



nunavut film development corporation  
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# ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

**HEAD OFFICE  
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IQALUIT, NUNAVUT, CANADA**

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 2014-2015 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 Arnaquq-Baril, Interim Secretary-Treasurer

Madeleine d'Argencourt  
Qajaaq Ellsworth  
Joey Evalik  
Eric Anonee 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 will allow 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 will reduce job insecurity, recruitment and retention issues, and uncertain and variable operational activities.

## **CORE BUSINESS OPERATION**

Our funding programs for fiscal year 2014-2015 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: New 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 2014-2015**

NFDC approved a total of 24 applications for funding in all programs for a total of \$1,066,687. In direct production, approved grants/rebates of \$825,832 triggered a total production volume of \$5,049,693 for Nunavut producers. Of that total production volume over 4.2 million dollars in additional funding came from sources outside of the Government of Nunavut. Major sources of additional funding included the Canadian Media Fund, Federal Tax Credits, the National Film Board, Motion Picture distributors and Canadian Television Broadcast Licenses.

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.

Kathleen Merritt-Arts Coordinator and Musician-Rankin Inlet

A resident of Rankin Inlet, Kathleen has spent five years working as an advisor and coordinator on arts projects. She spent four years working as a coordinator for Alianait festivals and concerts. Recently she received Canadian acclaim for her new musical recording.

The following productions were awarded funds under our programs:

**Entry -Level Experience Fund**

**Candice Sudovenick** was awarded \$5,000 to work as a Field Technician of the BBC production of the three part series 'Snow World Family and Me

**Short Film Fund**

**Alethea Arnaquq Baril** was awarded \$25,000 for the production of a short drama 'Aviliaq'. She also received a bonus of \$5,000 under the Inuit Language Incentive Fund.

**Isabelle Dingemans** was awarded \$25,000 for the production of the short animated film 'The Legend of Night and Day'.

**Creative Content Development Fund**

**Inuit Communications Systems** was awarded \$7,500 for the Creative Development of 'The Inuktitut Preschool Series'.

**Inuit Communications Systems** was awarded \$7,500 for Casting for the feature film 'Iqlauit'

**Taqut Productions Inc.** was awarded \$7,500 for the development of a pre-school children's series for APTN called 'Anana's Tent'.

**Inuit Communications Systems** was awarded \$7,500 for the Creative Development of new formats and approach to the series 'Qanurli'

**Arnait Video** was awarded \$7,500 for the development of a children's cooking series for APTN.

**Puhitaaq** was awarded \$7,500 to do a writing polish for the feature film comedy 'Qallunaat'

**NorthWinds** was awarded \$7,500 to produce a demo for their dog sledding documentary 'Way of the North'

### **Market Endowment Fund**

The following individuals received grants to attend a variety of festivals/markets:

**Neil Christopher** was awarded \$5,000 to travel to and attend the Annecy International Animation Film Festival in Annecy, France.

**Ellen Hamilton** was awarded \$5,000 for travel to attend the Toronto International Film Festival.

**Madeleine Ivalu** was awarded \$4,193 for travel to attend the Toronto International Film Festival and to receive an award at the Birks Diamond Tribute to the Year's Women in Film reception.

**Ryan Oliver** was awarded \$5,000 for travel to attend Gamescom 2014 in Germany as part of the federal Government's Digital Trade Mission

**Emma Kreuger** was awarded \$3,219 to attend the ImagineNative film Festival in Toronto.

**Keenan Lindell** was awarded \$3,217 to attend the ImagineNative Film Festival in Toronto

**Susan Avingaq** was awarded \$3,224 to attend the ImagineNative Film Festival in Toronto

**Neil Christopher** was awarded \$2,829 to attend the ImagineNative Film Festival in Toronto

### **Industry Development and Training Fund**

**Chris Coleman** was awarded \$3,750 for Sound Mix Training at two professional Sound Studios in Toronto

### **Nunavut Spend Incentive**

**Inuit Broadcasting Corporation** was awarded \$32,850 for production of their 13 part series 'Ilinniq'. They also received a bonus of \$40,000 under the Inuit Language Incentive Fund.

**Kingulliit Productions Inc.** was awarded \$200,000 for their production of the feature-length drama 'The Searchers'. They were also awarded \$40,000 under the Inuit Language Incentive Fund.

**Kingulliit Productions Inc.** was awarded \$124,001 for the production of a multi-part animated series 'The Stories of our Elders'. They also were awarded \$40,000 under the Inuit Language Incentive Fund.

**Inuit Broadcasting Corporation** was awarded \$61,408 for the production of the Web based children's puppet series 'Takuginat'. In addition, it will receive an additional \$30,700 under the Inuktitut Language Enhancement Program

**North Creative's** single purpose company 9202447 Canada Ltd. was awarded \$357,563 for the co-production with Max Films of the feature length drama 'Two Lovers and a Bear'.

### **Inuit Language Versioning Fund for Existing Programming**

## **NUNAVUT FILM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION INITIATIVES**

### **Market Attendance:**

Apart from the those filmmakers who attended Festivals and Markets through our Market Endowment Program, NFDC and Nunavut were represented by Julia Burns (Projects Director) and/or Derek Mazur (Chief Executive Officer) at the following festivals and Markets:

### **Banff World Media Festival**

Julia Burns represented NFDC at The Banff World Media Festival. The Festival is a gathering of major broadcasters and producers from across the country. While at



the conference, Julia represented NFDC at the meeting of the Association of Provincial Funding Agencies.

#### Winnipeg Indigenous Broadcaster Convention

Derek Mazur represented NFDC at the World Indigenous Broadcasters Convention in Winnipeg. This conference is the largest gathering of Indigenous Broadcasters in the world. Representatives from Australia, New Zealand, Canada and Norway were in attendance.

#### 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 co-hosted a reception for around 75 people.

#### Imaginative Film Festival

Julia Burns represented NFDC at the ImagineNative film Festival in Toronto. ImaginativeNative has grown to one of the largest film festivals for indigenous film production in the world.

#### PrimeTime 2014; – Ottawa

Julia Burns and Derek Mazur 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 and Derek attended the spring meeting of the Association of Provincial Funding Agencies.

### **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 41 hours of film and television production into an Inuit Language. In addition two major digital productions will be made available in and Inuit Language.

Nunavut Film also initiated the translation of our website into both Inuit languages. The website will be launched in the next fiscal year. All of our guidelines and our application forms will also be available in both Inuit Languages.

**AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Audited statements for the fiscal year ending March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013 are available under separate cover and in Appendix A.

**APPENDIX A**

**AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
2012-2013**