
The Christmas Greetings photo shows the participating youth and part of the faculty who participated in the joint ICC Greenland and Sami Council capacity building seminar in Nuuk in November. You can read more about the seminar inside this Newsletter.
SAAMIT INUILLU INUUSUTTAAT PIGINNAANGORSAQATIGIITTUT


Ingerlassami Saamit Inuillu inuusuttaat piginnaanngorsartinneqarput, susassaqarfinni attumassuteqarfisaminni aalajangiinerni tamakkii sumik sukumiisumillu ingerlassaqqarsinnaanerat ilanngullugu sammineqarlunni. Ingerlassami tassani Issittumi suleqatigillifi-taatinneqarissat eqqarsaatersorfigiinnuq, -tassami misissuffissatit siunnersuutigineqartoq russit maannakkorpiaq naalakker-suinnukit inissisimaneranni iinniagaqartunut russiussuunut sunniuteqassava?

Maannakkorpiaq nunat innooqqaavisa sinnisuisa nunani tamalaurin oqaloqatigiiffinni, soorlu FN-imii Issittumilu siunnersuisoqatigiiinni peqa- taanissaanunut russian akormussinan tapersersorfigiinni, pingaartumi ikatsiiliomerteq atugarsaattitsineq ililungaagut. Maanakkorpiaq nunat innooqqaavisa sinnisuisa nunani tamalaurin oqaloqatigiiffinni, soorlu FN-imii Issittumilu siunnersuisoqatigiiinni peqa- taanissaanunut ruusussunut sunniuteqassava?

Maannakkorpiaq nunat innooqqaavisa sinnisuisa nunani tamalaurin oqaloqatigiiffinni, soorlu FN-imii Issittumilu siunnersuisoqatigiiinni peqa- taanissaanunut ruusussunut sunniuteqassava?

Maanakkorpiaq nunat innooqqaavisa sinnisuisa nunani tamalaurin oqaloqatigiiffinni, soorlu FN-imii Issittumilu siunnersuisoqatigiiinni peqa- taanissaanunut ruusussunut sunniuteqassava?

Maanakkorpiaq nunat innooqqaavisa sinnisuisa nunani tamalaurin oqaloqatigiiffinni, soorlu FN-imii Issittumilu siunnersuisoqatigiiinni peqa- taanissaanunut ruusussunut sunniuteqassava?
JOINT SAAMI AND INUIT YOUTH CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT

On November 2nd 2015 seven students from Norway, Sweden and Finland arrived to Nuuk and participated in a seminar together with five colleagues from Greenland. When the students left Nuuk on November 10th they had been participating in well-planned seminar with skilled experts as lecturers on specific topics.

The project focuses on capacity building of Saami and Greenlandic youth, including their full and effective participation in decision-making processes in matters that affect them. The project will address all priorities of the Arctic Co-operation Programme. In the proposed study programme focus is put on Indigenous Rights (the UN system) and on environmental matters and sustainable development (the Arctic Council system).

ONLY PARTICIPANTS FROM THE NORDIC COUNTRIES

After serious considerations the Saami Council and ICC Greenland made a decision on not involving chapters of the two organizations outside of the Nordic Council Regime. In particular the inclusion of Russian students from both organizations has been considered because, - will the proposed study have any effect on Russian students in the present political situation of the country? At present the Russian system seek to hinder indigenous peoples’ representatives to participate in various international forums like the UN and the Arctic Council. As a consequence the study programme will be focused on the indigenous youth of the Nordic countries, because similarities in the values of the societies are bigger than the differences, especially in law making and welfare models etc.

A second seminar is planned to take place in Finnish town Inari next spring. The Capacity Building Project is financially supported by Nordregio and the Danish Foreign Ministry.

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Allattooqarfik Tromsømut Nuussaaq


Ips-Mi Paktikanti Inussutoq

Alaskan Inussutoq Aleutineersoq IPS-imi suliamik pikkorissarluni aallarteqqammerpoq. Tamanna Issittumi Siunnersuisoqatigiit inuusuttunut meeqqanullu tunngasunik arlalinnik suliutegqarniarneranuit tulluarpooq, Siunnersuisoqatigiit insomnia oglaususerisaat arlalit taakkununnga tunngasuuput.

Meeqaat Avatangisit Pillugit Atuartinneqassapput


Arctic Council Strengthens Youth Issues...

ICC Greenland President Hjalmar Dahl attended the Arctic Council Senior Arctic Official (SAO) meeting on Oct. 20th -22nd in Anchorage, Alaska.

Secretariat Relocated to Tromsø, Norway

Prior to the SAO meeting Hjalmar Dahl, ICC’s board member to the Arctic Council Indigenous People’s Secretariat (IPS) attended the board meeting. Among the topics on the agenda was the relocation of the secretariat from Copenhagen to Tromsoe, Norway. The board voted unanimously for the relocation, which later was ratified at the SAO meeting.

A Young Intern at IPS

A young Aleut from Alaska will work as an intern at IPS. This initiative is in accordance with recent discussions to pay special attention to children and youth issues at the Arctic Council.

Education Toolkits for Children

An exciting project on Arctic ecosystems and processes will be developed by one of the working groups aimed specifically at children for educational purpose. The Permanent Participants asked to be actively involved in the process of developing the education toolkits.

Future Arctic Leaders

Another topic on the agenda was ‘Future Arctic Leaders’. The topic is relevant to newly formed cooperation between the Sami Council and ICC Greenland, on capacity building among youth in Greenland and Sami land.

The first seminar was held in Nuuk, Greenland, November 2.-10. The next seminar will take place in Inari, Finland in March/April 2016.

The Permanent Participants of Arctic Council are ICC, the Sami Council, RAIPON from Russia, Gwitchin Council International, Arctic Athabaskan Council, and Aleut International Association.

The Senior Arctic Official (SAO) members are appointed by Arctic Council’s eight member states.
PRESIDENT OBAMA’S JOURNEY TO ALASKA – COMMENTARY

THE FIRST US PRESIDENT TO VISIT ALASKA’S ARCTIC

During his three-day visit to Alaska, President Obama expressed gratitude to meet Alaskans and indigenous peoples, including our fellow Inuit, the Inupiat in Kotzebue and the Yupiit in Dillingham. Obama stated that he has learned and witnessed the consequences and effects of climate change with his own eyes.

The United States holds the chairmanship of the Arctic Council the next two years, and therefore it is symbolic when the Head of State visits the Arctic to listen to the concerns of the people. The President is participating in the UN Climate Change Conference (COP 21) in Paris, France later this year. Hopefully the countries will pull together and reach a consensus to reduce global CO2 emissions. That regard, it is imperative that Obama takes his experience from his Alaska visit into action during COP 21.

On several occasions, the President has had meetings with leaders of the indigenous peoples of the United States. The meetings have symbolic value and are a global gesture that the rights of indigenous peoples are to be respected and taken seriously.

ICC believes Obama’s visit to Alaska is an optimistic lift to our participation in the Arctic Council, where we are undertaking topics in our region such as traditional knowledge, sustainable development, and advancing public health.

In all honesty, I believe that President Obama has kick started a constructive dialogue between the nation states and the indigenous peoples.
PARTICIPATION AND TRANSPARENCY IN DEBATES REQUESTED BY ICC

October 8.-9. at the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs an international conference on UN’s goals on Sustainable Development and the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was held. The conference was organized by International Work Group on Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA) and the Forum for Development Cooperation with Indigenous Peoples. Hjalmar Dahl, President of ICC Greenland participated.

The purpose of the conference is based upon a lack of necessary attention that indigenous peoples have received so far, on the above-mentioned processes. In spite of this process, numerous indigenous peoples around the world are suffering from poverty and marginalization.

On that note, ICC delivered specific input to the negotiations in the form of a request to respect the rights of the indigenous peoples to land and resources, and for the need to acknowledge indigenous peoples rights to self determination and informed consent regarding development projects.

Hjalmar Dahl delivered the following message at the conference:

“I hope the conference will take part in drawing renewed attention to the indigenous peoples situation, and the importance of involving them in the regional and the global processes; including in the Nordic and Arctic Councils and in United Nations as well. The indigenous peoples throughout the world desire to contribute constructively to global development, and desire an open dialogue with governments and other partners, regarding best practices in implementing various goals.”

PEQATAATINNEQARNISSAQ AMMASUMILLU OQALOQATIGIITTARNISSAT ICC-MIIT KISSAATIGINEQARPUT

ICC Greenland was overjoyed to receive a message from Greenland Self Rule government, that the intended cut to the grant to ICC Greenland of 1 million Dkr. had been reduced to 400,000 Dkr. On a similar note, ICC Greenland learned that planned cuts for the following three years have been suspended.

"The news has given us a peace of mind and will help us organize a better structure to conduct long term planning of our projects," says Hjalmar Dahl, ICC Greenland President.

Hjalmar Dahl also expressed that it is gratifying to witness, that confidence in the ICC is re-established. Political parties both from the Co-alition and the Opposition are backing the Finance Budget and they understand the importance of ICC Greenland’s international participation in organizations like the United Nations and Arctic Council.
The Commission on Pikialasorsuaq (The North Water) has been constituted

Following lengthy preparations, the Commission on Pikialasorsuaq has now been constituted composed with Inuit representatives from Greenland and eastern arctic Canada. The purpose of the commission’s work is to investigate and seek ways of protecting the sea area situated between the north eastern Canada and the northern part of West Greenland, Pikialasorsuaq, to research opportunities for specific regulations for the area, to seek advice from the people living in adjacent communities and finally to come with recommendations for action.

The area in question which is currently regulated by the governments of Denmark and Canada, is both by scientist and those dependent on the living resources in the area regarded as of paramount importance for the living marine resources and their reproduction.

Following individuals have been appointed as members of the commission:

- Okalik Egeesiak (Canada), International President of Inuit Circumpolar Council,
- Eva Aariak (Canada), former Premier of Nunavut (2008 – 2013), and

Aside from the above mentioned individuals also QIA (Qeqiktani Inuit Association) and KNAPK (Hunters and Fishermens Association of Greenland) and also Alfred Jakobsen, now serving as focal point for Oceans North Canada in Greenland, are involved with the work. World Wildlife Fund is supporting the work of the commission.

The work carried out under the auspices of the Inuit Circumpolar Council is financially supported by Oceans North Canada, and the OAK Foundation.

According to the work plan the commission will as one of its first activities be on round trips to communities during the spring and early summer of 2016. Parallel to those endeavours the commission will approach relevant local and national authorities in Greenland and Canada to seek their support and to invite them to participate in the finalisation of the recommendations from the commission. The Pikialasorsuaq commission is expected to work in a three year period.
GREENLAND’S REPRESENTATION AT COP 21

The United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 21) was held in Paris, France November 28th – December 11th 2015. Greenland was represented at COP 21 by Lene Kielsen Holm and Aili Liimakka Laue from ICC Greenland, while Vivi Vold represented the Greenland Academic Students Organization (ILI ILI).

One of the goals for the indigenous peoples at COP 21 was to keep the limit for the global warming below 1.5 degrees Celsius, whereas the original limit for the United Nations has been at 2 degrees Celsius. The indigenous peoples from all over the world are divided into 7 regions (North America, South America and Caribbean, Asia, Russia and Europe, Africa, Arctic region and the Pacific Islands) where Inuit were in the Arctic region along with the Sami.

At the Indigenous Peoples Pavilion on opening day of COP 21, Jens Danielsen and Mamarut Kristiansen represented Inugghuit from Avannasaq as well.

The Arctic delegation fought to reach the overall goal set by the Indigenous Peoples Caucus. This was carried out through negotiations and by arranging meetings with nations, governments and NGO’s willing to cooperate.

The objective for the negotiations was to keep the nations that had already ratified the Rights of Indigenous Peoples accountable. These indigenous rights should be included in COP 21 Agreement.

INUIT TUSAATAAT · ICC GREENLAND NEWSLETTER · 03-2015
PARISIMI SILAP PISSUSIANUT TUNNGATILLUGU ISUMAQATIGIISSUMMI NUNAT INOQQAAVISA PININNAATITAAFFIISA EQQUUTSINNEQARNISSAANNUT ICC ILUNGERSORLUNI INASSUTIGINNIPPOQ

December 3, 2015 – Paris, France – Oka-lik Eegeesiak, Chair of the Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) is a delegate at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 21) talks in Paris and has been advocating on behalf of Inuit. Currently, negotiators are working to produce a draft agreement that will be handed over to the leaders when they descend on Paris next week. These negotiations are coming down to the wire and there are some countries that are not supporting the inclusion of language that recognizes that climate change impacts human rights and the rights of Indigenous peoples. “Climate change is not just an environmental issue it is a human rights issue and the melting of the Arctic is impacting all aspects of Inuit life therefore the final text must make the rights of Indigenous peoples operative and keep it in Article 2.2. We have the right to be cold” argued Eegeesiak.

Indigenous and human rights delegates have just learned that the text developed to recognize the human rights including the rights of Inuit in the Arctic is being watered down. “We urge Canada, Norway, the United States, Greenland, Russia, Sweden, Finland to support their Indigenous peoples and fight for the inclusion of human rights and the rights of Indigenous peoples language to remain in Article 2.2,” said Eegeesiak. “We need communities in these countries to mobilize and pressure their respective governments to this effect. So that pressure abroad matches the pressure Indigenous delegates are exerting on negotiators here in Paris.”

To view the COP 21 ICC Climate Change position paper see www.inuitcircumpolar.com.

INUIT TUSAATAAT · ICC GREENLAND NEWSLETTER · 03-2015

10
Okalik Eegeesiak, Chair of the Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) said that the climate change treaty finalized today in Paris is “historic,” but we recognize the compromise in the text. Eegeesiak led the circumpolar Inuit delegation to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change COP 21 talks in Paris and worked hard with all delegates to advocate on behalf of Inuit.

“These negotiations were tremendously difficult but in the end we made progress,” she said. “However the real test will be the commitments of states to recognize the rights of Indigenous Peoples, address climate change action and affect real change in Arctic communities.”

“Canada showed leadership and support for Arctic issues at these talks.” Eegeesiak followed, “We will work with Canada, Greenland, Alaska and Chukotka to meet and exceed the commitments, support indigenous communities and make certain the Arctic remains cold.”

The recognition of the rights of Indigenous Peoples was an important issue and the fact that it is in the Paris Accord is the result of significant effort by global Indigenous Peoples at the talks. “We sought such assurance in the core of the Agreement, which is legally binding, in the end the language was included in both the preamble to the Decision Document and the Agreement and acknowledges the unique and differentiated rights of Indigenous Peoples. We are disappointed that this language is not in the operative text of the Agreement. It is essential that the rights of Indigenous Peoples be recognized, protected and respected within the broader human rights framework in the Agreement,” stated Eegeesiak.

ICC also advocated for financing of climate adaptation and mitigation projects and the recognition of Indigenous Peoples’ knowledge. The Paris Accord states, “Parties acknowledge that adaptation action should follow… and guided by the best available science and, as appropriate, traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples.”

ICC made numerous interventions on the issue of the need to stabilize global temperature increases to 1.5°C as opposed to the more globally accepted 2.0°C. The final text states that nations commit to “…holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C.”

“Inuit voices were heard in the negotiation rooms, heard in the halls, in the plenary, in the side event rooms, in the streets of Paris. Inuit voices were heard in a broad coalition of Indigenous Peoples who supported each other and pushed for the inclusion of the rights of Indigenous Peoples, the value of Indigenous Peoples’ knowledge, the need for adaptation and mitigation actions and the need to work towards 1.5°C.”

“Progress was made, but there is more work to do to safeguard the Arctic environment and Inuit culture” Eegeesiak said. “Inuit will need to be vigilant to support international efforts to reduce greenhouse gas levels are reduced, that funding is available for Arctic climate adaptation projects and that Inuit are part of the climate change solution.”


For more information:
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ILISIMASAT ASSIGINNIGISSITAARTUT
Inuit Issittumi nunannini peqaneqegsuni uki-
uni tuusintilikaani inuuginnarsinaasimaner-
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UNAMMILLAGASSAT
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masatoqqanik katersuinnisas qallaqartaaqqap.
Ilisimamartuupput tamassaurqpoq kikut paasi-
sutissaaqarternanik utjaartuinnitu, paasissu-
tissuullu taakkut VWM-imut tekniikloqumut ki-
ngornulu aalajanginissanuit qanorq atorneqarn-
asaniilu paasiaqarnissani. Tamattuluni saniati-
gut naalakkerallpit pissaasaaqartqaput pisutsut
sinnuissanit nunat inooqqaav paasiinaavigis-
lugit taamattulun akueriserninani qattisaq
paasiswaqarnissanisaniinik jukkeerin-
nissalullit. Naak ilisamatusatoqqanik katersuinni-
samut politikakkut pissaasaaqartaqartarlaur-
tuq, suliala ingerlarga naamaginningsu-
tut unammillagassapassuaqartutullu taakkar-
toreqartarpooq.

PHD-MIK SULIASSAQ
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nanarni sisamassunipqiun qimeerulluq: Kaa-
lallit Nunananni, Canadami, Alaskami aamma
Chukotkami.

Inuit pingortiullut allat VN-imut peqataat-
inneqartut apersomernut, soroor piporsani allaf-
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lu, ilisamatosoqqt VWM-imik kuitussinniar-
neranit unammillissat suunert ujarussa-
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orfissakka aajangniirmernilni politikikkut
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geranit qorunlu atorneqernar qarrqaralaqigulut.

PARNUNA EGEDE PILLUGU
Biologitut imaniin umassasiqarnussani
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sisersortassinaqartut Inuit, Issittumiqat nunat
inoqqaavisa atugaat naalakkesuinnillu aal-
ajanginarterni aajangniirarni Inuit Issittumi
ilarngisit ilisimatusarnerpilqullugallul
nininnun atassersisimnaasat neriuqigalaara.
ICC Greenland to focus on how traditional knowledge is used to evaluate environmental impacts from resource development projects in the Arctic. In collaboration with Aalborg University in Denmark and Ilisimatusarfik University in Greenland, ICC Greenland will support a three-year PhD project to compare use of traditional knowledge in the different Inuit homelands and examine best practices.

VARIOUS TYPES OF KNOWLEDGE
An important characteristic that helped Inuit survive and thrive in the harsh Arctic environment for millennia is their ability to observe, learn, adjust and communicate valuable knowledge. Traditional knowledge is a holistic approach that includes culture, traditions and values – a way of life.

It is characterized by close interaction between man and nature. Traditional knowledge is shared through oral history and evolves over the generations. It is dynamic and embraces new challenges and possibilities, which contribute to a changing way of life, reflecting the development of the modern world. Many old Inuit traditions and values still reflect the core of the Inuit culture.

DECISIONS CONTRIBUTED BY SCIENCE
Science is another system of knowledge, which is recognized by virtue of the fact that research is objective, methodical and can be verified. Many scientific discoveries have had a revolutionary effect on our understanding of the world and how we adapt.

Today, science often creates the foundation for informed decisions. In the sparsely populated Arctic with limited infrastructure, it is often a challenge to conduct even the most basic research. For obvious reasons, researchers often turn to local people with an intimate knowledge of their immediate environment as the result of their way of life. The traditional knowledge of local hunters and fishermen regarding the coherence of nature, and how to prioritize important topics can contribute to the work of the researcher.

EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT
In the planning for resource development projects in the Arctic, both offshore and on land, it is a legal requirement for companies to prepare an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report, which are used by governments to make decisions on permitting and to develop requirements for these projects. An EIA must describe the condition of the environment prior to starting activities, and identify and evaluate possible effects of the planned activities. Afterwards the companies must evaluate alternative measures to minimize any negative impacts.

CHALLENGES
As a supplement to the scientific studies, it is beneficial to gather traditional knowledge to ensure an overall picture of conditions. A general challenge is identifying individuals with relevant traditional knowledge, and how to apply this knowledge in a scientific technical EIA process, and use the knowledge in the decision making process.

The countries are obligated to consult indigenous people and ensure their free and prior consent in areas concerning them. In spite of increased political intentions to consult and use traditional knowledge in research work, the process is deemed inadequate with numerous challenges.

THE PHD PROJECT
Based on the above-mentioned challenges, the goal for my PhD project is to conduct research on why and which traditional knowledge is used in environmental evaluations of resource projects in the Arctic. As a starting point of reference, I will compare EIA case studies in the four Inuit homelands: Greenland, Canada, Alaska and Chukotka.

By interviewing persons and focus groups involved in the EIA process, like public administration, Inuit organizations and business, I intend to map challenges facing the use of traditional knowledge in the EIA process.

ABOUT PARNUUANA EGEDE
As a biologist with biological oceanography as a major, I’m trained in a broad spectrum of natural science disciplines. I’m a part Greenlander born and raised in Nuuk, Greenland. With my four-year experience as the environmental advisor for ICC Greenland, I have acquired a thorough knowledge of Inuit and the Arctic and matters concerning indigenous peoples and political decision-making processes. With this background, I hope to find answers and build a bridge between science and traditional knowledge.
### SIULERSUISUUNERIT | EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Siulittaasooq / Chair:</th>
<th>Okalik Eegeesiak – Canada</th>
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Duane Smith, Vice-president/Siulittaasup tullia & Herb Nakimayak, Member of the council/Siulersuuni mi ilaasortaq

**ALASKA:**
James Stotts, Vice-president/Siulittaasup tullia & Vera Metcalf, Member of the council, Siulersuuni mi ilaasortaq

**RUSLAND:**
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**KALAALLIT NUNAAT:**
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