**Guide to Inuttitut Pronunciation** - Taken from "Introductory Inuktitut - January 2003"

**Vowels:**  
"a" - short a - sounds like the 'u' in but  
"â" - long a - sounds like the 'a' in father  
"i" - short i - sounds like the 'i' in bit  
"e" - long i - sounds like the 'e' in beet  
"u" - short u - sounds like the 'u' in sugar  
"o" - long u - sounds like the 'oo' in school

**Vowel combinations:**  
ai sounds like the 'i' in time  
au sounds like the 'ow' in fowl  
ia sounds like the 'ea' in idea  
iu sounds like the 'ew' in few  
ua sounds like the 'ua' in squat  
ui sounds like the 'uea' in squeak

**Consonants**  
b - the 'b' and 'p' are optional and sound the same. Ex, ubvalu  
c - only used in place names  
d - 'd' and 't' optional, like 'b' and 'p'. ex, atlak/adlak  
f - is only used in names, place names, and borrowed words  
g - has a different sound that English 'g', It sounds a little like the hard 'g' in English but is softer. (Lower in the throat, like a gargle)  
h - same as English  
j - sounds like the 'y' in yellow  
k - small 'k', or hard 'k' and has the same sound as the English 'k'.   
K - large 'K', or soft 'K', sounds like the German 'ch' in Bach  
l,m,n - same as english  
p - a sound in between english 'b' and 'p'  
q - only used in names and place names or other languages but also used in other dialects in the North.   
r - used in borrowed names, ex, rapak - rubber  
s - same as english   
t - same sound in between English 'd' and 't'   
v - same as english  
w - mainly used in words introduced in the Moravian writing system and in names abd borrowed words, ex: wogik - week  
x, y, z - only used in names and place names

**Double Consonants/ Consonant Clusters**  
ff - has replaced 'bv' or 'gv' for many writers, but some still use  
gg - has a slightly softer sound than the single 'g' in some cases, for some speakers.

(Sounds like big K)  
kk - just a double 'k' sound, ex: uk-kuak - door   
kt - hard 'k' and 't'. Some speakers use double 'tt' ex. Inuktitut  
ll - double 'l' sound, ex: ul-luk- day  
mm - double 'm' sound ex: im-muk - milk  
ng - same as english  
nn- double n, ex: in-nik - son  
pp - double 'p' (between p and b) sound ex: ap-pik - bakeapple  
dj/tj - these are optional, ex: udjuk/utjuk - squareflipper seal  
ts - same as english   
tt - double 'tt' sound, ex: it-tuk - an elderly man

**Importance of single and double consonants:**   
inik - place  
innik - son  
patak - butter  
pattak - ball