Education in Nunavut

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Director: Education Programs
Nunavut Arctic College
Queen's University to offer Inuktitut course
Class will also learn about Inuit culture
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A new course at Queen's University will teach students at the southern institution about Inuit culture and language.

Next January, an Inuktitut-language course is being offered at the university in Kingston, Ont. It will cover basic language skills and aspects of Inuit culture.

"We feel that teaching these languages in universities sends a very strong message about the importance of them for the broader Canadian fabric of culture," said Jill Scott, who is with the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures at Queen's.

Noel McDermott, a graduate student who will teach the course, previously taught Inuktitut in Nunavut schools and at Nunavut’s Arctic College.

Scott said the course came about from a project at Queen’s to offer more indigenous-language courses. She said Inuktitut is spoken by many people, but it’s not taught very much compared to other indigenous languages.

While she said everyone is excited about the course, the ability to learn a language through one course only is limited.

"I think that even one course on the Inuktitut language and culture is fantastic for a university in the South," she said. "And what we really hope that some of those students will take the opportunity to do, for example, an immersion program in the summer, perhaps in Nunavut, and continue their studies and take this area of study really kind of seriously."

Scott said the course, which has 30 spots, is already filling up.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Inuktitut</th>
<th>Phonetics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How are you?</td>
<td>Qanuipit?</td>
<td>Ka-nwee-peet?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am fine</td>
<td>Qanuingittunguna</td>
<td>Ka-nweeng-ni-toon-ga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is your name?</td>
<td>Kinauvit?</td>
<td>Kee-nau-veet?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you understand?</td>
<td>Tukisiviit?</td>
<td>Too-kee-see-veet?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thank you</td>
<td>Qujannamiik</td>
<td>Coo-yان-na-mee-ick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That’s all</td>
<td>Taima</td>
<td>Tay-ma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You are welcome</td>
<td>Ilaali</td>
<td>Ee-lah-li</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How many?</td>
<td>Qatsiit?</td>
<td>Cat-seet?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Ii</td>
<td>Ee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Aakka or Aagaa</td>
<td>Ah-ka or ah-gah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Morning</td>
<td>Ulaakut</td>
<td>Oo-lah-coot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Afternoon</td>
<td>Unusakut</td>
<td>Oo-nah-sa-coot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Evening</td>
<td>Unukut</td>
<td>Oo-new-coot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Come here</td>
<td>Qaigit</td>
<td>K-eye-geet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Son</td>
<td>Irniq</td>
<td>Ear-nick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daughter</td>
<td>Panik</td>
<td>Pa-nick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sled</td>
<td>Qamutik</td>
<td>Caw-moo-tick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal</td>
<td>Inuit Name</td>
<td>English Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polar Bear</td>
<td>Nanuq</td>
<td>Naa-nook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walrus</td>
<td>Aiviq</td>
<td>Eye-vick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seal</td>
<td>Nattiq</td>
<td>Naa-tick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caribou</td>
<td>Tuktu</td>
<td>Took-two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arctic Char</td>
<td>Iqaluk</td>
<td>Ick-ka-look</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arctic Squirrel</td>
<td>Siksik</td>
<td>Sick-sick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog</td>
<td>Qimmik</td>
<td>Kim-mick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lemming</td>
<td>Avinngaq</td>
<td>Ah-ving-ack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Musk Ox</td>
<td>Umimmak</td>
<td>Oom-mim-mack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolf</td>
<td>Amaruq</td>
<td>Um-ma-rook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabbit</td>
<td>Ukaliq</td>
<td>Ew-ka-lick</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Goal of Education

Self Actualized
Cultural Awareness
Capable
Critical Thinker
Wise

Leader
Confident
Bilingual
Embrace Challenges

Nikanaiqsiaq
Essential Documents
Essential Nunavut Documents

Nunavut’s Land Claim

Government Mandate 2009
Essential Nunavut Documents

**Bill 21 Education Act**

**Foundation Documents**

**IQ Principles**
Guiding Principles, Values and Beliefs

Nunavut Land Claim Agreement

- **Inuit Rights and Benefits:**
  - Encourage self-reliance
  - Cultural and Social well-being
  - Ensure more contracts, jobs and training for Inuit
  - Retention of Inuit Societal Values, Language and Culture
Tamapta: Government Action Plan

- **Improve Education and Training Outcomes**
  - Increase Graduation Rates
  - Curriculum Development
  - Strengthen Partnerships
  - Positive School Environments
  - Inuit Language Instruction
  - Nunavut Education Act
**Guiding Principles, Values and Beliefs**

**Education Act**

- **Curriculum is:**
  - Established by the Minister

- **Curriculum is based on:**
  - Inuit Societal Values,
  - Principles and Concepts of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit
  - Respect for Inuit Cultural Identity

- **Curriculum promotes:**
  - Intellectual Development
  - Physical; Emotional; Social and Spiritual Well-Being
  - Fluency in the Inuktitut Language
Guiding Principles, Values and Beliefs

Foundation Documents

- Education Framework for Curriculum and Planning
  - IQ Philosophy
  - Inuit Beliefs
  - Learning Continuum
  - IQ Cross-Curricular Competencies
  - Curriculum Strands
  - Foundations of Instruction
  - IQ Schools
“Inuit beliefs, laws, principles and values along with traditional knowledge, skills and attitudes are what the Government of Nunavut and Elders refer to as Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.”

(IQ Foundation Document, Pg. 20)

IQ Principles are the foundation of all programs and curriculum delivery.
IQ Education Framework

Stages

Iqqaqqaukkaringniq
Uqausiliriniq
Nunavusiutit
Aulajaqtut
Languages of Instruction
Dynamic Assessment
Inclusion
Critical Pedagogy
Foundations of Instruction
Curricular Competencies
Values
Laws
Principles
Curriculum Strands

Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit
NTEP – Oldest Northern Program

- 1979  Program Begins in North
- 1981  Affiliation with McGill University
- 1986  B Ed. Partnership McGill University
- 1994  Expanded B Ed. McGill University
- 2007  Affiliation with University of Regina
- 2012  Renewed partnership with U of R