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What Was Said
AKULIVIK
March 5 to 7, 2013

The Parnasimautik workshop with Akulivimiut was a great opportunity to express our vision of our future. Our community's connection to the land and the environment was talked about extensively. We want governments to understand that the people in our region need to be included in all development and that we have concerns about the protection of our hunting areas. Before the workshop even began, our community organizations were already talking about Parnasimautik and were met by the mayor to prepare our goals.

Who We Are

(Culture and Identity • Harvesting • Lands • Environmental and Regional Planning)

Our grandparents and parents were moved to follow the trading post to Puvirnituk in the 1950s. But in the 1970s they moved back to our region of Akulivik because the hunting here is good.

In the 1970s, we dealt with the JBNQA. Akulivik was recognized as a community in 1976 and a master plan was made. The JBNQA gave us a new way of life and some control over our land and the environment. It also gave us regional organizations to manage what we now call Nunavik.

Of course our culture and identity are important. In Akulivik, we hunt a lot of seals and we fish, and we want to pass this on to future generations. We also need to deal today with climate change and new technologies.

Governments should put more money in the institution created to help us preserve our culture. Inuktitut, our language, should be used in books and dictionaries, on the radio and TV, in schools, and on the Internet.

Wildlife harvesting has been affected by quotas. We now have to travel longer distances for beluga even though they pass right by our hunting area. And it is expensive to go on long trips because of high fuel costs. With caribou populations declining, we need to learn how to raise caribou for their meat.

Our rivers are being threatened by mining exploration. We need to increase testing of water quality and monitor for dangers for Akulivimiut and the fish.

With the population of Akulivik growing, category 1 lands have become too small. This issue will need to be looked into in the future because the planned park is very close and touches on the boundaries of our category 1 and 2 lands.

We do need to look to the future and the creation of our own government which can help keep our culture, language and Inuit way of life strong.



Our Communities

(Elders, Women and Youth • Education • Health • Housing • Justice and Social Regulation • Community development • Biofood • Employment)

Elders: We will always need to listen to the guidance of our elders to preserve our culture and way of life. They desire to pass on their knowledge to younger generations and we need to provide care for those that need assistance. Improved social services are needed for our elders.

Youth: We need our youth committees back in our communities. Regional organizations must give the Saputiit Youth Association the support it needs to get back on track.

Education: In Nunavik, we need a college and we need the KSB to deliver more courses related to the jobs in our region. Training is needed so Nunavimmiut can access more of the jobs available in our region.

Justice and social regulation: A justice committee should be created in Akulivik to help those who find themselves before the court and in jail. Offenders returning home from jail need to receive more support too. With these kinds of improved support, we will be able to guide those in need.

