



nunavut film development corporation

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ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017

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The Nunavut Film Development Corporation (NFDC) is a non-governmental organization, established by the Government of Nunavut to provide training and funding through various programs for the production and marketing of film, television and digital media. In meeting its mandate, NFDC's vision is to position Nunavut as a competitive, circumpolar production Centre, where Nunavummiut and guests can create quality production that is marketed and distributed to both the domestic and global market. Our policies and programs reflect the six guiding principles of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

OUR MANDATE

The mandate of the Nunavut Film Development Corporation is to increase economic and artistic opportunities for Nunavummiut in the film television and digital media industries and to promote Nunavut as a world-class circumpolar production Centre.

CORE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Nunavut Film Development Corporation embraces and accepts that it is responsible to:

- Ensure that all activities undertaken by to organization will be carried out under the principals of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (IQ)
- Work with the community to sustain and grow a competitive Nunavut owned and controlled film, television and digital media industry.
- Enable Nunavut production companies to foster existing relationships and to equip same with the tools and resources necessary to establish new relationships with national and international co-financing partners.
- Assist and enhance the ability of the Nunavut film, television and digital media industry to secure development, production, distribution and marketing financing.
- To utilize best management practices to administer territorial funding programs in an open, equitable and effective manner.
- Commit to a regular and open consultation with the industry.
- Work effectively with the private sector, government and other agencies to secure resources to enhance the programs and initiatives required to grow and foster the industry.
- Provide timely and accurate program and policy advice.

GOVERNANCE

The Nunavut Film and Development Corporation in 2016-2017 was governed by a Board of Directors comprised of the following individuals as of the end of the fiscal year:

Graham Dickson, President and Chairperson
Charlotte DeWolff, Vice-President
Alethea-Ann Arnaqu-Baril, Interim Secretary-Treasurer

Madeleine d'Argencourt
Joey Evalik
Eric Anoe Jr.

The Board has four Standing Committees:

- Finance
- Human Resources
- Governance and Nominating
- Policy and Incentives

The composition of the Board of Directors is guided by a directive outlined in the Film, Television, and Digital Media Development Contribution Policy. NFDC reports to the Minister of Economic Development and Transportation through its Board. The Board delegates day-to-day leadership and management to the CEO and monitors performance.

The Board of Directors carries out its duties and responsibilities guided by the following principles:

- IQ: All policies and programs must reflect the six guiding principles of IQ.
- Continual Learning: All programs must support the development of the Nunavummiut workforce.
- Transparency: All decision-making processes will be fair, explicit and without conflict of interest. Any and all information on which decisions are based will be available to the public.
- Cultural Support: All policies and programs must promote and enhance the indigenous culture and official languages of Nunavut.
- Accountability: All management procedures must ensure that public funds from whatever source and used in a responsible manner.
- Partnerships: All partners must work together in a consultative and supportive manner.

In the discharge of their responsibilities members of the Board follow and adhere to the following code of conduct:

- Each Board Member will act honestly, in good faith and in the interests of the Nunavut Film Development Corporation.

- Each Board Member will exercise care, skill and diligence in the process of decision-making.
- Each Board Member will follow the upmost in ethical standards in order to avoid any real or apparent conflicts of interest between private interests on the interest of NFDC.

STAFF

Following the preparation and presentation of a Business case to the Government of Nunavut for an increase in the corporation's core funding, the Government of Nunavut increased our core funding to allow for the funding of two full-time staff members, namely a Chief Executive Officer and a Projects Director.

Having two full-time staff allows NFDC to better fulfill its mandate and provide the required level of professional and timely service to our clients. The employment of two individuals on a full-time basis reduces job insecurity, recruitment and retention issues, and uncertain and variable operational activities.

In February of 2017, CEO Derek Mazur announced his retirement. A Hiring Committee was struck by the Board of Directors. A job description was created and placed in various film and media publications, Nunatsiaq News and on the NFDC website. As of March 31st, the Board of Directors began the search for a new CEO.

CORE BUSINESS OPERATION

Our funding programs for fiscal year 2016-2017 were designed to offer a continuum of both training and opportunity to Nunavummiut and to be responsive to the various levels of experience within the industry:

Entry-level Experience Fund: This program is designed to provide opportunities for Nunavummiut who are interested in exploring the potential for employment in the film, television and digital media industry. Entry-level individuals have the opportunity to explore, engage and educate themselves on the various career opportunities available.

Short Film Fund: This program provides an opportunity for emerging filmmakers to participate in a production program which offers professional mentoring support from established industry leaders over the course of the production of a short film in their own community.

Nunavut Spend Incentive Program: By far our largest funding program, the Nunavut spend Incentive Program is an initiative that awards production companies a rebate on the total eligible costs of goods and services purchased and consumed in Nunavut on eligible film, television and digital media

productions. Productions that have majority Nunavut ownership can receive a rebate of up to 30% of eligible costs. Equal or minority Nunavut owned co-productions can receive a rebate of up to 20%.

In addition, productions that are produced in an Inuit Language can receive an added incentive of up to \$40,000. Projects that are versioned into an Inuit Language can receive an incentive of up to \$20,000.

Creative Content Development Fund: Available to Nunavut production companies, this program offers grants for the development of creative content for future film, television and/or digital productions.

Industry Development and Training Fund: Designed to encourage and foster the professional development and growth the industry, this fund provides financial support for production company employees, industry association members, and individuals to conduct and/or participate in specific training programs and enhanced learning opportunities.

Market Endowment Fund: Open to individual Nunavut producers this program offers financial assistance for producers to attend international markets, co-production conferences and forums on an annual basis. The program was founded to encourage and support the establishment of business relationships and the marketing of indigenous film, television and projects to buyers, commissioning broadcast editors, and co-financing/co-production partners in Canada and abroad.

Inuktitut Versioning Fund for Existing Programming: Introduced in 2015-16 this year the Inuktitut Versioning Fund for Existing Programming offers grants of up to \$10,000 to create and Inuit Language Version of an existing television, film or digital program. In order to be approved for a grant, the applicant must guarantee distribution and/or broadcast of the program within the Territory of Nunavut.

NUNAVUT FILM COMMISSION

In addition to the programs above, NFDC provided a service to the Government of Nunavut through the operation of the Nunavut Film Commission. The Commission operates to attract Canadian and International production companies, broadcasters, and studios to choose Nunavut as a location destination for their productions and to provide informational support and logistical connections for such productions.

FUNDING RECIPIENTS 2016-2017

The film, television and digital media industry provides diversity to the Nunavut economy and brings recognition to Nunavut on the international stage. It is a wise use of government resources.

Nunavut Film's funding of production brings six to seven million dollars of production revenue into the territory apart from any future revenue from the licensing of finished productions to the Canadian and International broadcast and theatrical market. Each license provides ongoing revenue to the production companies as well as ongoing royalties to Nunavut directors, writers, actors, and film music composers. The production companies retain ownership of finished productions in perpetuity.

All projects submitted to Nunavut Film Development Corporation are reviewed and assessed by an independent review committee. The project must be approved by a majority of the committee to proceed. In order to eliminate any potential conflict of interest, the Board of Directors has no involvement in the selection of projects funded by the corporation.

This year's committee was made up of:

Kent Martin - Independent Producer - Halifax:

Kent Martin is an industry veteran with over 20 years of service to the National Film Board of Canada as Executive Producer and Producer for the Atlantic Region. Currently Kent is an independent producer. Kent is an International and a Canadian multi award winner in both documentary and animation.

Kelly Saxberg - Producer and Director - Thunder Bay:

An award- winning filmmaker, Kelly has over 25 years' experience in the industry as both a producer and director. She is also President of the Bay Street Festival and founder of the Docs North Professional Training Program.

Lily Maniapix - Administration QIA

Lily is a resident of Iqaluit and a member of the staff of QIA.

The following productions were awarded funds under our 2016-17 programs:

Short Film Fund

One project was awarded \$31,000 as part of the Arctic Film Circle project. A partnership between the International Sami Film Institute, Nunavut Film Development Corporation and Big Soul Productions. **The Last Walk** was shot during the fall of 2016 and featured Nunavut actors Pallulaaq Friesen, Ipiksaut Friesen, Keenan Carpenter and Anne Lambe.

Creative Content Development Fund

Piksuk Media Inc. was awarded \$7,500.00 for the development of a documentary titled **Pearson**. Bryan “Sedluk” Pearson was part of the transformation of the Frobisher Bay military base onto the booming capital of Nunavut.

Puhitaq was awarded \$7,500.00 for phase 2 of developing the project titled **Qallunaak: Stupid White Guy**.

Industry Development and Training Fund

Neil Christopher was awarded \$4,198 to attend the Story Seminar in New York City.

Nadia Mike was awarded \$3,969 to attend the Story Seminar in New York City.

Patrick Beland was awarded \$2,007.00 to attend Schoolism LIVE in Toronto.

Ipeelie Otoova was awarded \$3,500.00 to attend the VADA 2-week intensive certificate course in Vancouver.

IBC was awarded \$10,000.00 to present a Digital Training workshop.

Market Endowment Fund

Ellen Hamilton was awarded \$5,000.00 to attend the Cannes Film Festival.

Alethea Arnaquq-Baril was awarded \$3,674.00 to attend Hot Docs in Toronto.

Myla Ishulutak was awarded \$2,839.00 to attend Presence in Montreal.

Aïda Maigre-Touchet was awarded \$2,039.00 to attend Presence in Montreal.

Ellen Hamilton was awarded \$5,000.00 to attend the Toronto International Film Festival.

Zacharias Kunuk was awarded \$3,437.00 to attend the Toronto International Film Festival.

Natar Ungallaq was awarded \$3,437.00 to attend the Toronto International Film Festival.

Jason Ford was awarded \$3,750.00 to attend the Napa Valley Film Festival.

Aïda Maigre-Touchet was awarded \$3,688.00 to attend Doc Circuit.

Roselyn Akulujuk was awarded \$5,000.00 to attend LA SKINS Festival.

Nunavut Spend Incentive

Akhlak Productions was awarded \$300,000 for the feature length film titled **The Grizzlies**.

Qanurli 6 was awarded \$110,000.00 for the television series **Qanurli?** In addition, they were awarded \$10,000.00 for the digital media component and \$40,000.00 from the Inuktitut Language Enhancement and Inuktitut Versioning Fund.

Taqqut Productions was awarded \$65,000 for a production titled **Anaana's Tent**. An additional \$26,004.00 was awarded from the Inuktitut Language Enhancement and Inuktitut Versioning Fund.

Arnait Video Productions Inc. was awarded \$40,000.00 for the production titled **ABABA**. An additional \$9,264.00 was awarded from the Inuktitut Language Enhancement and Inuktitut Versioning Fund.

Arnait Video Productions Inc. was awarded \$72,948.00 for the production titled **RESTLESS RIVER**. An additional \$20,000.00 was awarded from the Inuktitut Language Enhancement and Inuktitut Versioning Fund.

IBC was awarded \$20,000.00 for the web series **Takuginai**. An additional \$40,000.00 was awarded from the Inuktitut Language Enhancement and Inuktitut Versioning Fund.

IBC was awarded \$20,000.00 for the web series **Pituqait**. An additional \$26,167.00 was awarded from the Inuktitut Language Enhancement and Inuktitut Versioning Fund.

Kingulliit Productions was awarded \$140,000.00 for the production titled **Hunting With My Ancestors**. They were awarded \$19,980.00 for the digital media component. An additional \$40,000.00 was awarded from the Inuktut Language Enhancement and Inuktut Versioning Fund.

NUNAVUT FILM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION INITIATIVES

Market Attendance:

Apart from the filmmakers who attended Festivals and Markets through our Market Endowment Program, NFDC and Nunavut were represented by Julia Burns (Projects Director)) at the following festivals and Markets:

Cannes Film Festival

Julia Burns represented NFDC at the Cannes Film Festival

Toronto International Film Festival

Julia Burns represented NFDC at the Toronto International Film Festival. The Festival is a gathering of major filmmakers, distributors, and producers from across the world. While at the conference, Julia represented NFDC at the meeting of the Association of Provincial Funding Agencies and attended the Premiere of *Two Lovers and a Bear* as well as the various receptions held in honor of the film. She also attended the screening of *Maliglutit*.

Prime Time 2017 – Ottawa

Julia Burns attended 'Prime Time' in Ottawa. Prime Time is a major industry gathering of government funding and regulatory bodies as well as most Canadian broadcasters and independent film production companies. While at Prime Time, Julia attended the spring meeting of the Association of Provincial Funding Agencies.

Berlin International Film Festival

Julia Burns attended the Berlin International Film Festival to be part of the Arctic Film Circle delegation. The Film Circle has representation from Norway, Greenland, and the Northern Canadian Territories as well as Alaska.

INUIT LANGUAGE PROMOTION AND PRESERVATION

This year Nunavut Film made a strong commitment to increasing the amount of film, television and digital media available in an Inuit Language through our Inuit Language Incentive Fund and our Inuit Language Versioning fund for Existing

Programming. These incentives have led to the production/versioning of 24 hours of film and television production into an Inuit Language for the fiscal year 2016-17. In addition, two major digital productions will be made available in Inuktitut.

Nunavut Film also initiated the translation of our website into Inuktitut.

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Audited statements for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 2017 are available.