Around Nunavut

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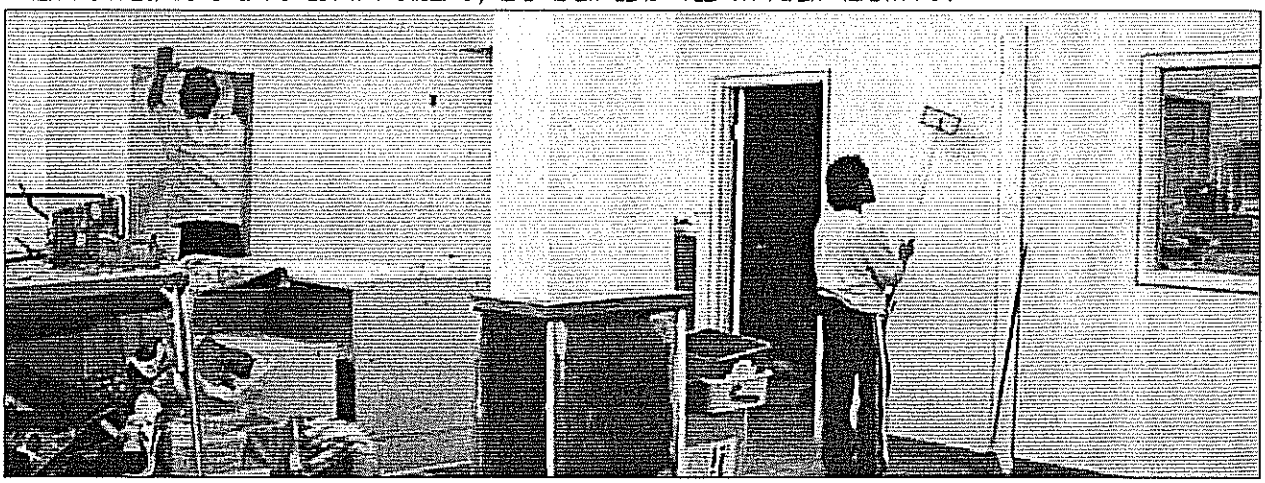

***Kakayak Daycare reopened last week** after shutting down earlier this summer to address concerns about safety. This is a photo of the building in the midst of being renovated. Volunteers have since worked to prime and paint the walls, clean the inside and do repairs.*

Children back at daycare

Kugluktuk/Coppermine

Kugluktuk's Kakayak Daycare reopened last week after shutting down earlier this summer.

It has since been renovated and measures have been taken to ensure the children are safe, said daycare manager Allison Brown.

Parents previously expressed concerns about the level of supervision, she added.

"But we have new staff and there's new safety protocols and rules put in place to make sure the children are supervised at all times and that the environment is really safe for them," said Brown.

The programming has also been adjusted to include culturally relevant activities.

Each week there is a different theme based on Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

"That's probably the most exciting part," she said. "The children are learning really valuable and culturally relevant things while they're here."

– Miranda Scotland

Whale landed

Naujaat/Repulse Bay

Hunters from the community of Repulse Bay landed a bowhead whale on the Labour Day long weekend.

The whale measured slightly more than 15 metres.

The bowhead was partly butchered where it was caught on Aug. 31, before being towed to Repulse to avoid any confrontations with polar bears.

The successful hunt was the sixth bowhead whale landed by Repulse hunters in the past 17 years.

– Darrell Greer

Learn to teach traditional skills

Qikiqtarjuaq/Broughton Island

Applications for the Atugaksait program of Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., are now being accepted again for the fall and winter activities.

Residents interested in teaching Inuit values and traditional knowledge in the areas of survival skills, harvesting, skin preparations and sewing techniques can send in their applications before Sept. 30. Application forms can be picked up at the HTO office.

– Myles Dolphin

Action Canada visits Resolute

Qausuittuq/Resolute

Participants in Action Canada visited Resolute earlier this month to gain insight into life in the community.

Nearly 30 people associated with the organization met with the mayor, senior administrative officer (SAO) and council during a visit Sept. 7, said Angela Idlout, the hamlet's SAO.

Action Canada "offers both senior leadership development and cross-country conferences to enhance an understanding of Canada and public policy choices for our future," it states on its website.

The group asked questions about the school system, housing and other topics. The Resolute representatives told them the housing situation, unlike other places in Nunavut, isn't a pressing issue currently.

The waiting list is down to two people and not too many houses are overcrowded, said Idlout.

"We're in pretty good standing right now with the housing association."

However, they did express the need for a new utilidor system.

– Miranda Scotland

New man in charge

Arviat

The Hamlet of Arviat has a new senior administrative officer (SAO).

Steve England, a longtime Arviat resident and former manager of the Padlei Co-op, was named to the SAO position, replacing the outgoing Ed Murphy.

Arviat Mayor Bob Leonard said in a public statement that Arviat thanks Murphy for his years of hard work and service to the community.

– Darrell Greer

Focus on minerals

Qamanittuaq/Baker Lake

The annual Kivalliq Regional Science Camp was held in Baker Lake from Sept. 4 to 9.

Eight students from the host community, along with four students and one teacher from each of the other six Kivalliq communities, took part in the event.

The 2013 science camp focused on rocks, minerals, first aid and the Global Positioning System.

– Darrell Greer

Hamlet day

Arviat

A large crowd came out for the annual Hamlet Day celebration in Arviat on Sept. 2.

Reports out of Arviat indicate the day went extremely well, with a parade and numerous fun-filled events for children of all ages.

– Darrell Greer

Animal care

Kangiqliniq/Rankin Inlet

While the Canadian Animal Wellness Team is helping pets in Baker Lake, animal health-care professionals from the Tuxedo Animal Hospital in Winnipeg will be making a house call to Rankin Inlet.

Animal owners are asked to phone Page Burt at the Nanuq Lodge to book an appointment for the five-day clinic, running from Sept. 17 to 21.

– Darrell Greer

Ending violence

Nunavut/Nunavik

Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada is receiving $300,000 for a two-year project to engage Inuit men and boys to help end violence against women and girls in Nunavut and Nunavik.

The project is being supported under the Status of Women Canada's call for proposals, Working Together: Engaging Communities to End Violence against Women and Girls.

– Darrell Greer

Diabetes run draws 45 residents

Taloyoak/Spence Bay

Residents in Taloyoak bundled up Sept. 7 and headed over to the Northern Store to participate in a run to raise awareness about diabetes.

Forty-five people joined in despite the freezing cold and windy weather, said Northern Store manager Cathy Williams.

"Most of the participants completed a 2.5 km walk/run but there were a few brave souls who went the distance and completed a five-kilometre run," she stated in an e-mail.

While enjoying some fruit and water the runners took time to reflect on those close to them who have diabetes.

"The snacks were as refreshing as the cold September wind," added Williams.

The event was coordinated by the Northern Store.

– Miranda Scotland

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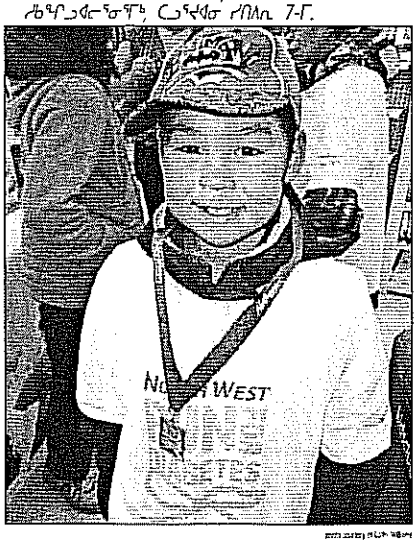

***Eight-year-old Michael Panilloo shows off** his sporting participation medal following a run for diabetes in Taloyoak on Sept. 7.*