



Press Release
For immediate release

**Unaaq Men's Association of Inukjuak wins \$500K
at 2017 Arctic Inspiration Prize gala**

February 6th, 2018 – Kuujuaq, Quebec – The Kativik Regional Government (KRG) would like to congratulate the Unaaq Men's Association of Inukjuak, a local support group promoting leadership, self-esteem and the passing of traditional knowledge, for their award at the Arctic Inspiration Prize gala on January 31st, 2018, in Ottawa.

KRG Chairperson Jennifer Munick was present to accompany Unaaq's delegation and Makivik president Charlie Watt on stage to receive the coveted \$500,000 prize. In total, over \$2,4 million were shared between eight recipients nominated in three different prize categories.

"From the start, it was very important for us to support the nomination of the Unaaq Men's Association and we are extremely proud of them," said Mrs. Munick. "This initiative is a great example of how locally-based programs can have a significant impact on the integration of Nunavimmiut in their communities by actively involving all generations."

Created in 2001, the Unaaq Men's Association started when a group of men gathered to work on youth issues and find solutions to close the gap between the older and younger generations. Since then, the Association has built strong relationships in Inukjuak by promoting Inuit culture, developing stimulating activities and serving the community.

Elders also play a major role in Unaaq's activities, passing on their knowledge, providing guidance, telling stories and teaching skills on the land. While cultural lessons are held outside or at the office, many of the Association's projects provide work opportunities for elders, men and/or youth.

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The Kativik Regional Government is a public organization created in 1978, under the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement. The organization has jurisdiction over nearly the entire territory of Québec north of the 55th parallel in areas such as municipal matters, transportation, the environment, policing, employment, labour training, income security, childcare services, renewable resources, land-use planning, civil security and economic development.