

Report

Midwives Association of Nunavut
March 2007

Natsiq Alinga-Kango

2005-2007 Interim Board

- First Interim board formed by Kivalliq Regional Health Department
- First Interim Board members consist of 9 members
- Interim Board decides name for the organization in 2005, Midwives Association of Nunavut (MAN)
- Board first registered with Government of Nunavut in February 2006
- Interim board created By – Laws August 2005
- Affiliated with Canadian Association of Midwives

Midwives Association of Nunavut,

- New board members elected February 2007
- President 3 year term
- Vice-President 2 year term
- Secretary 2 year term
- Treasurer 3 year term
- Regional representatives 3 year term
- Student representative 2 year term
- Head Office will be in Iqaluit, Nunavut

Membership Portfolio

- Most Inuit midwives across Nunavut are honorary members
- Honorary members have voting rights (different from provinces and territories, due to lack of registered midwives in Nunavut)
- Six registered midwives in Nunavut are members of MAN

Projects

- First gathering of Nunavut midwives took place in Iqaluit, Nunavut on February 20-21-22, 2007
- Healing Circle took place and lead by Kanayuk Salamonie, Healer/Midwife from Cape Dorset, and Liza Ningiuk Healer from Grise Fiord, Nunavut

Recognition of Inuit Midwives

- Midwives Association of Nunavut and Government of Nunavut both acknowledged and accepted all Inuit midwives by providing them with Certificate of Recognition
- The long overdue recognitions were also provided to long term fighters for birthing center for Rankin Inlet who were Joyce England of Prince Edward Island and Nowyah Williams of Rankin Inlet.
- Midwives Association of Midwives also acknowledge Cultural, Language, Elders and Youth, First Air Ltd, Makkivik Corporation, Frobisher Inn for their generous contribution for this first ever gathering for Inuit midwives.

Traditional Knowledge and Terminology

- Inuit midwives provided their wisdom, skills, and knowledge
- Used the terminology in the midwives language

Outcome of this Gathering

- It is clear with Inuit midwives, what they can provide using their skills, knowledge. They have the ability to train and educate both in education system and or in professional institutions IF given an opportunity.
- Inuit midwives have willingness to receive basic training where possible if they are going to be practicing and working in birthing centers, nursing stations and or hospitals with professions.
- There is much more work to be done by all levels of governments in maternal care, raising family issues, healthy family responsibilities, counseling , parenting issues, community responsibility issues. These are Inuit midwives roles and responsibilities if they were given the opportunity to make difference in life.