



**Annual General Meeting 2020/2021
February 17, 2021
Chairpersons Report**

Mission:

The Nunatta Sunakkutaangit Museum engages the community and visitors with the history, culture, and art of Nunavut and provides unique learning opportunities through its displays and exhibitions.

Vision:

The Nunatta Sunakkutaangit Museum envisions a community that is integrated and enlightened through exposure to the history, culture and arts of Inuit.

Welcome to the 2020/2021 Nunatta Sunakkutaangit Society Annual General Meeting!

The Nunatta Sunakkutaangit Museum was incorporated as a non-profit society in 1969 to document and care for the growing collection of Inuit artwork and cultural materials from across the Eastern Arctic. Over the past half-century, the organizations mission and direction has changed, but Inuit culture, history, and community have remained core components of its identity. This Nunavut non-profit society has been operating for 50 years, and is here today because of the ongoing efforts of several generations of dedicated community members. Over five decades of volunteer support and community engagement has made the NSM a cornerstone of Iqaluit's culture, tourism, and arts scene.

To say that 2020 was a challenging year is a massive understatement, but the NSM has worked diligently to remain flexible and responsive in the face of uncertainty and to find ways to continue to deliver community programming and engagement in safe and healthy ways in full compliance of the Government of Nunavut's public health regulations and recommendations.

Some of the ways that the NSM has adapted to the shifting realities brought by the COVID pandemic has been to set policies in place to ensure the health and safety of both NSM staff and visitors such as visits by appointment, limits on the number of visitors at one time, contact tracing, mask wearing, and increased efforts to ensure



surfaces are decontaminated. In addition, the NSM has increased focus online through social media outreach. As the situation continues to evolve, so will the NSM's policies.

Though the NSM was unable to benefit from cruise ship traffic and sales this summer, the reduced visitor traffic has given the NSM staff a rare opportunity to focus on taking inventory of the NSM's collection and internal organization.

Thank you to our staff!

Jessica Kotierk, Manager/Curator

The Manager/Curator is the Chief Executive Officer of the society. Jessica's responsibilities range from public relations, administration, exhibit development, property management, collections management, finance, as well as managing and operating the museum gift shop (which contributes significantly to the operation of the society!) Jessica joined the NSM in March, 2019. And the board sincerely thanks her for her dedication and hard work!

Part-time staff

We also thank our part-time staff who perform a range of important tasks and support and enable the work of the Manager/Curator.

Thank you to our funders!

We are fortunate to partner with funders who demonstrate a real interest in the success of the projects our society undertakes. Individuals in these organizations continue to actively inform us of funding opportunities and guidelines. They are flexible and considerate to our unique needs and challenges of our community museum, while supporting innovative initiatives.

The NSM receives core funding support from the Government of Nunavut Department of Culture and Heritage which allows us to operate the museum and giftshop as well as deliver community programming.

Thank you to our Board and volunteers!

The NSM is governed by a group of committed volunteers from the community who sit on our Board of Directors. I would like to thank them for their dedication, their



vision, and their industry. Without their significant contributions of their time and expertise, the NSM wouldn't be able to function.

I encourage others to consider offering your time as a volunteer for the museum. As a nonprofit society, there are a number of projects or general duties that could benefit from whatever time or services you could provide.

Board members and volunteers contributed to the success of this organization this year through a variety of work. Board members provided team leadership, contributed to collections management, developed policies, ensured financial oversight, wrote proposals and developed budgets, designed and organized exhibit educational activities, set up and took down exhibits, provided HR management, and conducted research. Volunteers helped set up for special events, assisted with inventory, cleaned, etc. Thanks to all of you for your contributions this year!

Thanks also to you, our Members, and the public who visit and support the museum! The NSM has benefited from a number of partners and collaborators who have joined us in creating opportunities for Inuit art and culture to be shared and celebrated here and across Canada. Through common goals and projects, we continue to strengthen partnerships while seeking out further opportunities.

Finally, I want to thank the many local artists who take pride in exhibiting and selling their work here. Our museum is honoured to be able to provide a venue to show this important work and to celebrate the vibrant community of artists in Nunavut.

Thank you/Qujannamiik/Merci Boucoup!

Jesse Tungilik
Chairperson, Nunatta Sunakkutaangit Society