

INUUSITTA MAKITJUMIGIAQARNINGA STRENGTHENING OUR LIVES

DECLARATION

Over the past three days, we, the participants at the Inuusitta Makitjuumigiaqarniga – Strengthening our Lives - Regional Conference on Prevention and Empowerment have:

- Increased our understanding of the realities of health and social services, youth protection, alcohol and drug abuse, injuries, justice and policing services, as well as education and employment services;
- Strengthened our ties with one another to be better able to respond to the social problems being experienced by our communities;
- Shared ideas about how we can do more with the resources we have in-hand;
- Reinforced our belief that Nunavimmiut have the power and a responsibility to improve well-being in our communities.

Re-Empowering Our Communities

All participants agree that it is now time to act and address the problems affecting our communities. Social harmony needs to be restored and healing is required.

All participants agree that the solutions to the problems affecting our communities must come from the communities themselves. Although each community is unique and will have to choose its own path, it is clear that Inuit culture and values will be our guide, at the heart of every initiative. Local and regional leaders must step forward and become the catalysts for community mobilization.

Using the Resources We Have

All participants recognize that certain resources and organizations must serve as the pillars of community re-empowerment, providing the foundation on which communities will create their own projects and best practices, and achieve tangible results.

The Regional Partnership Committee and the prevention resources of the Kativik Regional Police Force will need to work hand in hand with the communities. Elders and cultural committees will need to renew themselves in line with the initiatives of each community.

All participants agree that the project Social Regulation Reconstruction must be implemented and will support this work with a view to making the project a core community tool.

All participants agree to remain involved and contribute in their own capacity to mobilization in their communities and throughout the region. They have already initiated the reflection as to what the next step(s) should be for their community and will share their ideas with their fellow community members.

Approved unanimously

By the participants of the Inuusitta Makitjuumigiaqarniga – Strengthening our Lives - Regional Conference on Prevention and Empowerment