
THE SELTZER-CHAN POND INLET FOUNDATION: 2015



MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAM

The Pond Inlet Health Centre's *Mental Health & Wellness Program* initiated a women's group that met during the spring and summer to provide a supportive environment for talking about issues such as healthy relationships, substance abuse, grief and parenting. The Foundation provided funding for an instructor and supplies so that the participants could learn a skill while they talked.

Under the expert guidance of elder Rhoda Arnakallak each of the ten participants made a pair of sealskin boots. In Inuit these boots are called "kamik"; the plural is "kamiit." As well as helping to keep this traditional skill alive, the project helped local hunters since the supplies were sourced locally. The program was so successful that it will run again this fall and winter for another ten weeks.



(1) Elder Rhoda Arnakallak (in the green vest) showing Joyce how to trace a pattern on the seal skin. (2) Cara softening soles (Angulak) with her teeth. (3) Rebecca softening the seal skin before she cuts it. (4) Jacob showing off the beautiful kamik made by his mother, Stephanie.

SHARING THEIR LOVE OF DANCE

All over the world young people enjoy hip hop dancing and Pond Inlet is no exception. A grant from the Foundation paid three high school students (Dina Koonoo, Jonathan Pitseolak, and Tyrone Maktar) to help run a hip hop program at the Pond Inlet Ulaajuk Elementary School. This was a wonderful opportunity for the high school students to practice their leadership skills in a safe and supportive environment while getting exercise and teaching the youngsters some fancy break-dancing moves.



Left to right: Komangapik Kublu, Susie Koonoo, Jalen Killiktee

The Inukshuk on our masthead overlooks Eclipse Sound at the base of Mount Herodier, Baffin Island. It is a memorial to Mark and Marilyn and was built with Pond Inlet community members.

THE 2015 GRANTS

The Seltzer-Chan Pond Inlet Foundation is proud to announce that a total of **\$50,389** was distributed to the following organizations and individuals in 2015:

- *Music for the Future* workshops
- Nasivvik High School Student Awards
- Basketball club
- Volleyball club
- Soccer club
- Tununiq Arsarniit Theatre
- Summer outing for elders
- Northern Youth Abroad Program
- Hip hop program at the Elementary School
- Assistance to six students attending post-secondary educational institutions

TUNUNIQ ARSARNIIT THEATRE

A grant to the Tununiq Arsarniit Theatre was used to help produce an original play called *Qallupilluk*, featuring legends, myths and the wisdom of elders. The group develops its plays and performances by consensus, involving elders as actors and writers and always weaving Inuit language and culture into every issue it tackles.

The name of the theatre includes the word *tununiq* which means “the community that does not face the sun during the day.” This is an apt description for the north-facing town of Pond Inlet.

The Seltzer-Chan Pond Inlet Foundation
3180 The Credit Woodlands, Mississauga, L5C 2J4

scpif.pond@gmail.com

www.pondinletfoundation.org

Canadian donations will receive tax receipts.

2015 Pond Inlet Committee: Karen Nutarak, David Parks and Jason Hatt. Jason made an enormous contribution as chairman. We wish him all the best in his new position in Iqaluit.

Board: Dorene Seltzer, Gareth Seltzer, Phillip King, Rosemary Waterston

BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS

We won! The foundation helped the Pond Inlet Boys Basketball Team travel to Iqaluit for the Territorial Championship Tournament this spring. The Pond Inlet team came in first of the nine participating teams. This was a special victory because some of the boys will graduate this year so won't be able to play in this tournament again.



The Boys Basketball Team with their gold medals, trophy and banner.

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION IN POND INLET

The Nunavut Teacher Education Program (NTEP) is a partnership program of Arctic College and the University of Regina. Studying at the Nunaata Campus in Pond Inlet means graduates of the Pond Inlet Nasivvik High School can obtain their Bachelor of Education degree without leaving home. In the words of student Karla Evaluarjuk, “It is awesome to stay here and at the same time study teaching! I am very happy to be doing NTEP here in Pond Inlet!”

This September marks the first time that the Early Childhood Education Diploma Program of Nunavut Arctic College will be taught in Pond Inlet. The Foundation is very pleased to be helping to fund some of the inaugural Early Childhood Education students as well as the Nunavut Teacher Education Program students

100% of your donation goes directly to grant recipients.

The Foundation is volunteer-operated; all administrative costs are covered by board members.