

Fall Newsletter



The first snows have fallen, the auroras have returned to a darkening sky, the water stands out starkly from the changing tundra -- it must be fall in Iqaluit.

Read on for an exclusive sneak peak at our new logo, and a pre-order offer reserved for our newsletter subscribers!

By the Numbers

August - October

Avg Meals Served per Day: 441

Increase from first quarter: 22%

Elders' attendance at Quaq Corner in 2026: 415

Special feast attendees since August: 554





Recent Highlights

Excitement peaked this summer when Iqaluit hunters successfully harvested a bowhead whale! Qajuqturvik was asked to help distribute the harvest throughout the community. We also held a hunt-day feast and celebration, which must have brought the hunters luck! You can read a feature-length APTN story about the hunt here.

This summer we introduced a couple new programs. Our Country Food Workshop series was a big hit with locals, who learned hands-on skills like ulu sharpening and net making. We also launched our Local Harvesters Program, encouraging local harvesters to sell us seasonal foods.

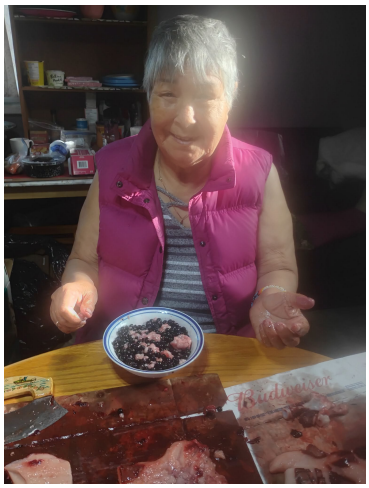
We held our Annual General Meeting in September, during which we welcomed a new board member - Ratidzo Chikari. Board members approved our 2025/26 Annual Report at the meeting. The report gives an overview of our programming, advocacy, and impact over the last fiscal year. The full report can be read online here.

One of those programs, the Inuit Women's Circle, spent their summer doing on-the-land activities, which, according to the photos below, involved a lot of berry-picking and eating.

Finally, Qajuqturvik's Board implemented a new policy: a daily communal staff meal before daily meal service. This gives our staff a chance to sit down with one another, enjoy each other's company and the food they just prepared for the community.







Sneak Peak at our new logo!

Nooks Lindell of Hinaani Designs has delivered a winning look that we can't wait to unveil to the rest of the world. But while he puts the final touches on our new brand package, here's a look at the draft logo. It represents our core values: Inuit harvesting, sharing, and working together to feed the community. Stay tuned for the full-colour unveiling!



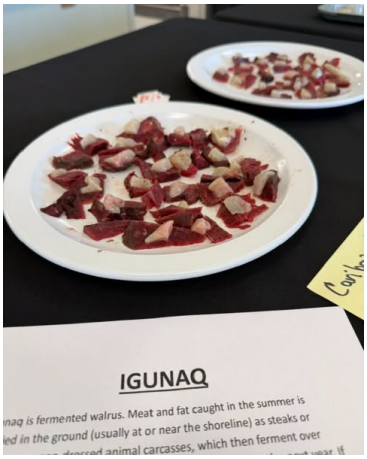
Introducing our new Deputy Program Director

Jason Oldham started his new job on the same day his daughter went to her first day of the new school year. His wife, a dedicated volunteer at Qajuqturvik, saw a golden photo opportunity!

Jason has already made an impact at Qajuqturvik, giving presentations, spearheading program areas, and bringing his tech wizardry to work every day.



Special Events







In addition to our regular programming over the last three months, which included serving a total of 25,235 hot, nutritious meals during our daily meal service, Qajuqturvik hosted a slew of special events.

The first ever "Suna?" Festival ("suna" means "What's that?") challenged community members to expand their palettes. The potluck-style event asked locals to bring in foods they love but that may raise eyebrows. The buffet was set: igunaq, rocheforte cheese, haagis, marzipan, and other foods made this a truly international event.

We also hosted another instalment of our QCFC Presents! series with David Sharkey cooking dozens of pizzas in a Pizza Pie Palooza.

Staff are now preparing to put on another first-ever: a Country Food Festival! The festival will kick off with a feast by Chef Laakkuluk Williamson, followed by a week-long celebration of local, harvested foods and a series of Country Food skills workshoips. It runs Nov 1 to 6.





Qajuqturvik Goes to Greenland



Qajuqturvik was part of a Government of Nunavut led trip to Greenland recently. The purpose of the trip was to learn how another Inuit territory makes Country Food widely accessible. "They have such an amazing system of infrastructure that allows greater Country Food access in Greenland in so many different ways," Joseph, our Executive Director, said after the trip. That includes distributing locally harvested foods through four streams: directly from harvesters to community members, through retail stores, via institutions, and in culinary settings, like restaurants.

While the trip will inspire Joseph for years to come, there was something familiar about it too -- Qajuqturvik already shares Country Food in those four ways.

"So it's inspiring to bring all sorts of ideas back and to see our work with fresh eyes, and identify opportunities to bring our work into the next phase of development." (photo courtesy Cedric Gallant)

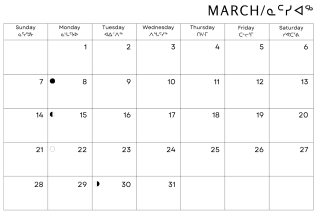




Behind the Scenes: First-ever Calendar!

Just in time for the Christmas season, Qajuqturvik is coming out with its first-ever fundraising wall calendar. The theme for this calendar is Country Food (of course!). If you want to pre-order one, reach out to communications@qajuqturvik.ca.







Want to help out? Spread the word!

Tell your friends about our newsletter and encourage them to sign-up here! None of our work would be possible without supporters like you. To find out more visit our website, and don't forget to follow us on social media!

Our mailing address is:
655 Mattaaq Crescent, Iqaluit NU, X0A 3H0

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