



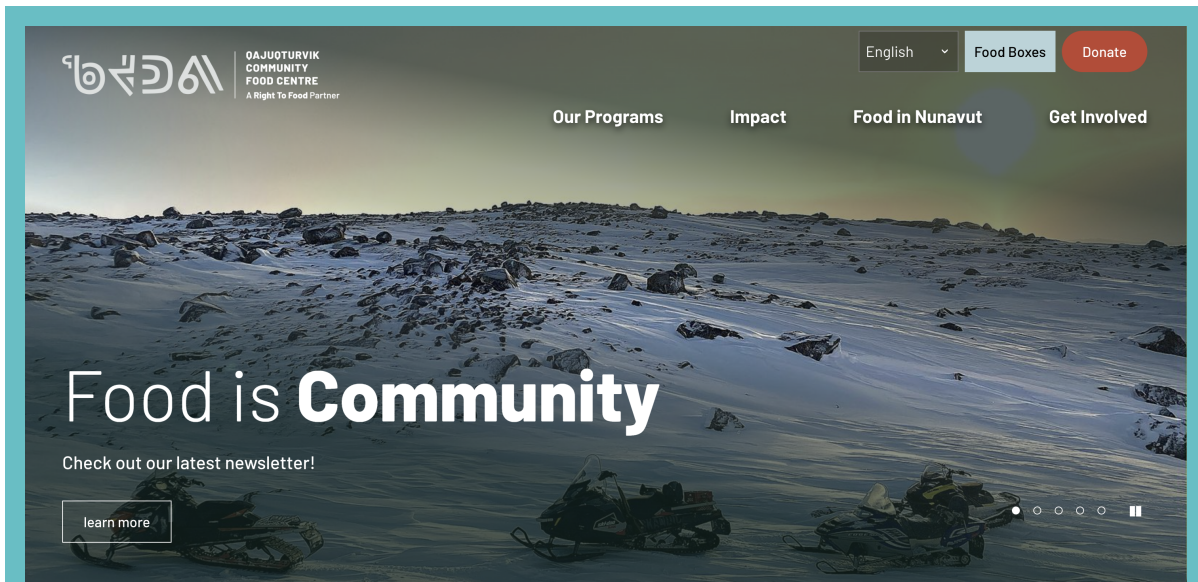
# Winter 2026 Newsletter



## Renewals

Welcome to our Spring 2026 Newsletter! The first few months of the year saw the return of some community-favourite feasts (like the Black History Month dinner at which Nunavut Premier John Main, above, helped out), some new events, but an

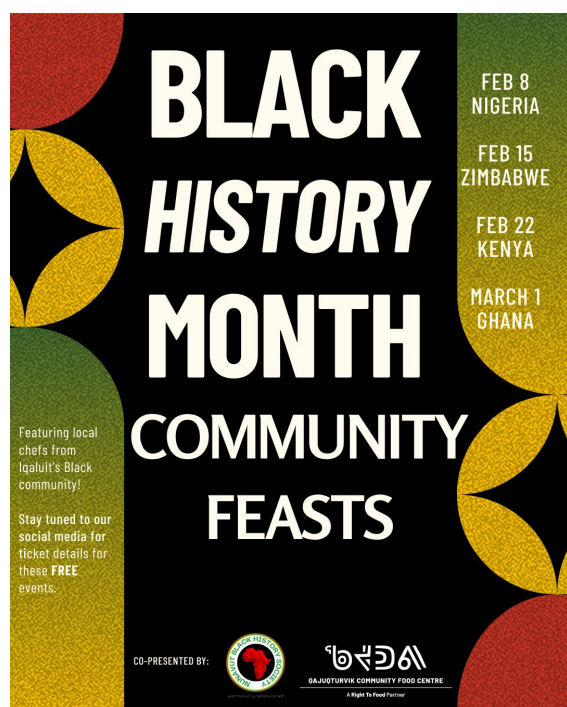
unwavering demand for our daily meal service. In this newsletter you'll find updates, hope, and inspiration from our little corner of the Arctic. Skip down to see a video of hockey stars playing a fundraiser for the food centre; and at the bottom, program number updates.



Check out our new trilingual [website!](#) The epic pictures, graffiti art by Inuk artist Becky Kilabuk -- we're proud to present something as beautiful as the community we serve. For an interview with the artist, check out [this Facebook post.](#)

## BHM Feasts

Back by popular demand, we hosted four feasts in partnership with Nunavut Black History Society, each one featuring a different cuisine from members of Iqaluit's Black community. In the end, over 500 free meals were served. It was amazing to see not only the passion and energy poured into each dinner by the chefs and the many volunteers, but also the enormous diversity of our community who came out to celebrate and feast under one roof.





## March Events

In March, we reinstated a popular program called Quaq Corner. This is a chance for Elders to drop by, have traditional country food (Quaq means frozen meat in Inuktitut), and socialize. Qinnirvik Country Food Store, our social enterprise, hosts this event and provides caribou, seal, char -- whatever Nunavut hunters provide!



We also hosted a brand new event: Iqaluit's Got Bannock -- celebrity judge edition! A free caribou stew was prepared, while community members brought in their homemade bannock. Pictured left to right: judges Janet Brewster, Naja Williamson Bathory, Laakkuluk Williamson, champion Christina Qavavao, judge Neil Sharkey, and champion Rose Machmer.



Meanwhile, our Inuit Women's Circle continues to meet weekly. Over the past few months, after sharing a meal, they've worked on kamiit (traditional sealskin boots) and parkas.

## Hockey Helps the Homeless -- and the Hungry

The end of March saw a truly unique event in Iqaluit that kids and adults will alike will be talking about for years to come -- Hockey Helps the Homeless ran a fundraising weekend that included former NHLer and Inuk hero Jordin Tootoo and a host of NHL alumni. Sportsnet broadcast a game to a national audience. In the end, \$300,000 was raised, which Qajuqturvik and Annauma Foundation will share.



## Spring Be Springing

With the lengthening days and hours of sunlight, many Iqalumiut become more active -- and the food centre has been no exception.

We hosted a number of events with partners and special guests. With Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. we co-hosted a tuberculosis-prevention event; and with the territory's health department, we ran a cannabis and tobacco education event.



## Visitors

Among the special visitors we hosted were Right to Food Chairperson Kwame McKenzie, Chef Brian Matheson from the Natoaganeg Community Food Centre- Pistamune'kemk in New Brunswick for a learning exchange, and Inuk social media mother-daughter sensation Shina and Kayuula Nova. At the end of the month, we hosted Nunavut MP Lori Idlout and federal minister of public safety Gary Anandasangaree.





## Programs At a Glance (Jan - April)

Avg meals served per day: 363

Total meals served: 27,000

Special event attendees: 1,379

Produce boxes ordered: 560

## Get Involved!

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:

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