

# QAJUQTURVIK FOOD CENTRE 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



Tabled: May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

After years of scraping by on a modest budget and an immense amount of volunteer hours, we find ourselves in a confident position. Our fundraising successes over the past year have, for the first time in our history, allowed us to hire administrative staff. For once we have the organizational capacity to begin implementing the plans we have long discussed but could never accomplish with volunteer efforts alone.

When I joined the board back in 2014 a fellow board member introduced me to a book called *The Stop* which described how a modest food bank in Toronto spawned a nationwide movement around improving access to healthy food known as Community Food Centres Canada (CFCC). While continuing to operate as a 'soup kitchen' we at least had a vision for how we could evolve. In 2016 we were designated by the CFCC as a *Good Food Organization*, and last fall, to our great surprise, CFCC made us a partner-in-development.

I look forward to seeing how this model will be adapted to our community. In terms of food, Nunavut is a world apart from the rest of the country. Our challenges are to both increase the capacity to navigate the country's most expensive commercial food market while also facilitating access to the enormous bounty of food available on the land. One day, we hope to reach a point where all Iqalumniut can feel confident in their ability to eat affordably and healthily, regardless of their socioeconomic status.

We hope to position ourselves as an increasingly influential player among the network of organizations and departments working to improve the lives of Iqalumniut. And despite everything we are still a volunteer organization - our ambitions will require more help than ever before. With a professional backbone we hope to make the volunteer experience more satisfying, by drawing on everyone's unique talents and knowledge.

Optimism will be our greatest asset in the months ahead. We hope to achieve real, long-lasting changes in the lives of our community members, and our success will depend on the continued support of everyone.

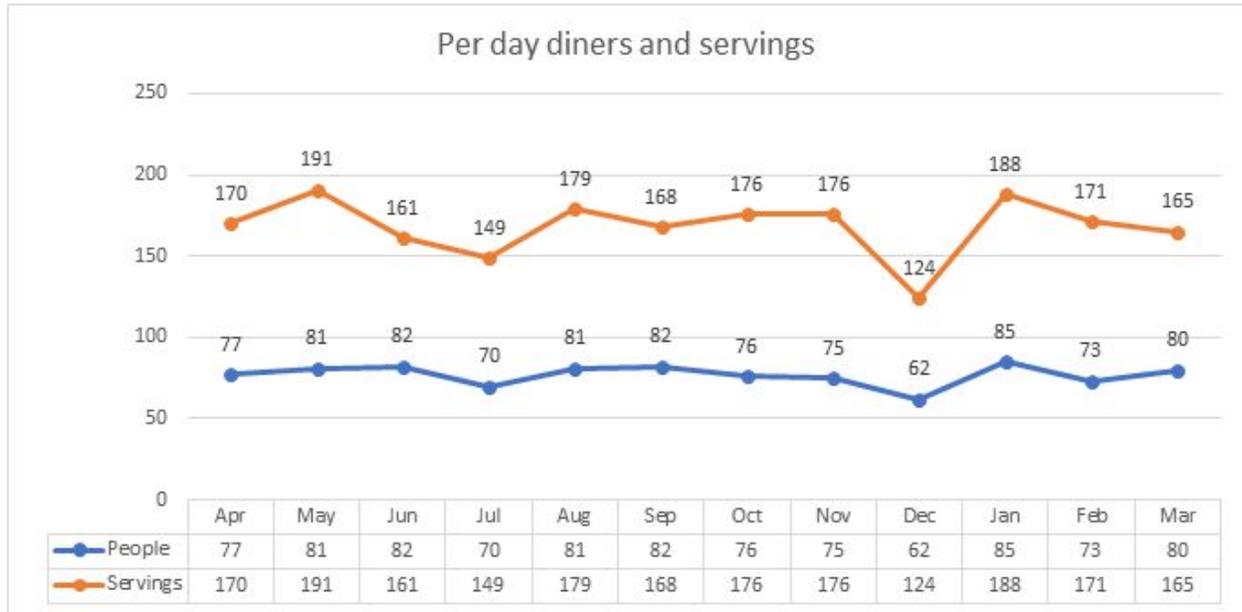
Wade Thorhaug

President

Qajuqturvik Food Centre Board of Directors, 2017-18

## DAILY MEAL SERVICE

Continuing on the popularity engendered by the professionalization of our food operation in 2016, we continue to see large crowds for our daily meals. For a number of reasons, weekend mealtimes were moved from the evening to noon, in line with our weekday mealtime.



## STAFF

As of last fall there was only one full-time staff person and a number of part-time staff. Grants received since then have allowed us to expand our full-time staff to four. Currently there is an Executive Director funded through the Indigenous Service Canada grant Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples (UPIP), a Development Manager funded through Community Food Centres Canada (CFCC) and a sous chef also funded through UPIP. As our activities expand we will have a need for more full-time and temporary staff.

## INCLUSION CAFÉ

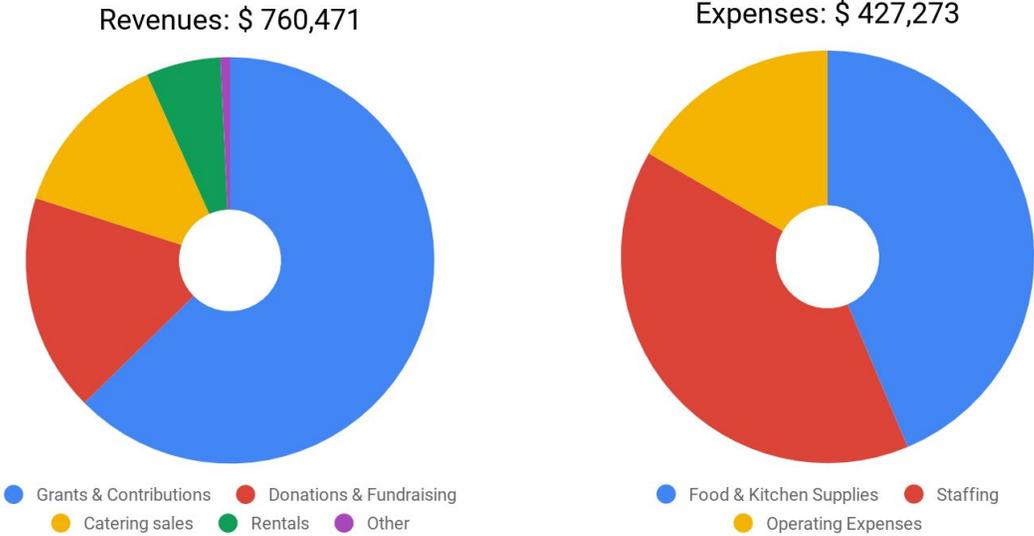
Owing to a lack of funding the Inclusion Café initiative ceased its one-on-one training model in August 2017 and its management shifted from Nunavummi Disabilities Makinnasuaqtiit Society (NDMS) to Qajuqturvik. It resumed activity as a non-profit catering enterprise in an effort to subsidize our operations as well as to provide for more regular staffing in the kitchen.

Thanks to UPIP funding we are currently in the process of reviving the training model pioneered by NDMS. The program aims to provide underemployed individuals with intensive culinary training that will transition to employment in a commercial kitchen.

### THE COMMUNITY FOOD CENTRE MODEL

Through our close relationship with CFCC we aim to develop into a Community Food Centre, a welcoming space with the objectives of “improving people’s ability to access healthy food in a dignified way; increasing healthy food knowledge, skills and behaviours; decreasing social isolation and increasing people’s connection to supports; creating opportunities for people to take action on the issues that affect their lives; and empowering people to be volunteers and leaders.” (CFCC website) This is achieved through a range of regular, food-centric programming that focuses on healthy food access, food skills, and education and engagement.

### FINANCES



Major funding breakthroughs were made with Indigenous Services Canada as well as Community Food Centres Canada. Catering revenue and wages were part of the NDMS budget until September 2017 at which point they were turned over to Qajuqturvik.

## **FUNDERS & DONORS**

### **Indigenous Services Canada:**

**Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples**

### **Community Food Centres Canada**

Government of Nunavut Dept. of Family Services

### **City of Iqaluit**

Government of Nunavut Dept. of Health

### **Agnico Eagle Mines**

### **BPO Elks of Canada Lodge**

### **Baffin Cannery**

### **Driving Force**

### **DJ Specialties**

### **NorthMart**

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Le Grand Élan (Christina Béland)

Tumiit Development Corporation Ltd.

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NCC Investment Group Inc.

SFSN Investments Inc.

D.E. Swayze Law Corporation

KSS Inc.

The Snack

The Discovery

### **Royal Purple Sunshine Fund**

### **Zion United Church**

### **Iqaluit Community Tukisigiavik Society**

### **Nunavut Wildlife Management Board**

Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada GCWCC Campaign

Campaign to elect Okalik Eegeesiak

Law Society of Nunavut

Government of Nunavut Dept. of Culture & Heritage staff

Foundation Québec Cinema

Thorndale United Church Women

Nunavut Airport Services Staff

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**Adrienne Silk**

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