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Building *Nunavut* Together
Nunavut iuuqatigiingniq
Bâtir le *Nunavut* ensemble

Backgrounder

Simon Awa was born and raised at a traditional outpost camp near Igloolik. Throughout his career, he held a number of positions including the first Senior Administrative Officer for the Hamlet of Pond Inlet, President of the Baffin Region Inuit Association (now Qikiqtani Inuit Association), and CBC Announcer/Operator, later becoming a Manager of Operations for CBC. After the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) was signed in 1993, Simon was appointed Executive Director for the Nunavut Implementation Commission in 1994. He held the Directorship until the creation of Nunavut in 1999.

Simon has held various Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) positions in the Government of Nunavut (GN). He also held several Deputy Minister positions within the GN for the following departments: Environment (March 2004 and October 2008), Intergovernmental Affairs (June 2008), Environment (2008-2010), the past Culture, Language, Elders and Youth (September 2010), and Family Services (March 2014).

Alex Buchan is from Taloyoak and currently lives in Cambridge Bay. He has been involved in community and Inuit relations for the Hope Bay Belt for over five years. Prior to joining industry, Alex has been active in several community economic development and wildlife, and environmental management issues within the Kitikmeot region, both at the territorial and municipal level.

Alex is currently serving as secretary treasurer of the Northwest Territories/Nunavut Chamber of Mines, and is active on the Nunavut Mine Training Roundtable. Alex is now serving as Director of Community Relations for TMAC Resources Inc. on the project with tasks related to permitting, Inuit and community affairs and land tenure negotiations.

Robert Carson is retired, but was formerly the ADM of Intergovernmental Affairs with the GN based in Ottawa from June 2004 to August 2011. He also served in the GN as Principal Secretary in the Office of the Premier, during 2001-2002 and again on an interim basis in 2009. He began work in Nunavut in October 2000, as the Director of Policy and Planning, in the Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs in Iqaluit.

In his role as Nunavut's senior official in Ottawa, Robert was the Nunavut representative on the Canadian delegation to Arctic Council Senior Arctic Officials' meetings in Norway [2007-2009] and Denmark [2010-2011], and supported Premier Aariak as a member of the Canadian

delegation to the Arctic Council Ministerial meetings in 2009 and Nuuk. He was also the Nunavut representative to the Federal-Provincial-Territorial consultations on the Canada-EU Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) negotiations, and attended the CETA negotiations in Ottawa and Brussels for rounds 6-8 in 2010-2011.