



Archives Council Nunavummi
Annual General Meeting – October 6, 2006
President’s Report

Since our last Annual General Meeting held in Cambridge Bay, September 2005, the Archives Council Nunavummi (ACN) has made steady progress despite some major changes. The main focus of activity through the year has been on communication with members and other related organizations both within Nunavut and in southern Canada; organizational issues relating to the change of Executive members and improvements to the application forms to encourage more people to apply for membership; and advocacy, making our voice heard and needs known at the local level and within the Archive community of Canada.

In January 2006 the Archives Council was sorry to accept the resignation of our President, Colleen Rusk from Cambridge Bay, who had put so much time and work into building up the Council and keeping everyone well informed of activities. Her skills as an archivist and her enthusiasm for preserving the culture and heritage of the people of Nunavut are greatly missed. As Vice President I took over her position and Brian Lunger was able to fill the Vice President’s position. It is with thanks to a very hard working executive that Secretary Ericka Chemko was able to participate in the National Archival Development Program Training Session held in Ottawa late February 2006. As a result of this process two applications for funding were submitted from Nunavut to the Program and a total of \$..... awarded. We hope that more groups will consider applying for this funding in the upcoming year to show the on-going need for support to preserve Nunavut’s Archival heritage. We have been encouraging members to apply for this



program during its next round through word-of-mouth and referring people to the Canadian Council of Archivists website (<http://www.cdncouncilarchives.ca/NADP.html>).

In March of 2006 we were also sorry to hear that Ian Critchley was leaving the north for health reasons and would not be able to continue as Treasurer for the ACN. This position was filled temporarily by Ericka Chemko who agreed to act as Secretary/Treasurer until the next AGM.

In June I was invited, as Acting President, to participate in the Association of Canadian Archivists Annual Conference held in St. John's Newfoundland. Unfortunately there were no funds available to cover the high cost of travel either through the ACA or our own ACN. However, in order to show our interest and for Nunavut to be represented at the meeting, I submitted a report summarizing the activities of the ACN in the past year to be read by another participant.

The future dream for the ACN is to be able to afford face-to-face annual meetings and training workshops for our members. We are all aware of the high cost of air travel and freight charges, even within Nunavut, so we currently have to be content with teleconferences and e-mails for much of our communication. To hold any future meetings or workshops ACN members will need to consider fundraising options and writing proposals to outside agencies for funding support. Any help in this area would be greatly appreciated. In another area we need to work on increasing Nunavut and Inuit holdings within the National Catalogue which in turn would increase research use of Nunavut Archives. Again this will take time and money but it can still be a goal for ACN to work towards. The Government of Nunavut's proposed Heritage Centre, that will include the Territorial Archives, is in the planning stages with a possible building date of 2009. In the



mean time it is up to our Council to keep up the pressure and advocate for this facility to become a reality sooner rather than later.

Thank you,

Philippa Ootoowak
Acting President
Archives Council of Nunavut