

☐ LA 4-8JH^cJ

NUNAVUT

MAY-JUNE 1992

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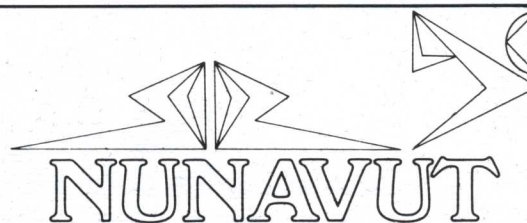
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Cover

*Our past is our foundation
for today and tomorrow.*

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NUNAVUT DREAM CLOSER TO REALITY: May 4 Revisited

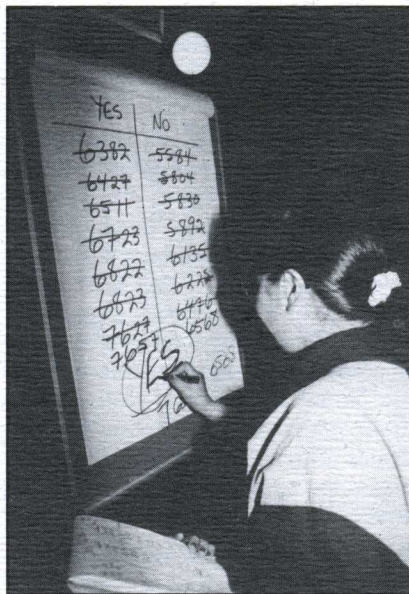


GREG COLEMAN/NUNATSIAQ NEWS

Iqaluit resident casts vote on May 4th Nunavut Boundary Plebiscite.

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To be an Inuk from the Nunavut land claim area, one had doubts about whether or not the NWT-wide Nunavut Boundary Plebiscite was going to be a success. This was especially so when one read reports just before the May 4 boundary plebiscite that Inuit in the eastern Arctic were actually outnumbered 2 to 1 by the rest of the eligible voters in the Northwest Territories. It must have been a little disheartening for Inuit leaders to think about the impossible happening after more than 20 years of protracted land claim negotiations with representatives of the federal and territorial governments. No one in the Nunavut area could sense that victory



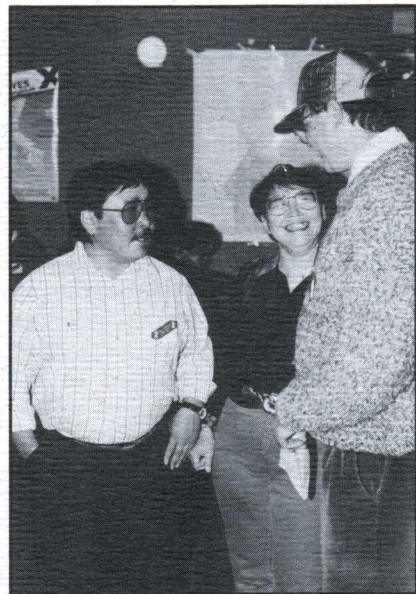
GREG COLEMAN/NUNATSIAQ NEWS

The numbers told the story that it was indeed "YES".

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was a sure thing. So no one was exactly going home that day to sit back and relax awaiting the outcome of the vote.

Certainly there had to be an apprehension in the minds of those with most at stake in the outcome of the vote, the Inuit land claim beneficiaries (although there has been an indication that some are obviously not happy with various provisions of the Final Agreement). It didn't help matters that prominent political leaders in the western part of the territories were legitimately concerned about the expense of setting up a duplicate territorial government in the east and how some of



GREG COLEMAN/NUNATSIAQ NEWS

Left to right: Pauloosie Keyootak, President of BRIA, Simatuk Michael of Iqaluit and Dennis Patterson, Iqaluit MLA celebrate historic vote.

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the economic activity now enjoyed in the present territorial capital could be lost in the future to the proposed new Nunavut government and territory.

There were also concerns of the Dene and Metis leaders about the unresolved boundary dispute with the Nunavut Inuit. It did not help matters that they advised their respective constituents to reject the proposed boundary just before voting day. After all, the Dene and Metis people have historically used

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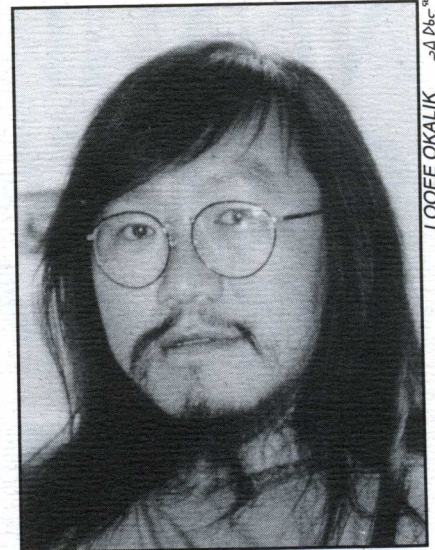
parts of the area now included on the Nunavut side of the proposed boundary. It was for that reason their leadership wanted to emphasize their opposition until there was an agreement on the boundary with the Inuit of Nunavut. The task now is for Inuit, Dene and Metis leadership and their representatives to come up with an overlap boundary agreement satisfactory to all parties concerned. No one is willing to admit that this will be easy to do.

The outcome of the May 4 vote, with 54% for "Yes", demonstrated that the majority of the Inuit beneficiaries in the Nunavut area were solidly behind the creation of the proposed boundary line. We also need to emphasize one of the major reasons for the success of the vote was that many registered non-Inuit voters in the western part of the territories opted to support Inuit continue working towards their goals and objectives contained in the Nunavut Land Claim Final Agreement. They could not see themselves stand in the way of the aspirations of their Inuit cousins for self-determination. To deny Inuit their dream would have left a bitter taste for all concerned, not only in the Northwest Territories, but also in other parts of Canada and those who have followed the Nunavut story unfold in other parts of the world.

This demonstration of support was a welcome result that should eventually be good for everyone concerned in the long run. We need to remember the political and territorial evolution now taking place did not materialize overnight. There had been other proposals, in the past, to divide the NWT, and these were not always initiated by Inuit alone. Inuit of Nunavut area are left with a sense of satisfaction that they do have the needed support for division from other sectors of the country whether that support is coming from the political sector or from the people who voted for division of the present Northwest Territories.

So, we are grateful to those who saw the light at the end of the tunnel and helped us to continue our journey towards it. We, Inuit, know that we cannot do it alone and need the continued support of other Canadians along with the federal, provincial and municipal governments in order to achieve our ultimate goal of creating Nunavut territory and government. The long road to our destination is not yet over and there are still obstacles to overcome before we arrive at our destination as a people.

Whoever thought creating new territories and governments was easy has been living in other planets or galaxies. But it has been the will of the majority of the people of the Northwest Territories with support



LOOEE OKALIK

Alooook Ipellie, Managing Editor

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from their very determined leaders that has propelled this dream of creating Nunavut territory and government closer to reality.

May 4, 1992, was a sweet victory for the people of Nunavut. The ratification of the Final Land Claim Agreement over three days on November 3, 4, and 5 of this year by the Inuit beneficiaries should be a vindication of the trust they expressed in their desire to create a new map of Canada that includes Nunavut in a not-too-distant-future.

Thank-you for voting "YES" to Nunavut.

Alooook Ipellie
Managing Editor

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Land Claim Ratification Tours

by Randy Ames

With the boundary plebiscite vote win May 4th, the first of two hurdles to the creation of Nunavut and the settlement of the Inuit land claim has been cleared. The next hurdle is the land claim ratification vote scheduled for November 3, 4, and 5 of this year. An advance poll will be held on October 26.

A yes vote on the land claim will ensure that Inuit will get both Nunavut and the land claim. A no vote on the claim though will be the end of the land claim, and it may also mean the end of Nunavut as well. Because the creation of Nunavut and the settlement of the land claim have been tied together, it is possible that the federal government will not agree to the creation of Nunavut without the ratification of the land claim. Acceptance of the land claim by government requires a 50% or a greater yes vote in each of the Kitikmeot, Keewatin and Baffin regions. A yes vote of less than 50% in any one region will destroy the land claim for all the regions. Inuit registered to vote, but who do not vote, will be counted as no votes. It is important then that all those entitled to vote come out and vote yes.

Unlike the boundary plebiscite vote in which all residents of the NWT were eligible to vote, only the Inuit of the Nunavut Territory will be eligible to vote for the land claim. To vote (a) You must be an Inuk 16 years or older as of November 5, 1992 (b) You cannot be a beneficiary of another land claim settlement (c) and You must be on the voters list. Beneficiaries under the land claim who are not Inuit are not entitled to vote.

Members of TFN, the Inuit Land Claim Ratification Committee, and the federal and territorial governments will begin touring all the communities of Nunavut beginning August 24 in order to provide information and answer questions about the land claim. The tours will be completed by October 25, the day before the advance poll. Prior to the tours beginning, every Inuit household in Nunavut will have received; copies of the Final Agreement in either syllabics or roman orthography and English; a summary of the Final Agreement; and a map showing the locations of Inuit owned lands. Copies of a plain language version of the Final Agreement can be picked up at the Hamlet offices in

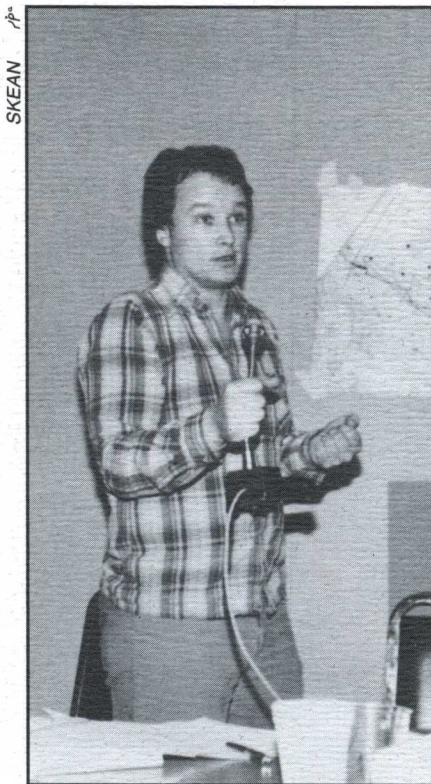
each community. The plain language version explains the Final Agreement in non-technical and non-legal English. You are urged to read these documents before the tours begin so that the people on the tours can answer any questions that you might have.

The role of TFN and the federal and territorial governments on these tours will be to provide information and to answer questions. The Ratification Committee is separate from both TFN and government. Its role on the tours will be to ensure that the Ratification Committee will also be responsible for conducting the vote and counting the ballots.

If you have any questions regarding the voting process, call the Ratification Committee office in Yellowknife at toll free 1-800-661-0895, or in Yellowknife, 403- 873-9093. Questions regarding the land claim itself should be directed to TFN in Ottawa at toll free 1-800-465-3232 or they should be directed to Yellowknife, TFN at 403-873-9277. ■

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Randy Ames co-ordinates a lot of happenings for northerners at the TFN Yellowknife office.

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Once the newly-formed Nunavut government is established, they will begin to function with stronger governmental powers much like the present provincial governments in this country. Presently, the Inuit in the Eastern Arctic continue to work with *Her Majesty in Right of Canada* represented by the Federal government.

In the meantime, the territorial and federal government have also appointed a representative to sit on the Ratification Committee. From the Government of the Northwest Territories, David Hamilton, Clerk of the legislative assembly represents NWT. While the Federal government has a local Iqaluit businessman, Jim Currie, sitting on the committee on their behalf.

Mr. Currie explained how he became a committee member for the Federal government. "The feds had a hard time appointing a representative for their government so they looked to the Territorial government for a suggestion. The Federal government suggested my name seeing that I had done some work in the field of local and territorial elections. The GNWT Legislative Assembly also took into account my long-standing residency in the

NWT. Next thing, the feds called me to say that I was their appointee to the Ratification Committee."

Mr. Tapardjuk explains some of the duties they have as a committee. "We meet on a monthly basis to prepare for the Ratification vote. Just recently, I had a chance to revise the Inuktitut Final Agreement translations while Bob Kadlun reviewed the Inuinnaqtun translations. Once revised, the translations were sent to be printed. At the moment, these documents and information are being distributed to households in Nunavut. The plain language version of the Agreement is available for pick-up at Hamlet offices in each community.

"Earlier on in May, we conducted the plebiscite vote on the Nunavut boundary. To our hardwork and joy, we won by a slight margin on the vote. Our next task is to co-ordinate the Ratification vote coming up this November 3, 4, and 5 this year."

Furthermore, Mr Tapardjuk explains that, "The Ratification Committee will be posting the Preliminary Voters' List this August in all Nunavut communities. During that month, Inuit will have a chance to add their names onto the list if they are not already on it. If their names are on it, it's fine the way it is. But,

if you feel there is a name which should not be on the list, suggest to Voters Committee list in your community to delete it. From there, they will review the application and act on how they see fit.

"If you are 16 and over as of November 5, 1992, you will be eligible to vote on the land claim Agreement. If you will not be in your community for the ratification voting dates on Nov. 3, 4, and 5, October 26, 1992 will be the Advance Poll on the Agreement."

Mr. Tapardjuk says, "We will make clarifications as to where those Inuit living in the south and various institutions will vote as the voting date nears."

For further information on the Ratification Vote, contact one of the Ratification Committee members as to your region:

Thomas Suluk, Keewatin:
819-857-2777

Bobby Lyall, Kitikmeot:
403-561-5067

Louis Tapardjuk, Baffin:
819-934-8953

A toll free number for the Ratification Committee office in Yellowknife is:
1-800-661-0895. Qujannamiik!



For many of these Inuit, November 3, 4, and 5 will be very important dates.

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— *the Editors*

APIKHOTIKHAKAGUVIT NUNALIYIGITKUTNUN
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Produced by: Tungavik Federation of Nunavut
Havitttauqut Tungavik Federation-kunit Nunavummi



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RATIFY THE NUNAVUT LAND CLAIM AGREEMENT

*The following article was first published in "The FIRST PERSPECTIVE", Vol. 1 No. 3 issue.
It was written by John Amagoalik, Constitutional Advisor to TFN.*

The 4th of May

The fourth of May 1992, will be recorded as one of the most significant dates in Canadian history. On that day, the people of Nunavut won a plebiscite to accept the proposed boundary between Nunavut and what will remain as the leftover of what is now the Northwest Territories.

Outnumbered by almost two to one by voters in the western part of the NWT, the people of Kitikmeot, Kivalliq, and Qikiqtaaluk came out in large numbers to win a decisive victory. The results of the vote now clears the way for Nunavut to be created by the year 1999.

The victory was sweet after almost 20 years of negotiations, haggling, and, agreements that were not honored by the other side. During all these years of frustration and disappointment, the Inuit resolve to stick to their course never wavered. In the end, our determination was rewarded.

When the Inuit of Nunavut first started talking about land claims in the early 1970's, we made it clear then that a new territory with its own government had to be a part of any eventual final land claims agreement. The government of Canada insisted that it was against their policy of not including political and constitutional provisions in the settlement of land claims. Nevertheless, we told the government that

we would negotiate our land claim with the assumption that Nunavut would be a part of a Final Agreement. The government did not challenge our assumption.

In the spring of 1990, the Inuit of Nunavut and the government signed an Agreement-in-Principle. Included in the agreement was a provision which committed the Government of Canada to introduce legislation depended largely on the results of the May 4th plebiscite. The Inuit, with the support of non-Inuit in Nunavut, delivered the desired results. Only political sabotage will prevent the rebirth of Nunavut in 1999.

There are concerns expressed by different Indian tribes from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and the MacKenzie region of the NWT. Inuit have demonstrated their ability to nego-

tiate overlap agreements with Indian tribes. We have also discussed the possibility of signing a peace treaty with the various Dene tribes. Now that the boundary has been established, the Inuit would welcome such a peace treaty. The Inuit of Nunavut and the various Dene tribes have a history of border conflicts. All have agreed that it is time to bury the hatchet.

One more hurdle faces the creation of Nunavut, the final land claims agreement still has to be ratified by the Inuit of Nunavut in November of this year. Without the ratification of the land claim agreement, Nunavut will again be in suspension. But if Inuit continue to live up to their reputation as being pragmatic, and having the ability to recognize reality, the rebirth of Nunavut is almost at hand. ■

CALGARY

MAY 5, 1992

TO: JAMES EETOOLOOK AND THE BOARD, TO TERRY, BRUCE,
MARY AND ALL THE TFN STAFF AND ESPECIALLY TO THE
INUIT PEOPLE

OUR WARM CONGRATULATIONS

WE HAVE FOLLOWED YOUR STRUGGLE TO ESTABLISH NUNAVUT
AND OUR HEARTS ARE WITH YOU AT THIS TIME.

BOB McPHERSON, PHILIP MUDRY AND MURRAY PYKE
(TFN's Mineral Consultants)

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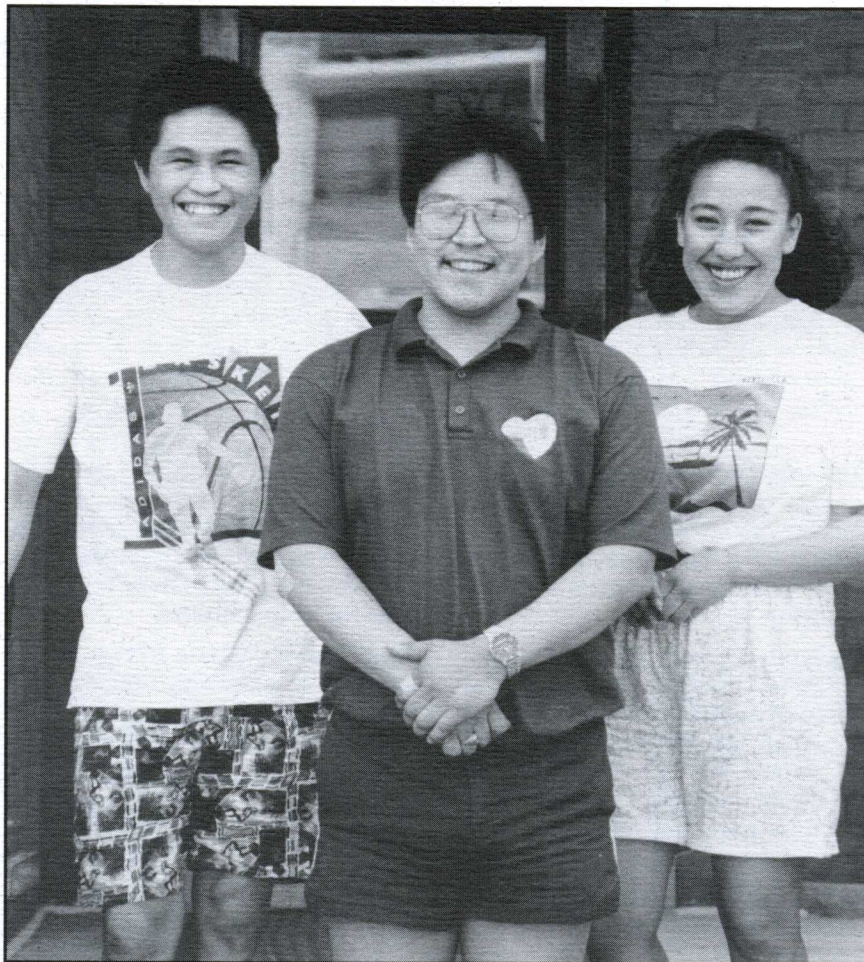
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Day before their graduation; Ron Petooloosie, Imo Adla and Margaret Karpik plan for their speech and presentation.

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Morley Hansen/Blandina Makkik
Nunavut Sivuniksavut
336 MacLaren St., 2nd Floor
Ottawa, Ontario
K2C 0M6
Ph: 613-234-5603

Nunavut Sivuniksavut

by Looee Okalik

On May 13, 1992—nine young Inuit completed a management and political training program in Ottawa, Ontario.

The tenth graduate, Lillian Aglukark, of Arviat, completed her workload ahead of schedule and went on to Seville, Spain, to be a sales clerk for Expos '92 with the Canadian Pavillion, "The experience was alright even though it was hot," she commented.

Each year, twelve applicants are selected to participate in the ten-month training program. This year, the graduates held their graduation ceremonies at the Skyline Hotel. There, they had their cocktails and dinner, following that was their graduation ceremony. The graduates were gleaming with pride and joy. They *looked beautiful*, ladies in their fashionable gowns and the gentlemen in their spiffy tux. It was their night to remember.

The graduates received their certificates, and pens for souvenir. As each person spoke on their experience in the program, they made you feel you were a part of them for they spoke openly with emotion and gratitude.

The following excerpts are from their ceremonial speeches:

Sarah Tautuajuk, Pangnirtung: I've learnt *a lot* in these past eight months, I'm *glad* to be here! Thank you for your support.

Silas Palluq, Clyde River: Maybe we didn't learn everything that was taught in the program but *we did* experience *a lot* of things.

Margaret Karpik, Pangnirtung: For *one thing*, I never thought I'd make it here. *A lot* of times, I'd call up my mom and say, "I'm going home next weekend." It's so unreal to make it to the end!

Ron Petooloosie, Cape Dorset: *Thanks* for getting us through the program, Thank you!

Jenny Kalluak, Arviat: After taking the program, it has *changed* my attitude towards what I want to do for my land and for my people.

Darren Etibloena, Cambridge Bay: These people gave me a chance, cause you gave me a chance to say, "*This is me.*" You accepted me for what I am. If I can do better, let me *prove* I can do better.

Mary Gibbons, Arviat: I *lost* my mother two years ago, her name was Caroline. She's (Referring to Mother-in-law) always *pushing* me, telling me *not* to quit. I *love* you (Jack & Caroline Anawak) both very

much. If it *wasn't* for you guys, I wouldn't be here.

Imo Adla, Iqaluit: First, I'd *really* like to thank Morley and Blandina for having the future trainees to have the opportunity *to learn* what we learned cause they say "*We are the Future.*"

Nellie Curley, Cape Dorset: I'm thankful for the program. There's *a lot* you can learn *about* Nunavut (which is NWT now).

Despite the fact that there were a number of guests in attendance, the graduates were outspoken with their emotions. Seeing them visibly open, they are already a big part of our stepping stones for a unified Nunavut. Best of luck to all of you from the Board of Directors and staff of TFN!

For those young Inuit interested in entering the **Nunavut Sivuniksavut** program for the coming year, contact or call:

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Ph: 613-234-5603

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Paul Quassa, Advisor to TFN's Acting President, James Eetoolook keeps busy as an important ratification vote draws near.

Quassa's Rehabilitation

by Looee Okalik

As of early June 1992, former President of Tungavik Federation of Nunavut, Paul Quassa, returned to TFN as an advisor to Acting President, James Eetoolook, of Spence Bay, NWT.

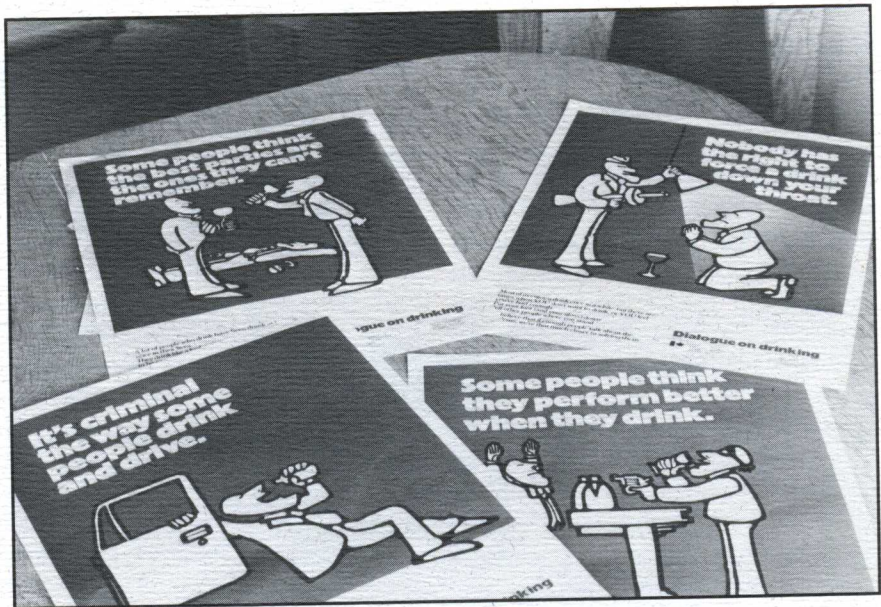
Just recently, Quassa successfully underwent a three month treatment program for drug and alcohol rehabilitation in Scarborough, Ontario. He took the three month program from March to June of this year.

Last summer, Quassa was charged with sexual assault while under the influence of alcohol during his attendance at a land selection negotiation in Coppermine, NWT.

When Quassa made it to court for the charge, the judge in seniority, gave him an absolute discharge with no criminal record. The judge took into account Quassa's position serving on behalf of his people as TFN President then.

Paul, a recovering alcoholic, states how he feels now, "The charge that was laid on me last year woke me up from my drinking and drug illness. It directed me to seek help in order that I learn from my mistake(s) and move on from there. I understand I have been given a chance to live a better and fulfilling life. I send out my thanks to the people who were supportive of my actions then, and now."

Quassa is confident that he has the roundabout support he needs in remaining sober. "I can turn to my



fellow AA members for understanding and help if I feel the downfall of relying on alcohol," he said. "Furthermore, I know that I can rely on our Creator, God, to assist and lead me to a better and prosperous life."

Quassa admits, "I have come a long way in understanding that drugs and alcohol have no clear solutions for a person. Their (drugs and alcohol) only purposes are negative destruction to our minds and body. I was ignorant then to be in disbelief of what alcohol and drug use, when abused, could lead you to, but I've come to realize the factors they serve are unconditional."

Quassa and his family, wife Elisapee, and children, Christine, Natasha, Nattiq, Gabriel and Sandy, have gone on to reside in Iqaluit, NWT. Quassa states that, "It is high time for us to be closer to our people when it is most important for us to inform our fellow Inuit on the Agreement before the Ratification vote arrives."

Quassa concludes with strong hopes by saying, "I encourage Inuit to further their education as best they could, for we will require people who will be able to manage a strong and successful Nunavut Government and Territory."

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Vice-President, Pauktuutit

LOOEE OKALIK —A D&C

A black and white portrait of a woman with dark, curly hair, smiling and looking down. She is wearing a light-colored top with a dense floral pattern. The background is a plain, light color. The photo is framed by a thin black border.[illegible]

Martha is an attractive, fair-skinned woman of 40. Her parents, George (Aqiggiq) and Joanna Koneak are half Inuk and half white as well. From Martha's long lines of five brothers and four sisters, Martha is the eldest. Martha jokingly says of her natural relations, "Our family is a product of the Hudsons Bay Company. Specifically speaking, Heinz 52 Ketchup is more the likes of us."

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(Cont'd from page 18)

We have come a long way in holding onto our tradition of namesake giving. Newborns are given names of recently deceased people in our widespread areas. Our Inuit belief is that the souls of the dead will be carried forth into new life instead of being forgotten right there and then. Martha has these additional names; Annie and Alice with her Inuktitut names being Masi (gills) and Tiriganiaq (fox).

During our point in life, we bump into all sorts of obstacles expectedly or sometimes unexpectedly. Even with these factors getting in the way at times, Martha encourages everybody to go on. "Life is not all gifts and surprises," she says, "therefore I do not want to see single parents giving up. I've been in that situation too. Furthermore, I do not want people with suicidal tendencies to give up on life. These problems we bump into all come to pass, given time. Let us learn from our mistakes and continue on with our duties. I know today we have more problems arising with new technology within our far-flung communities and we Inuit are now living in two worlds of hardship. Even with these preventing us at times, let's move forth and commit ourselves to a better today and tomorrow."

Martha goes on to say, "People in distress have to help themselves too to overcome their unhappiness. In times of constitutional and land claim issues, we need more Inuit to advance themselves educationally and independently."

As we're getting ahead in life, we go through stages of shyness, frustrations and exhaustions. Martha for one recalls a time when she was extremely coy. "In school," she says, "we were sequentially sent to the front of the class to read out-loud in English. My English wasn't all that great at the time. Well, it was my turn, I had on my scarf when I went up. While I was reading, I must've bit on one end of my scarf so badly by the time I finished, one end of my scarf was tattered with a gaping hole. Those were my shy

times." Today, Martha projects her outspokenness naturally.

This past winter, Martha forewent a close nervous breakdown. That occurrence has given her a new outlook on her time and needs. "I had overexhausted myself with the hopes of assisting anybody in need of my help," she explains. "From that physical and emotional exhaustion, I learnt that we need to tend to ourselves too sometimes if we are to be of any assistance to others."

Now or never, leisurely times come by sparingly for some but harder for others. Martha makes the best of hers: "When I find time, I love knitting better than anything else. Visiting, I find, can be a relaxation tool if you make it out to be. Whenever or wherever possible, I go fishing or black and blue berry picking. Last, but not least, I tend to my family, for they understandably crave for my attention at times."

In the sixties (bee-bop), young Inuit were sent to bigger places to further their education and they in turn left their families for many months. Martha was a part of that group and she fortunately completed her grade nine in Churchill, Manitoba. Nowadays though, schooling is more advanced in various regions of the NWT since highschools are now readily available to most students in their communities.

While growing up, we notice and keep our eyes out for our role models. Martha, for one, is appreciative of the people who have had great influences on her. "Elders played a major role for my independence," she says. "They let out their belief in re-furbishing my spirits. They responded positively as I spurted out my questions at them even with the fact that we weren't allowed to question them too much. Patience has been, still is the virtue with my husband and my children. They are always there to support me. Lastly and firstly, the strongest influence have come from my parents and my grandmother. They opened doors to good discipline and manners so I, in return, am grateful to them."

"My grandma and my parents raised us with lots of love. They told us to assist anybody in need of help for they claimed we would expect help in return if we were in their shoes. My motto now is: 'Any living being is precious to our hearts.' Yes, God created us all for a purpose."

Martha tells what is ahead of her: "This fall, I am committed to doing some work on midwifery. For sure, I will follow up on AIDS since it's amongst our people now. My hope today is that Nunavut will have a Prime Minister of it's own one day."

In any event, Martha will be greatly missed by all who've come to know her. We thank you tremendously for all the things you've done for us. We know you will give all you've got in your other occupations of life. Best of luck, Masi!

Martha's replacement for Health Co-ordinator has been named, she's Rhoda Grey of Kangirsuk, Nunavik. Welcome to Pauktutit!

If you would like to correspond with Martha, her address is:

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Ph: 613-238-3977

Gifts of Life

The Day is Done
If My day wasn't Fulfilling
The Day will Come
The Sunset has Come
Bringing a Whole New Day
I Wake up Fine
Children are Fine
My Husband is Fine
My Relatives are Fine
When I Wake up
They are my Precious Gifts
A Beautiful Day is Here
So I'll Live up to the Full Day

Martha Greig

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