muskrat Falls.

With respect to the initial-phase of flooding, the Premier presented us with seven engineering reports that indicated water levels would have to rise this winter in order to protect the structural integrity of the project. We asked that no flooding take place until those reports were independently reviewed.

We engaged the services of two independent experts, both with expertise in river ice engineering, to review the reports. The experts were instructed to critically evaluate the need for first-phase flooding, identify the minimum acceptable water level rise, and advise on how the duration of the water level rise might be kept to a minimum during the ice season.

We released those assessments on November 5. Both confirmed the rationale and the need to initiate the first phase of flooding this winter. As Indigenous leaders, Grand Chief Qupee, President Russell and I agreed to allow water levels to rise to the minimal acceptable level. All along we have been led to believe that level would be seven meters, bringing levels from the existing 18 meters to 25. What we do know from scientific research is that much of that area has already been seasonally flooded, sometimes as much as 50 per cent, and that the production of methylmercury in this area would be minimal. We also know, again based on scientific evidence, that some areas are already inundated by water, such as bogs and marshes, where full clearing would make little or no difference on the amount of methylmercury entering into the ecosystem. Furthermore, scientific evidence has shown that methylmercury production peaks during the warmer months, and slows in the colder months.

In order to minimize the impact of methylmercury as a result of the first phase of flooding, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador has committed to ordering Nalcor to bring water levels back to normal, after the winter months, so that organic material, such as trees, shrubs and topsoil, can be removed from the reservoir area – again, on the advice of scientific experts. To our knowledge, this has never been done before anywhere in Canada, perhaps the world.

There was also agreement in establishing an Independent Expert Advisory Committee, to be comprised of representatives of the Nunatsiavut Government, Innu Nation, NunatuKavut Community Council, and federal, provincial and municipal governments. This committee will be mandated to seek an independent, evidence-based approach that will inform other decisions in relation to the project. It will also determine and recommend options for mitigating human health concerns related to methylmercury throughout the entire reservoir and in the Lake Melville ecosystem. Mitigation measures will be realized through utilizing best available science that incorporates Indigenous traditional knowledge.

Work is progressing on having this committee established.

The Nunatsiavut Government held public meetings November 1 – 4 in Rigolet, North West River, Happy Valley-Goose Bay and Mud Lake, to explain, in further detail, what was discussed and agreed upon during the October 25 meeting.

This has been a long and hard-fought campaign, and we realize there is still much work that needs to be done. Our job now is to ensure the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador honors its commitments. By doing so, we will ensure Inuit health, culture and a way of life is protected. After all, that was what this campaign was all about...

Kinney receives Public Service Award of Excellence

The Deputy Minister for the Department of Health and Social Development is one of 238 recipients of the 2016 Public Service Award of Excellence for their exceptional service to Canadians.

Michelle Kinney was part of a team of eight nominated by the Regional Director of Health Canada, William McGillivray, for the innovative Remote Presence Robot Technology initiative. The team came up with an innovative solution to providing timely, basic health care services for patients and their families in Nain. With corporate and other government funding, the team developed a demonstration project to explore the use of remote presence robotics for primary care. The result was "Rosie," a robot that successfully gives real-time access to physicians for diagnosis and treatment. Plans are now being considered to expand Rosie's use to access specialist services. The team's exceptional work has revolutionized health care service delivery and nursing education in northern and remote communities, in Canada and abroad. The Public Service Award of Excellence recognizes the outstanding contributions of public servants who have demonstrated qualities of leadership, innovation, and commitment to excellence.

20th Biennial Inuit Studies Conference

Inuit Traditions / Inuit PiusituKangit October 7th to 10th 2016

Co-hosted by the Nunatsiavut Government and Memorial University under the auspices of the Tradition & Transition Research Partnership, the 20th biennial Inuit Studies Conference, held in St. John's from Oct. 7-10, was a huge success.

With a total of 519 participants, the conference attracted the second largest number of attendees in ISC history (topped only by the Smithsonian in 2012). More significant than the number of attendees was who they were: nearly half those attending and participating in ISC 2016 were Inuit, representing a significant shift from previous conferences where the considerable majority of participants were academics. This is proof that the setting of the research agenda is migrating from academic institutions and researchers to Inuit communities and knowledge-bearers, frequently through research partnerships where Inuit not only participate fully in knowledge creation, but direct the research agenda.

The conference program convincingly reflected this shift. All five keynote speakers were Inuit, addressing the topics of Inuit leadership and governance (Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami President Natan Obed and National Inuit Youth Council President Maatalii Okalik), contemporary Inuit cultural expression (Tanya Tagaq and Joar Nango) and Indigenous language revival (Natalia Radunovich). Across the 216 presentations made by conference participants, these themes and many more that reflect on the preoccupations of Inuit communities were addressed.

The unprecedented degree of Inuit engagement in this year's conference was made possible by the generous support of the Nunatsiavut Government and several federal agencies which earmarked funds specifically to facilitate the participation of Inuit presenters and artists.

One of the most energizing aspects of the conference was the fact that it encouraged Inuit culture to be experienced, as well as discussed. Concurrent with the conference, organizers ran two festivals: the katingavik inuit art festival and the all-night, art crawl, iNuit blanche, which took over the whole of downtown St. John's the night of October 8.

katingavik was an exploration of contemporary Inuit music, film, photography, and arts and crafts which hosted more than 25 activities in downtown and Memorial University campus locations. Screenings and discussions with filmmakers, concerts that ran the gamut from classical music of the 18th century to contemporary throat singing to hard rock and workshops on tattooing and Inuit games, katingavik showcased contemporary Inuit artists and their collaborators.

iNuit blanche – modelled on the urban all-night art crawl

phenomenon – sprawled across downtown St. John's with 28 different art experiences going into the early hours of October 9. Live art, film, dance, "nouveau-country" cuisine, music, workshops and much more – all by Inuit artists – drew a public numbering in the thousands to stations all across the city centre.

The two festivals were framed by two spectacular events. The conference opened with the opening of SakKijâjuk: Art and Craft from Nunatsiavut at The Rooms Provincial Gallery on the evening of October 7. Hosted jointly by The Rooms, Memorial University and the Nunatsiavut Government, the opening drew the largest crowd (estimated at 800) of any event in the history of the Provincial Gallery. The exhibit, curated by Heather Igloliorte and featuring works by more than 40 Nunatsiavut artists, stands to re-write the Canadian perception of Inuit art as it tours nationally in 2018-2020. The conference closed with the first Newfoundland and Labrador performance by Polaris-winning Tanya Tagaq at a sold-out concert in the St. John's Arts and Culture Centre.

The festivals, the keynote speakers, and the conference themes transformed St. John's into the Inuit circumpolar cultural capital for a period of four days. And this transformation did not escape the attention of the wider world. Media attention to the conference and festivals was unprecedented in its comprehensiveness and its scope. All told more than 60 stories and features about the conference and festivals appeared in regional and national media. The St. John's monthly arts magazine, *The Overcast*, devoted its October issue to the conference and festivals. CBC alone ran more than 35 stories on the conference and festivals leading up to and during the event, with many features being shared on national platforms both via radio and the web. CBC Atlantic tasked a senior producer and six journalists to use the conference as a source from which to develop future programming on contemporary Inuit society and the issues and challenges it faces. The conference will continue to have an impact on public understanding of the Inuit world for months and years to come.

The conference and festivals also had a lively following on the internet and social media. The conference's website: www.mun.ca/isc2016 carried a wealth of information for prospective participants in both English and Inuktitut, including bi-weekly feature stories on presenters and performers in the two months leading up to the event. Facebook and Twitter sites engaged conversations among tens of thousands of followers spreading enthusiasm widely across the social media world.

classes for a period of more than one day, or for student's spouses and/or dependents to travel at different times than the student. It will only be provided on the condition that it does not impact seat allocations at the start of the academic year. Requests for this additional trip must be forwarded to the PSSSP Program Director at least one month in advance of travel.

Benefit for all PSSSP students

Effective September 2016, all PSSSP students may qualify for assistance for required equipment and supplies up to a maximum of \$1000 per program. In order to access this benefit, students must provide a detailed program outline noting the mandatory equipment and or supplies, a detailed cost breakdown, and a detailed receipt of purchase. No reimbursement will be provided for lost or damaged equipment and/or supplies.

There is another benefit approved which has not been published yet as complications with the wording of the document were experienced. This policy change is being reviewed for accuracy and clarification and will be implemented upon approval of the final document.

Graduates for 2016

Names	Program	Major
Edward Allen	Masters of Education	Counselling Psychology
Vyann Andersen	Diploma in Addictions	Mental Health and Addictions
Nicole Bell	Certificate in Science	Applied Science
Glenn Campbell	Bachelor of Science	Earth Science
Brittany Chaulk	Bachelor of Nursing	Nursing
Wallace Chaulk	Bachelor of Science	Psychology
Donna Dicker	Certificate of Inuit Studies	Inuit Studies
Heather Edmunds	Bachelor Business Admin	Business Administration
Hilary Edmunds	Bachelor of Arts	Criminology
Zachary Ford	Bachelor of Engineering	Computer Engineering
Teri Goudie	Diploma Med. Lab Sciences	Medical Laboratory Sciences
Jodene Hopkins	Masters of Nursing	Nursing
Ashley Hutchings	Diploma in Social Services	Social Service Worker
Emma Lake	Certificate in Continuing Care	Continuing Care

Names	Program	Major
Krista Lane	Diploma Community Studies	Community Studies
Kylee Lyall	Diploma ECE	Early Childhood Education
Ashley Martin	Diploma in Graphic Design	Graphic Design
Raymond Obed	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology
Jolyn Pijogge	Certificate in Bus. Admin.	Business Administration
Danielle Pottle	Bachelor Business Administration	Business Administration
Paul Saunders	Diploma in Technology	Nautical Science-Merchant Marine
Eugenia Silpa Suarak	Diploma in Inuit Studies	Advanced Inuit Studies
Rebecca Watts	Masters of Arts	Indigenous Governance
Matthew Webb	Bachelor of Arts (Honors)	Psychology
Patrick Webb	Bachelor of Physical Education	Physical Education (K-12 Teaching)
Laura Winters	Diploma Community Studies	Community Studies

Recognition of Service

President Johannes Lampe presented Margery White and Lucy Brennan with certificates and a gift in appreciation for their 30 years of service. The presentation took place in St. John's in October.



Department Culture Recreation and Tourism

Program Inuktitut Development:

- “IlinniaKatigennik,” OKâlaKatiget Society Radio Show is put on every week for the public (a good way of promoting Inuktitut.)
- Working with Alana Johns, U of T, re. transcribing stories, collecting stories; Alana has suggested having a Transcribing workshop in each community, to have more people record elder stories and to transcribe them; this would benefit community members.
- Working with Christine Nochasak, LSB program specialist; Christine is a member of the National Inuktitut Language Committee; She is currently overlooking the Inuktitut component for the schools from Nain to Rigolet, and over the Life Skills as well;
- Delivering the Labrador Inuktitut Teacher Training Program in Goose Bay in late June/early July; there were 16 participants, from Nain to Rigolet, and HVGB; a brief was written on this training program in July 2016; Participants enjoyed this training, and would like to see a similar program held in one of the communities.
- We participate with Carleton University linguist Kumiko Marusug and the other Inuit Regions in an **Atlas Project**.
- Language Nests in Hopedale and Nain; these programs are not running as was initially hoped; the workers in Hopedale are going through “burnout,” and there are just no substitutes to call in; the Language Nest in Nain, I only briefly dropped in to see how the program is running there; same as Hopedale, there is difficulty in finding workers to stay there; Inuktitut is not being used as much as was hoped. Workers in both places are using a lot of English; Parents are not as involved in the Language Nests as was hoped; Only one possible solution is to have parents and workers take a two-week course, using one of the Modules, “Baby Care,” prior to the opening of the Language Nest year; but, for hiring workers, it is near impossible today; Funding has also been an issue to have these Language Nests running; A meeting is being organized to deal with improving the two Language Nests;
- Modules: the LITP staff are still developing Modules for the IBED program; So far, there are 25 Modules completed, and there are still 11 more Modules to work on; when staff are done working on a particular Module, they put it in Dropbox, then these draft Modules are proof-read by Isumatât, who then give these back for the students to use; Finalizing the Modules is time-consuming, but the end product is good and ready for use
- Rigolet Dialect: Gertie Palliser from Rigolet, who was on the committee before; she would like to see some-

thing for their language again; Doug Wharram and Mark Turner say that they have material on some of the speakers. Alana Johns also has some material on some of the speakers from Rigolet, and needs some transcribing done; We are planning to offer one or two transcribing workshops there, and hopefully have someone from Rigolet to transcribe the stories;

- Evaluation for Proficiency in Inuktitut – an overall evaluation tool needs to be developed for determining where we are lacking in our language delivery; this applies to any program under Nunatsiavut, including the Labrador School Board; this evaluation tool needs to be developed as soon as possible! So, I am presently looking for and at all possible evaluation tools that would be most useful for Nunatsiavut;
- Master/Apprentice program: there are no programs at the present time, but this initiative should be brought about again; Funding proposals are being developed.
- Community Language Committees: at the present time, there are no committees running, but we will be contacting each community to see if there is interest in setting up new committees;
- Language Lab: I believe having a Language Lab would certainly benefit everyone; the ultimate goal would be to have a language lab in all communities, and again, this depends on funding; Lucy Brennan is working with us on a good funding source for one language lab, possibly a Mobile one.

Tourism Division Update

- Jenna Andersen joined the Tourism Division on November 1 as Visitor Experience Coordinator. Based in Makkovik, Jenna brings extensive tourism academic training and experience with the expedition cruise industry, Torngat Mountains Base Camp and Parks Canada.
- Work has begun on the 2017 Nunatsiavut Visitor’s Guide. The 2016 guide was the best yet, thanks in part to support from Air Labrador which placed it on all their aircraft.
- In partnership with the Nunatsiavut Government’s Economic Development Division, three tourism opportunity assessments were completed: sea kayaking, Rigolet tourism and Mealy Mountains (both coastal touring and inland hiking).
- An Expression of Interest for the operation of the Torngat Mountains Base Camp and Research Station closed on December 2, and it is hoped an operator will be confirmed early in 2017.
- Staff is working closely with Destination Labrador and Newfoundland and Labrador Tourism on support to community tourism businesses and to comply to new stan-

dards and regulations for tourism establishments.

- A report on recommendations for improving the restoration project and ambassadors program at Hebron will be completed by year end.
- Media, including the Boston Globe and Enroute Magazine, continue to work with the Tourism Division on major profiles.
- Tour operators are building new itineraries to promote increased tourism in Nunatsiavut.

Heritage Division Update

- Progress towards the development of Nunatsiavut's Repository has also been made, and a first draft of a project charter identifying roles and responsibilities of those who will be involved in the process has been developed. It is hoped the old boarding school in Nain can be restored and used meet Nunatsiavut's needs in this area.
- The report on Nunatsiavut's seventh annual Heritage

Forum has just been completed and is now available. Plans will begin for the 2017 event.

- The new Heritage Program Coordinator position was filled this fall and the successful candidate was Kyle Crotty, who started on October 7. As a result of the new position, analysis and cataloguing of archaeological materials collected over the past few years has advanced greatly.
- The analysis of faunal materials collected by Nunatsiavut Government staff from a number of sites in the Nain and Rigolet areas has now been completed and has produced valuable information.
- Archaeological and geotechnical assessments were recently completed in the community of Hopedale related to the adaptive reuse of the Moravian Mission complex there. This was done in partnership with Parks Canada, and the federal government has committed to continuing to support work at the site in 2017.

Gros Morne Moose Harvest



Four staff members were sent to Rocky Harbour and were partnered with four local hunters, with assistance from Parks Canada staff, to harvest 50 moose in Gros Morne National Park.

For the fourth year in a row, the Nunatsiavut Government, through the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, conducted a successful moose harvest in Gros Morne National Park. A total of 50 animals were taken from Oct. 25 to Nov. 2.

Parks Canada approved the 50 non-profit licences for the Nunatsiavut Government and the Ulapitsaijet (people helping people) committee. The project is a continuing effort of the Nunatsiavut Government to help address food security issues and provide an alternate source of country food for Labrador Inuit communities since a hunting ban was enacted on George River caribou in 2013.

Four employees were sent to Rocky Harbour and were partnered with four local hunters with assistance from Parks Canada staff. Logistical details for the hunt are arranged in

co-operation with Parks Canada, which identify areas within the park where moose should be taken. Universal Helicopters was chartered to fly the hunters into the remote areas of the park, and moose located in the more easily accessible areas were left for local residents to harvest.

The meat will be distributed to all Nunatsiavut communities, as well as to the Inuit Community Corporations in Happy Valley-Goose Bay/Mud Lake and North West River. However, some of the meat was spoiled when it arrived in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, resulting in less distribution this year. The cause of the spoilage has not been determined. The Nunatsiavut Government apologizes for this unfortunate situation.

The Nunatsiavut Government thanks Parks Canada staff in Rocky Harbour for their invaluable contributions to this project over the past four years.

Summer Student Profiles



Jason Dicker - Special Projects Co-ordinator

Jason Dicker is majoring in Environmental Studies at Memorial University, Grenfell Campus. As a summer student placement, he worked a Special Projects Co-ordinator for the Director of Non-Renewable Resources in the Department of Lands and Natural Resources.

“It was a position that allowed me to work on current projects... related to business and resource management, specifically working with the Inuit Business Registry from the Economic Development team and interviewing Inuit business owners on how they operate in relation to the Voice’s Bay mine.”

Jason learned more about the types of Inuit-registered businesses and had the opportunity to meet several owners on a one-on-one basis. He also used some of his technical skills in developing maps for Mining Analyst, Jean-Sebastien Boutet.

“The reason why I developed maps was to identify where industrial development is being proposed and explored on Labrador Inuit Lands and Labrador Inuit Settlement Areas,” he notes. “This allowed me to understand and have an idea what sort of work industrial companies are proposing to do on our lands. The part that I enjoyed during my time at the Nunatsiavut Government was the idea of finding out new areas where industrial companies are proposing to do work that I did not think was present.”

Jason finished his undergrad this fall, and plans on taking a year off while keeping his options open. He intends to apply for graduate studies at the Grenfell campus in the Master’s of Arts, Environmental Policy program because he “strongly believes that young indigenous people should become future environmental citizens to help mitigate and reduce adverse environmental impacts on their land and to show their full potential when it comes to resource management in an age where gas and oil are high prized commodities.”

Jason says he was happy to be given the opportunity to work with the Nunatsiavut Government and to gain valuable experience in his field of studies.

“My time at the Nunatsiavut Government was a memorable one and I plan on expanding my work skills and education in other areas in the future. Thank you and especially to Harry Borlase and Jean-Sebastien Boutet for being great roles models and encouraging me to pursue more later on down the road.”

Mary (Binky) Andersen – Finance and Human Resources

Mary Andersen, affectionately known as Binky, is a full-time student at Memorial University’s Grenfell Campus in Corner Brook. As a summer student she worked in the Finance and Human Resources Division.

Her duties included using AccPac and HRMS, to enter data for employees, and to make employment data was up to date. She also assisted in processing purchase requisitions, doing up purchase orders, collecting and distributing mail, receiving and processing invoices, etc.

Binky is currently enrolled in the second of a four-year Business Administration at the Grenfell campus.

“When I obtain my degree I will be prepared to compete and succeed anywhere in the world,” she says. “It will be my choice to hold key positions in provincial, national and international organizations. I will apply my leadership, knowledge, and skills to help create an economically prosperous tomorrow. I can be an accountant, entrepreneur, head into marketing, financing, human resources, information systems, and many more other job fields.”

Binky has her mind set on becoming a businesswoman, representing the Nunatsiavut Government.

“I’d like to become a key part of ensuring ways which we can improve economic opportunities for our people. I’d also like to help perform and manage the business operations and decision making as well as efficiently organize our people and other efficient resources to direct activities toward common goals and objectives.”

She says she learned a lot during her placement – much-needed experience that will help her accomplish her goals.

“As a young Inuit woman so proudly coming from Nunatsiavut, I’d like to take this opportunity to thank the Nunatsiavut Government for funding me to enable me to pursue my dreams. You will not be disappointed in your investment in my education. I am also very thankful for my summer employment as it helped me financially as a young mother and student.”





Megan Dicker – Inuktitut Language Assistant

Megan Dicker worked as an Inuktitut Language summer assistant with the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

During her work term Megan says she gained a better sense of how the Nunatsiavut Government functions within each department and division.

“I read about language policy, language barriers, language revitalization and language strategies,” she notes. “I also took advantage of the reading material offered and learned about the history of northern Labrador. I later applied this knowledge and shared it with youth from the community. I directed tours of the Nunatsiavut Government office and, based on my awareness, described each department and their active roles in our government.”

Megan is completing her last year of high school at Jens Haven Memorial, and is striving for a career with Parks Canada. She plans to attend Memorial University following high school, with hopes of eventually obtaining a Bachelor of Science Degree, with particular focus on environmental science.

SmartICE recipient of prestigious Arctic Inspiration Prize

A community-government-academic-industry collaboration that integrates adapted technology, remote sensing, and traditional Inuit knowledge to promote safe travel in northern coastal environments is one of three initiatives to receive the coveted Arctic Inspiration Prize for 2016.

Led by Dr. Trevor Bell of Memorial University, the SmartICE (Sea-ice Monitoring and Real-Time Information for Coastal Environments) team also picked \$400,000 of the \$1.5 million handed out during an award’s ceremony held in Winnipeg December 8.

Launched in 2012 and often called the Nobel Prize of the North, the Arctic Inspiration Prize is awarded to teams whose research and projects translate knowledge into action for the benefit of the people of the Canadian Arctic. The objective of total prize is to assist winning teams implement their plans of action.

Dr. Bell was nominated by Clint Davis, chair of the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies, and Levi Barnabas, chair of Qikiqtaaluk Corporation in Nunavut.

“With SmartICE, Dr. Bell and his team of researchers demonstrate the commitment to innovation that will have a significant impact on Inuit Nunangat,” says Mr. Davis. “It was an honour to support the nomination of this unique project.”

SmartICE is a partnership between Memorial University, the Nunatsiavut Government, industry and the Government of Canada. It provides locally relevant information for sea-ice travel in two pilot communities – Nain, Labrador, and Pond Inlet, Nunavut – where, like many other places in the North, sea-ice is part of the winter highway, the travel route to country food and a fundamental part of culture and well-being.

The Nunatsiavut Government, through the Environment Division of its Department of Lands and Natural Resources, has been assisting Dr. Bell in his research, given the importance of sea ice to Labrador Inuit.

“Sea ice is part of who we are as a people. It’s a part of our culture and way of life,” says Nunatsiavut President Johannes Lampe, noting that many Nunatsiavumiut sometimes refer to themselves as *Sikumuit*, which in English means *people of the sea ice*.

“I want to congratulate Dr. Bell and his researchers, and to thank them for the work they are doing on behalf of Labrador Inuit,” adds President Lampe. “Through this research we will be better equipped to adapt to the impacts of climate change on our traditional way of life.”

This is Dr. Bell’s second time being associated with the Arctic Inspiration Prize. In 2013, he was principal research partner of *SakKijânginnatuk Nunalik: the Sustainable Communities Initiative* of the Nunatsiavut Government that was named one of three overall recipients. That project focused on providing healthy housing solutions for Nunatsiavut communities that addresses changing climate, infrastructure requirements and Inuit housing needs and preferences.

Presented by the Rideau Hall Foundation, the Arctic Inspiration Prize is administered on a voluntary basis by ArcticNet, a Network of Centres of Excellence of Canada that brings together scientists and managers in the natural, human health and social sciences with their partners from Inuit organizations, northern communities, federal and provincial agencies and the private sector. The objective of ArcticNet is to study the impacts of climate change and modernization in the coastal Canadian Arctic.