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Kivalliq Inuit Association
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For Immediate Release **January 7, 2021**

The Kivalliq Inuit Association concludes its 45th Annual General Meeting on January 6, 2021

The Kivalliq Inuit Association staff have been working hard over the last several months in preparation to host our 45th Annual General Meeting and was able to successfully achieve some major milestones during its AGM on January 6, 2021. All of the KIA staff played a large role in shaping the path forward for KIA by tackling some very tough challenges and shaping organizational changes to our bylaws and policies, which are responsive to beneficiary needs and concerns.

All of this was achieved during a pandemic with many added unknown and extraordinary challenges, and changes occurring so rapidly, in an unpredictable and uncertain environment. Some major items were achieved by the KIA Board, include;

1. Approval of the 2020-2021 Audited Consolidated financial statements

2. Approval of the 2021-2022 KIA operational budget.

3. Approval of the KIA Bylaw amendments which include;
    - Updates to voting rights of members and eligibility criteria for KIA directors/officers
    - Added flexibility for acting in situations like COVID-19, other public health emergencies, and other unforeseen events

4. Approval of Election Policy amendments which include;
    - Changes to the Election day procedures, & Election period timelines.
    - Changes to the Eligibility criteria for Voters and for Directors and Officers
    - Changes to remuneration of the Returning Officer
    - NEW mobile polling procedures which support voting at mining camps, high schools and college campuses, as well as communal elders care homes and at hospitals.
    - Changes to allow the Chief Returning Officer to host electronic voting polls in one or more communities.
    - NEW rules which govern campaigning and behavior of candidates during campaigns.

These changes are the first step in KIA's commitment towards our beneficiaries' vision of an inclusive, transparent and accountable organization representing the interests of all Inuit of the Kivalliq.

The Kivalliq Inuit Association is a "Designated Inuit Organization" (DIO), which represents the interests of all Inuit living in the Kivalliq Region, acts as a lobbying group, administers and monitors certain provisions of the Nunavut Final Agreement in the Kivalliq Region. The KivIA mission is to represent, in a fair and democratic manner, Inuit of the Kivalliq Region in the development, protection, administration and advancement of their rights and benefits as an aboriginal people; as well as to promote their economic, social, political and cultural well-being through succeeding generations.

More details about these initiatives can be found at kivalliqinuit.ca/documents or by emailing info@kivalliqinuit.ca