Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit
And
Us
Paul Sullivan

“In the Antarctic we do not have native people so we do not have Qaujimajatuqangit.”
Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit

“The Inuit way of doing things: the past, present and future knowledge, experience and values of Inuit Society”

Task Force 2002 Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit
Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit

- Learning from an Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit perspective is holistic and continuous.

- “This is Nunavut – **Respect** the place that we are.”
Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit

“The long practiced tradition of passing Inuit knowledge, values and teachings from the elders to the younger generation.”

“Inuit knowledge is all areas of life.”

Nunavut Social Development Council  1999
"Building from the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit perspective, the eight guiding principles and values must be evident and translate into new ways of interacting, respecting, supporting and valuing."

Supporting Inclusion in Nunavut 2002
Nicole Schaffer

“We have to show how the science touches the people.”
Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit
Guiding Principles

Building a cultural land bridge between Inuit Qaujimatuqangit and Qallunaat Qaujimatuqangit.

“Inuit culture is to welcome others and to show your appreciation - to smile.”

Zipporah Kalluk
Guiding Principles

1. Piliriqatigiingniq - Collaboration

- The essential Inuit belief that stresses the importance of the group over the individual. It sets expectations for supportive behaviour development, strong relationship-building and consensus-building.
In order to be successful in Grise Fiord we had to learn to work with and cooperate with the two different cultural elements of the community.
Guiding Principles (cont.)

2. Avatimik Kamattiarniq – environmental stewardship

- It stresses the key relationship Inuit have with their environment and with the world in which they live. People are expected to articulate respect for this mutually interdependent relationship and to demonstrate responsible behaviours.
Guiding Principles (cont.)

3. **Pilimmaksarniq** – skills and knowledge acquisition

- Building personal capacity in Inuit ways of knowing and doing are key expectations. Demonstrating empowerment to lead a successful and productive life, that is respectful of all, is a powerful end goal.
Guiding Principles (cont.)

4. Qanuqtuurungnarniq – Resourcefulness

- To seek solutions using innovative and creative use of resources and demonstrating adaptability and flexibility.
We should find ways to tie the traditional knowledge to what we are doing.
5. **Aajiqatigiingniq – Consensus**

- Relies on strong communication skills and a strong belief in shared goals. Being able to think and act collaboratively, to assist with the development of shared understandings and to **resolve conflict** in consensus-building ways.
Guiding Principles (cont.)

6. **Pijitsirniq** – Service / Sharing

- It is central to the style of leadership and is the measure of the maturity and wisdom of an Inuk. People will be expected to demonstrate this kind of leadership and commitment to serving the common good.
Guiding Principles (cont.)

7. **Innuqatigiitsiarniq** – Respect

*Respect* for others and treating others equally is a characteristic the Elders have always stressed in their words of advice.
Guiding Principles (cont.)

8. Tunnganarniq – Welcoming

This relies on fostering good spirit by being open, welcoming and inclusive.
This week is Nunavut Literacy week. This means that we will practice our reading. This afternoon Nangaaq Idlout will come and read to you in Inuktitut. Let’s remember to be respectful and use our manners. Qiyannamik.
Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Emphasis

- “Building the education system within the context of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit”

- “Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is the foundation of Nunavut Education”

Bathurst Mandate 1999
IQ Emphasis (cont.)

- The promotion and revitalization of Inuit culture, language and heritage are fundamental for the development of strong, bilingual, healthy children and youth.

Building Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Schools in Nunavut 2000
“One of the many advantages of working in a small community, is the opportunity to develop strong personal relationships and trust with community members. Unfortunately, in the eagerness of trying to create and implement new and innovative programs for Nunavut we may tend to focus our efforts on process and procedures from the outside and not enough on building relationships and trust from the inside”

Building Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Schools in Nunavut 2000
IQ Emphasis (cont.)

“Respect for individuals is the basis of effective learning and a healthy workplace”

Bathurst Mandate 1999
“Confirming the value of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit will restore Inuit pride and increase individual self esteem. By increasing Inuit self esteem some of today’s social problems will be eliminated.”

Elder: September Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Workshop 1999
What Do Inuit Value?

- “Inuit value life; being welcoming; smiling; respectful; sensitive; enjoying humour; giving; honest; patient; accepting; and overcoming grief are some of the strengths valued by Inuit.”

- “Inuit had laws that maintained peace within their families and camp. Various people took on leadership roles depending on the situation and place.”

Inuuqatigiit Curriculum Document 1996
What Do Inuit Value?

- Whether leaders of a small camp or all the Inuvialuit, the leaders always consulted their Elders. They trusted the knowledge and wisdom of the elders . . .”

Inuvialuit Pitqusiit
Truisms

“For the Inuit the meaning of life is to share.”

Jose Kusagak
Guiding Principles of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit

- **Collaborative Relationship or Working Together for a Common Purpose**
- **Consensus Decision Making**
- **Respecting Others Relationships and Caring for People**
- **Being Resourceful to Solve Problems**
- **Respect of the Other, Rapports avec l'autre et Connaissance des autres**
- **Inuuaqtigisarniq**
- **Tunnganarniq**

- **Environment Stewardship**
- **Promouvoir un bon état d'esprit en étant ouvert, accueillant et intégrant**
- **Open, Welcoming and Inclusive**

- **Skills and Knowledge Acquisition**
- **Acquérir des aptitudes et des connaissances**
- **Concept of Serving**
- **Servir**
Inuit Values and Beliefs

There are 37 Inuit Values & Beliefs that further support the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit Guiding principles.

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We must teach our children their mother tongue.

We must teach them what they are and where they come from.

We must teach them the values which have guided our society over the thousands of years.

We must teach them the philosophies which go back beyond the memory of man...

John Amagoalik, We Must Have Dreams, Inuit Today, (1977)