



# COUNCIL OF COMMISSIONERS

## Highlights from the Council of Commissioners

The Council of Commissioners met in Puvirnituq, from October 18 to 20, 2016. Among the agenda items discussed during that meeting, the following points are of interest to school board employees.

A significant part of the meeting was devoted to reviewing the independent auditor's report on the Kativik School Board's financial statements. The commissioners approved the report. At the beginning of the meeting, Eva Niviakie was sworn in as the new commissioner for Umiujaq. She replaces Emily Tookalook, who resigned in June 2016.

### Inuit-centred education

The Education Services Department presented the approach it plans to use as work on curriculum development continues. The proposed approach was well received by the commissioners.

The approach focuses on the Inuitization of first- and second-language curricula, with the objective of strengthening both first and second languages. The new curriculum framework will reinforce students' Inuit language, culture, and connection with the community. It will also serve as a basis for the introduction of personalized educational pathways that would allow our students to engage in learning activities that correspond with their objectives and interests.

Over the remaining part of the school year, the Education Services Department will introduce integrated teaching units into our schools, in close cooperation with teachers. In addition, the Education Services Department is developing evaluation tools to measure student success, as new programs are gradually introduced along with a bilingual teaching team.

### Unified Inuktitut writing system

Under the leadership of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK), work on a unified Inuktitut writing system is continuing at the national level. Two ITK representatives briefed the Council of Commissioners on the

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recommendations put forward by the Atausiq Inuktitut Titirausiq task force, including standardization through the use of the Latin alphabet. The ITK representatives stressed that in the area of education, standardization would allow institutions to share resources across the Canadian Arctic region. This would greatly enhance the development of Inuit-specific curricula.

### **Cultural instruction**

As requested during their meeting last June, the commissioners heard a highly comprehensive overview of the current cultural programs offered by the school board. The overview included an assessment of the cultural instruction pilot project that has now been implemented for a third year in four communities, a review of land survival instruction provided by some of our schools, and a review of the regular cultural instruction provided in class on a weekly basis in most of our schools. The commissioners discussed how to incorporate best practices from the pilot project into a renewed cultural instruction program offered in all schools. The overview presented to the commissioners also provided examples of opportunities to incorporate cultural content into the second-language curriculum or to integrate math and science into cultural and land survival instruction.

### **Relocation**

The Council of Commissioners inquired about progress made on the relocation of the Montreal office to Nunavik. No suitable candidate could be identified for the position of Relocation Coordinator. The option currently explored would consist of developing a relocation plan internally. The process would be led by the Human Resources, Finance, and Material Resources departments and could be completed by the end of the current school year. Once the plan is completed, the next step would consist of budget negotiations to fund the relocation.

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