

## Women's Leadership Summit Report Tabled today

**IQALUIT, Nunavut (June 8, 2011)** The Arnait Nipingit: Women's Leadership Summit Report, tabled today at the Legislative Assembly, symbolizes the successful collaboration between the Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Qikiqtani Inuit Association and the Qulliit Nunavut Status of Women Council.

Arnait Nipingit: Women's Leadership Summit took place last fall with approximately 200 women, ranging from elders to youth, taking part in this unprecedented event. The goal of the Summit was to acknowledge and honour the contributions made by women to society through both formal and informal leadership.

"Encouraging women to take on leadership positions, and supporting women's equality and empowerment begins with each and every one of us," said Nunavut Premier Eva Aariak. "The results of this wonderfully collaborative effort can be read in the Summit Report, which I am very proud to table today in the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut,"

The Summit showcased women's skills, talents and knowledge, promoted leadership and helped create building blocks for strong and healthy communities rooted in equality.

The Summit provided a forum for women to express community needs to all the partner organizations, which produced an extensive list of recommendations which will be a valuable resource in developing policies and programs to address community needs.

"The Summit recommendations are an excellent opportunity for our respective organizations to build on what was expressed by the participants during the summit. We have already begun to deliver on some of the recommendations, namely the Amausiurniq and the Qisiliriniq project that ran March 2011 in most communities in the Qikiqtaaluk region." Said QIA President, Okalik Eegeesiak.

The Summit provided an opportunity for women to interact with leaders from the local level to the international level from past, current and future Inuit women in politics and was made possible through the generosity of government, corporate and Inuit organization partners. A special thanks to Canadian Heritage for their generous funding support.

"Women are the backbone of our societies. It is crucial that our needs, issues and concerns are heard and dealt with, for the overall betterment of our communities." said Qulliit President Donna Adams.

The Arnait Nipingit: Women's Leadership Summit Report can be found at: www.gov.nu.ca ;

<u>www.qia.ca</u>; <u>www.tunngavik.com</u>; or <u>www.qnsw.ca</u> More details on the conference including photographs, presentations and interviews with participants can be found on Arnait Video Collective's blog at <u>http://www.isuma.tv/hi/en/arnait-nipingit-womens-leadership-summit</u>

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