NGC News

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One-year old Logan Flowers, son of Brian and Jane Flowers of Nain, at the unveiling in Goose Bay of two orange-decaled Air Borealis Twin Otters to commemorate the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. (Philip Earle photo)

Nunatsiavut Group of Companies Report Successful 2022

Trust Releases Annual Report to Nunatsiavut Assembly

The Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust reported on a profitable 2022 by the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies at its annual presentation to the Nunatsiavut Assembly on September 20. The surplus from NGC totalled just over $8-million for the year.

Trust Chair Garry Best, Paul Janes of the Trust's accounting firm, Deloitte, NGC CEO Chris Webb, and COO Sarah Leo attended the meeting.

Garry Best told the Assembly that Trustees and NGC have responded positively to previous concerns expressed in the Assembly, including medical housing, which he called "real needs."

"We have made significant investments [in construction]," he told the Assembly. With respect to shore-based marine services, he pointed to purchases of containers and various pieces of equipment "that will assist in cargo delivery."

The LICST Annual Report for 2022, which details all of the activities of NGC, as well as full financial statements, will soon be available online on the NGC website at **ngc-ng.ca.**

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***NGC** News is a publication of the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies.*

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Message from NGC President and CEO Chris Webb

Accountability and transparency are two of the core values of the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies. Simply put, it means that we accept responsibility for the work we do and we account for it by communicating openly with Beneficiaries.

On September 20, I joined Garry Best, Chair of the Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust (LICST), our Chief Operating Officer Sarah Leo, and Paul Janes of the accounting firm, Deloitte, in our annual presentation to the Nunatsiavut Assembly.

We had good news to share. Our investments, and the careful stewardship of our activities guided by the oversight of the LICST, has seen our surplus increase by 486% since 2018. In that year, NGC reported a surplus of just over $1.75 million. In 2022, our surplus was just over $8 million. The credit for this performance is due to our employees, NGC's leadership, and the Trust.

Our appearance at the Assembly is not just an occasion to spread our good news. It's also a chance for members to ask questions. And there were lots of them.

The annual presentation to the Assembly is a major event in our commitment to transparency. (Photo: Sarah Abel)

Members expressed concern about the cost of air travel. Air Borealis has not increased airfares since it was formed. Along with our colleagues on the board, we are always exploring ways to keep airfares affordable. We are dedicated to ensuring that the airline is safe, sustainable, and that it continues to provide essential services at reasonable rates.

There were many questions about the fishery. Members stated their preference that NGC, the Nunatsiavut Government, and Torngat Fish Producers Cooperative work together to maximize employment in the region, including at shore-based plants. NGC is committed to working with all our partners to advance the fishery in Nunatsiavut.

NGC has been working on a plan to establish medical lodging for people from Nunatsiavut who must travel to Upper Lake Melville for medical appointments. Members of the Assembly asked when such a facility would be constructed. A facility would cost up to $25 million and must cover its costs. NGC can only undertake such a project with a commitment from the Nunatsiavut Government to set aside a certain number of rooms for medical travel. We are discussing those issues and are hopeful of a positive outcome.

Our annual presentation to the Assembly is a critical part of NGC's commitment to be accountable to Nunatsiavut Beneficiaries. During this time every year, we also present our audited financial statements which provide an up-to-date picture of our financial position.

This fall, we will travel within Nunatsiavut for community meetings. We also plan to visit high school students to tell them about NGC and the opportunities that exist for qualified employees.

We are committed to keeping you abreast of the exciting things that are happening within the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies.

This newsletter, which is produced four times a year, is another way to keep you informed. Our 2022 Annual Report will be released soon and will be available on the NGC website at **ngc-ng.ca.**

We are a success story. And we are your success story.

Chris

New Cement Truck Key Part to Getting Seniors' Apartments in Place

Photo: Nelson Kierley

NCI's volumetric cement truck, where the ingredients for making cement are mixed at the push of a button, was pressed into action in Nain in September, pouring footings and the foundation for the new seniors' apartments. Once the work is complete in Nain, the truck will be transported to Hopedale to complete work on the footings and foundation for the apartments that will be erected there.

The new truck produces a high volume of cement in a short period of time and that's made the job of getting the footings and foundations in place a much easier and efficient task.

The vehicle manufacturer in the U.S. sent a trainer to Happy Valley-Goose Bay to provide training for the crew that will operate the truck. (NCI Photo)

MODULAR UNITS TO COME BY BARGE

The apartment units are being built at NL Modular in Mount Pearl. The 36 sections will be shipped by barge from St. John's in mid-October.

"We had tight timelines to have these apartments in place," says NCI Construction Manager DJ Elliott. "The deadline was next spring and it would not have been possible to ship all the required material here this season and have the 11 units built and ready for people to move into by that time. It made sense to have the units pre-fabricated and then assembled in Nain and Hopedale late this fall and winter.

Top, prepared site for seniors' apartments in Nain. Below, completed apartment units ready to be shipped. (Photos: Ryan Snow, NCI)

"The truck is a pivotal piece of equipment for NCI," says Elliott. "It's great for this project. It will be an important part of our future projects. It's a game changer for construction on the North.

NG Home Renovation Program Underway

Photos: Levi Nochasak

Thirty-four homes in Nunatsiavut are undergoing repairs by NCI this year under the Affordable Warmth Home Repair Program. The Nunatsiavut Government contracts the program. Homes in all five Nunatsiavut communities are included in this year's program:

Rigolet	***3***
Makkovik	***3***
Postville	***8***
Hopedale	***9***
Nain	***11***

The repairs cover a wide range of work, including roofing, exterior siding and doors, windows, attic insulation, and interior work such as flooring, stairs, drywall, and plumbing.

NCI is completing the majority of the work with all-North Coast work crews and supervisors.

The work is scheduled to be complete by December 31 of this year.

NCI Rock Crushing Project Progressing in Western Labrador

NCI is making steady progress on a rock crushing contract in Western Labrador for Bird Heavy Civil Limited.

"It's a 2-year commitment to provide 50,000 cubic metres of Class B gravel a year," says NCI Construction Manager DJ Elliott. "Besides the jaw crusher and screener and the rest of the crushing equipment, we have two excavators and two loaders on the job."

The rock is being quarried at Kackernac Pit, near Labrador City.

11th Twin Otter in Service

Air Borealis Caps Successful Season with New Contracts

Photos: Julia Penney/Air Borealis/PAL Airlines

From Base Camp in the Torngats to communities up and down Nunatsiavut, from fishing and mining camps in Labrador to the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the coastline off Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, Air Borealis and its flight crews have put in a busy summer season. Busy, and successful.

"The outfitting and mineral exploration seasons were full-on," says Philip Earle, Air Borealis Vice President and Executive-in-Charge. "It was busy in the same way that things were before the pandemic took hold. We had seven helicopters working at various times this summer, in addition to the fixed-wing aircraft servicing fishing camps and mineral exploration sites."

Demand for the airline's services continues to increase. In addition to its core passenger and cargo links between Nunatsiavut, Natuashish, and Goose Bay, Air Borealis recently renewed a 5-year contract to transport mail for Canada Post. That's in addition to similar-length contracts to fly workers and cargo to the Vale mine and the seasonal Right Whale aerial surveys for the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

"All of those factors convinced us that we needed to bring another Twin Otter on stream," says Earle. "We took delivery of that aircraft in August. We now have eleven Twin Otters in our fleet."

PILOT SHORTAGE REMAINS ISSUE

As demand for air service continues to grow, Air Borealis is challenged with an issue nearly everyone in aviation is attempting to solve, the shortage of trained pilots.

"Simply put, there are not enough Canadian pilots going into training to replace those who've been attracted with big salaries to the United States," says Earle. "Making the problem even more severe for small airlines, larger Canadian carriers are recruiting from smaller operations to replace pilots who've gone south of the border. We've been impacted too and are recruiting. It's the ideal time for people to consider aviation as a career. The demand for pilots will continue to increase for some time yet."

AIRLINE RECOGNIZING NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

Air Borealis is honouring the victims and survivors of Canada's residential schools by outfitting two aircraft with orange Air Borealis decals, the colour that has become the symbol for the National Day. The decals were installed on September 15 and will remain in place until October 15.

Air Borealis leaders and staff join Indigenous community representatives for unveiling of the re-decaled tail section of two aircraft. (Air Borealis photo)

"The National Day of Truth and Reconciliation is an important day for this airline," says Earle. Our Inuit and Innu owners make up two-thirds of the ownership of Air Borealis. Residential schools are a painful reality for Indigenous people. We hope that in some way, gestures like ours can help people remember and heal."

TSI's New Human Resources Manager Gets Acquainted with Employees at Vale Site

April Pardy, centre, during her first visit to the Vale site with TSI Operations Manager, Frank Brown (L) and General Manager Wyman Jacque. (TSI Photo)

The employment opportunity at Torngait Services Inc. as Human Resources Manager was a natural fit for April Pardy. After nearly a decade working in Human Resources in the mining industry on the Baie Verte Peninsula, she was up for the challenge of working with a crew that provides essential support to the Vale mining operation.

"Our employees work hard for the company and are so focused," she says. "They maintain the roads in summer and winter, they take care of the airstrip and all the people, luggage, and cargo that comes in by air, and so many other tasks. They are the key to our organization."

FIRST TRIP TO SITE

In late July, Pardy made her first trip to site with General Manager Wyman Jacque and Operations Manager Frank Brown.

"It was an opportunity to see and learn about the site and to see firsthand the big part that TSI plays at the mine. I got to meet employees. It's important to put faces to names. I got to see the work that they do and to appreciate their contribution."

In the first few weeks on the job, Pardy has been immersed in understanding how TSI works, while also being heavily involved in recruiting and hiring for the stone crushing operation that TSI provides for Vale.

FOCUS ON SUPPORTING EMPLOYEES

Pardy's trip to the Vale site was also her first exposure to the accommodations camp at Voisey's Bay. She came away impressed.

"The accommodations and the food were first-rate. This trip was about meeting our employees and have them get to know me. It's key that they know the company supports them in the work that they do. On my next trip in, I will work at site for about a week. I'm hoping to do that three or four times a year."

Pardy says TSI values a diverse and inclusive workforce and much of her work will reinforce that goal.

"Everyone is different and we have to acknowledge and celebrate those differences," she says. "I want to get feedback from our employees. They are the key to our organization."

She believes a successful organization appreciates its employees, a hugely important point in today's job market.

"You can get a job almost anywhere today. It means a lot to employees when they feel appreciated and valued. I got the clear impression on my trip to site that our employees feel that connection to TSI. They feel that support in good times and tough times. That is very important to both our employees and to the company."

Successful Base Camp Season

Photos: Julia Penney, Air Borealis/PAL Airlines

Base Camp was fully booked. The weather cooperated. The NGC Solutions Inc. and Air Borealis collaboration again proved successful in welcoming guests and researchers to the Base Camp at Torngat Mountains National Park.

Planning for this season began as soon as the 2022 season ended.

"There were so many high points for guests," says NGC Chief Operating Officer Sarah Leo. "Being in the Torngats with that breathtaking scenery and fresh air for starters. But it's especially satisfying to have Beneficiaries welcome guests to Nunatsiavut and share this special place with them."

Beneficiaries took the lead in ensuring guests had the experience of a lifetime.

"They were the bear monitors, protecting the camp and accompanying guests on their hikes in the park," says Leo. "Beneficiaries cooked for guests, they cleaned and maintained the camp. And they provided an authentic experience through their performance of Inuit dance, drumming, and stories."

SUCCESSFUL SEASON

The first guests arrived at Base Camp on July 14 and the last group left on September 9, making it the longest ever season for the operation.

"We had 220 guests, which was a record number for Base Camp," says Philip Earle of Air Borealis. "The exceptionally fine weather this summer allowed us to get guests in and out on time, with only one two-day interruption. We got the support crew out of Camp two days after the last guests left. Thanks to everyone, this was a very successful season."

Guests at Base Camp were treated to a full range of entertainment, including Inuit traditional dance and story, and contemporary music.

BENEFICIARIES STOP BY FOR VISITS

Several Beneficiaries from Nain and Hopedale stopped by this season for a visit on their way by boat to and from Hebron, Ramah, and North Arm.

"Many of them had relatives or family working at Base Camp and this turned out to be a very pleasant stopover," says Sarah Leo. "It's pretty much a full day's ride to get to Hebron. Basecamp is a quick stop when travellers are going from Hebron north to other places such as Ramah."

Progress Made in Clearing Debris, Securing Ten Mile Bay Site

The LICST and NGC leaders visit the site of the former quarry at Ten Mile Bay in August 2021. (Janice White photo)

NGC made progress this spring in clearing debris from the former site of the Labradorite quarry at Ten Mile Bay. The site was closed in 2013 because it was not feasible to continue operating. NGC COO Sarah Leo says a work crew removed debris from the site and secured windows and doors on several buildings. NGC continues to work with the Nunatsiavut Government to develop a plan to fully clean up the site.

Cafe and Gift Shop at Illusuak Centre to Reopen when Cleanup Complete

Activation of the fire suppression system at the Illusuak Centre in Nain in July impacted not just the exhibit and meeting spaces, but also forced the closure of the cafe and gift shop, operated by NGC Solutions Inc. NGC COO Sarah Leo says the impact on business is secondary to the safety of staff.

"We're glad staff are safe," she says. "We look forward to welcoming people back when the building is cleaned and reopened. People miss the opportunity to come by for coffee and lunch, and tourists missed out on the chance to visit. But we will be back in operation when it's safe to do so."

Nunak Refreshes Commercial Rental Units

Nunak Land Corporation (NLC) continued work this year to maintain its real estate portfolio, including at the Morhardt Building in Nain (pictured above). Crews painted the building interior and replaced exterior stairs and will install new flooring before the end of this year.

Work was also undertaken to make improvements to the Pulapik boardroom at the Sandbanks Building in Nain, which will be the new home of the Provincial Court.

Before the end of 2023, NLC will begin refreshing the interior of the 3500 sq. ft. Willow Creek Building that houses Department of Health and Social Development offices in Makkovik.

The Keys to a Successful Organization

by Mike Evoy
NGC Human Resources Manager

Janice White photo

I want to thank everyone for the warm welcome that I have received here at Nunatsiavut Group of Companies.

I came from TSI, one of NGC's majority owned companies, and that has made the transition an easy one for me. The friendly, positive, and knowledgeable team at NGC has made my start that much smoother.

As I continue to delve deeper into my role as the new Human Resources Manager, I can already see what has made this company so successful. It is the people who make up our organization.

"The heart of any organization is its people... an organization has to provide the tools that can assist those employees to grow..."

My commitment to NGC and our employees is that I will continue what this organization has done so well, and that is, put our people first.

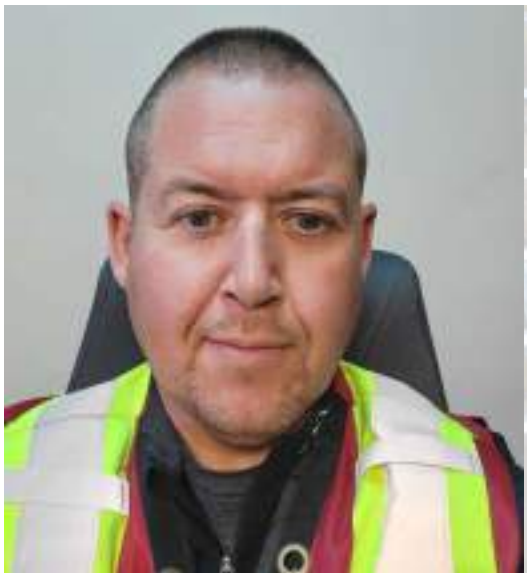
There are three basic things that comprise the principles I use when managing Human Resources. My overall goal is to ensure that NGC and our companies continue to build upon past success in each of those areas.

Recruitment
The heart of any organization its it people. In order to have success, you must find the right people. NGC will continue our commitment to hire qualified local candidates and promote our business in North Coast communities. We will continue educating our youth and coordinating community visits and career fairs to speak about our ongoing and future projects and opportunities.

Learning and Development
Once an organization finds the right people, it has to provide the tools that can assist those employees to grow and develop in their respective field. Whether that is mentoring, job shadowing, training, attending courses or conferences, or learning, employee development is essential to the success of our business.

Company Culture
Employees stay when they are happy. How will we keep our employees happy? The formula is simple. Employees who stay are those who are paid well, mentored, challenged, promoted, involved, listened to, appreciated, valued, empowered, and trusted.

I look forward to getting to know each and every one of you. On the next page, you will get to meet a new member of our team, Shannon Shiwak of Nunatsiavut Construction.



Home and Loving It

NCI's Construction Superintendent, Shannon Shiwak, talks about his new role and the opportunity construction offers to Beneficiaries considering a career.

Shannon Shiwak is no stranger to leaving home for work. Since he left Rigolet in his early 20's for school, he's worked in Nunavut and every province except British Columbia and PEI.

He has a commercial helicopter pilot's license and a trade in welding fabrication, but it's been his construction surveyor's certification that's kept him on the hop across the country.

Shannon couldn't believe his good luck this summer when he saw that Nunatsiavut Construction Inc. was hiring a Construction Superintendent.

"I was working as a construction surveyor at a gold mine in Rainy River, Ontario," he says. "I had been trying for awhile to get back to Labrador. I saw the job come up and applied right away. I've wanted to get into this kind of role in construction and to step away from solely surveying."

BUSY CONSTRUCTION SEASON

As Construction Superintendent, Shannon oversees the various projects to ensure that things are going to plan and that the right equipment and materials are in place to get jobs completed on time.

It's been a busy construction season and he jumped into familiarizing himself with the work.

"In the second week, I went to the North Coast for three days," he says. "That helped me see the work that he we had on the go on the Coast. Being on the ground where the work is happening is an excellent way to understand how the company works."

CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IN DEMAND

Shannon's cross-country work experience has given him a firsthand view of the shortage of qualified workers in the construction trades.

"There are dozens of high paying jobs in surveying alone," he says."I can't count the number of job offers I had this summer. And these were word-of-mouth offers where jobs hadn't even been posted."

That shortage also spells opportunities for people wanting to get into construction trades.

"It was exciting for me to see the opportunity to come back home and to know that I had the skillset," he says. "I've talked with many people over the years who find it a little bit scary to consider leaving home for training. But once you get into training, you start to gain confidence and realize that you can do the work and that you fit in. But you have to make that first move."

Shannon sees the opportunities in construction as a path to careers for other Beneficiaries.

"No matter where you grew up or where you're from, you can further your education and get the job you want," he says. "It's attainable. You have to get out and go after it."

He points to his own path as an example of what can be achieved.

"In Rigolet, there weren't the kind of jobs that I was interested in. It took me leaving to see that," he says. "I actually had my commercial helicopter pilot's license before I had a driver's licence. Now, I'm doing the job that I want."

Behind the Scenes at Nunatsiavut Marine

NMI Customer Service Supervisor and Administrative Manager, Sherry Burdett. (Photo: Jennifer Broomfield)

When the *Kamutik W* sails away from the dock in Goose Bay each Sunday, Sherry Burdett knows that people up and down the coast wait in anticipation for groceries, building supplies, firewood, and getting their vehicles back home.

"I'm from Cartwright and until the highway went through, we also depended on the boat for everything," she says. "There was such excitement when the first boat of the season came in, bringing fresh food and other supplies. It gives me a lot of joy to know that we provide that service for people from Nain to Black Tickle."

As Nunatsiavut Marine's Customer Service Supervisor and Administrative Manager, Burdett has her hand in many of the administrative duties around reservations, freight shipments, and other shore-based activities.

"Each day, I total the daily sales and receipts from the reservations system and freight office and put that information in a spread sheet for Labrador Marine and the government," she says. "On the Coast, all receipts and Bills of Lading are done on paper. When the boat arrives on Friday, I collect that material and enter it into the online system."

She might also have a request from an employee on the Coast for supplies or some safety equipment. It's her job to make sure that's picked up and sent out on the next trip. She also responds to customer queries.

"Sometimes people will ask to speak to a supervisor, and that's me. I try to be understanding and sympathetic. I understand people's disappointment when we're not able to provide what they need. If it's cargo that didn't make it onboard, we will work hard to give it priority on the next sailing."

RESERVATIONS SYSTEM WORKING WELL

In late 2021, NMI implemented a new reservations system with additional phone lines. If the lines are busy, the new system puts callers in a queue and asks them to stay on the line.

"That system is working really well," says Burdett. "Before we put it in place, people would get frustrated with a busy signal and they had to call repeatedly to get through. With three agents on shift, calls are usually answered within a few minutes When we first put it in place, many people would hang up after hearing the recording. Now, they wait. People tell us that they like the system."

NMI Customer service representatives (L-R) Melanie Roy, Jennifer Broomfield, Vanessa Burden, and Mary Pottle. (Photos: Dwayne Canning)

LONG RELATIONSHIP WITH COASTAL SERVICE

Sherry began her career with the marine service in Cartwright in 2003 when the Sir Robert Bond serviced the coast. She moved into her current role after the coastal marine administrative services were moved from Lewisporte in 2019.

When the marine season ends in December, she moves back home to Cartwright, where she works as call-in at the Post Office and library.

"It's pretty quiet in the winter," she says. "I have a wood stove, so I bring in firewood and keep the snow shovelled. And I spend time ice fishing and seeing family. Once May comes, I'm back to work with a company that I love to work for. We are all well appreciated here.

A Day's Work at the NMI Dock in Goose Bay

Photos: Dwayne Canning

Nunatsiavut Marine Inc. is in the fifth year of providing shoreside services for the Labrador Marine Service. These photos capture the activity at the terminal as the crew unloads food and other cargo for shipment north to Nain and south to Black Tickle. NMI employees along the coast unload the shipments and handle shipments back along the route to Goose Bay.

From L-R, NGC Business Analyst Erin Everard, Trustee Catharyn Andersen, Trustee Isabella Pain, Trust Chair Garry Best, NGC President and CEO Chris Webb, NGC COO Sarah Leo, and Trustee Natan Obed. (Photos: NGC)

Trust and NGC Leadership Meet at Base Camp

The Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust and the NGC leadership held their quarterly board meeting at Base Camp near Torngat Mountains National Park in late August.

The Trust approved the financial statements for 2022, which were presented by NGC's accountants. It also received updates on operations so far in 2023. The Trust gave approval for NCI to purchase a critical piece of equipment for its quarry operations.

The next quarterly meeting will take place in early December. At that meeting, the various companies will present their 2024 budget plans for approval.

Chris Webb (left) enjoys some downtime during a break in the meetings with the Trust. At right, Natan Obed was successful in landing an Arctic Char.

2023 Scholarships

Nunatsiavut Group of Companies

NGC awards four scholarships annually, worth $1250 each, to Beneficiaries pursuing post-secondary education and training. The Scholarship Committee reviewed 10 applications for the 2023 awards. We are proud to share their success stories and wish them well in their studies and future careers.

Erin Saunders
Happy Valley-Goose Bay
College of the North Atlantic
Program: Mental Health & Addictions

Erin is a graduate of the Adult Basic Education Program. Informed by her own life experience and her volunteer work with events such as Missing and Murdered Indigenous Awareness Day, Suicide Prevention Walks, and her work at the thrift store in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Erin is entering a post-secondary education program this fall that will be focused on helping others.

From her application:

"Graduating my ABE program was an incredibly memorable experience that impacted my trajectory in life. [It] made me realize and believe that I am able to achieve any of my goals both educationally and otherwise. This NGC Scholarship will help me give back to Nunatsiavut and its communities..."

Chloe recently graduated with a Pastry Arts certificate from Holland College Culinary Institute in PEI. This fall, she will continue her education. An avid community volunteer, she plans to establish a business in Hopedale after graduation.

From her application:

"My goal has always been to open a cafe/bakery. I would use this opportunity to bring the community together by doing things like baking classes, community events and giving the community a social place to sit, relax, and enjoy some baked goods. My cafe/bakery would also create jobs for people in Hopedale. My long term goal is to have a chain of cafes all along the north coast fully staffed by Inuit."

Chloe Dicker
Hopedale
Eastern Academy
Program: Business Administration

2023 Scholarships

Nunasiavut Group of Companies

Kanses Winters
Hopedale
Memorial University
Program: Pre-Engineering

Kanses is entering her first year of studies at Memorial University this fall. Active in her school through programs such as robotics and drama, she is also an avid community volunteer. Her interest in science and engineering developed after she participated in a Students on Ice Foundation learning trip to Sable Island, Cape Breton, and along the coast of Labrador.

From her application:

"This scholarship will help me give back to the community by allowing me to study engineering after my first year of general sciences. I hope to improve the quality of life in my community and the other communities along the coast after graduating and finding a job in this field. And [I] hope to inspire others to look into fields not usually chosen in our region."

Keisha says she's been "blessed" to have two families - her birth family in Nain and her foster family in Roddickton, both of whom have "supported, loved, and nurtured me." A "go-to" person for volunteer roles in her school and community, she's been part of numerous school sports teams, a participant in volleyball in the recent North American Indigenous Games, all while being on the honour roll in her school. Keisha has been a leader in an Indigenous Alliance Group "that helped bring my culture alive for my whole school community`."

From her application:

"...the scholarship...will help me complete my program...I would let students know the importance of getting an education and being independent...I would be a mentor for other Indigenous students."

Keisha Kajuatsiak
Nain (Roddickton)
College of the North Atlantic
Program: Mining Engineering Technician

Trust and NGC at Nunatsiavut Assembly

Top, Labrador Inuit Capital Strategy Trust chair Garry Best, centre left, listens as Paul Janes of Deloitte provides details of the Trust's financial performance in 2022. Bottom left, NGC President and CEO Chris Webb and COO Sarah Leo address the Assembly. Bottom right, the Assembly in session. (Photos: Sarah Abel)

Nunatsiavut Beneficiary Awarded Bird Heavy Civil Scholarship

Nunatsiavut Beneficiary Aaron Porter of Happy Valley- Goose Bay is the recipient of a $1500 scholarship from Bird Heavy Civil Limited. The scholarship is one of three awarded annually to Labrador students of Indigenous descent.

Aaron is enrolled in the firefighting program at Holland College in Prince Edward Island.

"I chose firefighting because I like to help people," he says. "I've always been athletic and being fit is an asset in training as well as on the job. I hope to find work in Happy Valley-Goose Bay when I finish my program."

Bird is a partner with NGC in Timmiak Construction Limited.

Mike Evoy, NGC Human Resources Manager (L) presents the scholarship award to recipient Aaron Porter on behalf of Bird Heavy Civil. (Janice White photo)

Congratulations!

Sevilla is presented with her 30-Year Service Award by NGC President and CEO Chris Webb.

NGC's Longest-Tenured Employee Receives 30-Year Service Award

NGC's Payroll Manager, Sevilla Hope, reached a unique milestone with the Nunatsiavut Group of Companies this summer, achieving 30 years of service with the organization. Her career began in 1993 with NGC's predecessor, the Labrador Inuit Development Corporation (LIDC) as a receptionist.

A career break came in 1996 when LIDC moved from manual payroll to a computer-based system. Sevilla's knowledge of computers placed her in a unique position to move into payroll. She transitioned into a similar role with NGC when it was formed in 2011.

Congratulations on 30 years with NGC!

5-Year Service Award for NGC Executive Assistant

NGC continued its program to honour employees for their years of service this month by recognizing Executive Assistant Janice White's five years with the organization. Janice came to NGC after careers in teaching and public health education. Her role with NGC encompasses everything from arranging travel and meetings to sitting in on partner meetings to liaison with community leaders and organizations.

Janice is presented with her 5-Year Service Award by NGC President and CEO Chris Webb.

The NGC Service Awards acknowledge the contribution of employees to the profitability and sustainability of the 100%-owned companies - NGC Nunatsiavut Inc., NGC Nunatsiavut Construction Inc., Nunatsiavut Marine Inc., NGC Solutions Inc., and Nunak Land Corporation.

Recognition occurs at five year intervals, starting with the fifth year of employment. NGC thanks all of its employees for their effort and dedication.

Golden Games!

NGC Proud to Support Brooklyn Wolfrey's Breaktaking Performance at 8th World Dwarf Games

Brooklyn Wolfrey holds the Canadian flag during the opening ceremonies for the 8th World Dwarf Games, held in Cologne, Germany from July 28 to August 5. Brooklyn won seven medals, gold in badminton singles and doubles and in the 60 and 100 metre races, and bronze in swimming, team soccer, and basketball. (Photos: Dwarf Athletic Association of Canada/Facebook)

Brooklyn Wolfrey is no stranger to winning medals at elite competitions, but her success at the recent World Dwarf Games in Cologne, Germany puts her at a whole new level. She won seven medals, four gold and three bronze, in the 8th edition of the Games which brought hundreds of competitors from more than 20 countries.

"When you're playing against someone that's average height, there's a lot of disadvantages for yourself," she told CBC. "But when you were there [in Germany], it was all equal."

While the Games in Germany were held exclusively for people with dwarfism, Brooklyn has more than held her own in other competitions. She competed at the recent North American Indigenous Games in Halifax, where she won gold and silver in badminton, her favourite sport.

"She's a very strong badminton player," says her grandmother, Charlotte Wolfrey, who accompanied Brooklyn on the trip to Germany. "It was a tiring trip over, especially since Brooklyn had just finished competing at the Games in Halifax. We got there a few days before the Games started, so she had the chance to rest."

GREAT EXPERIENCE

Companies throughout Labrador, including NGC, made donations to help with the thousands of dollars it cost to get to the Games.

"It was an amazing experience, apart from the competition," says her grandmother. "She formed new friendships with people from other parts of Canada and the U.S. She also reconnected with people that she first met at the Games in Guelph in 2017, when she was just 9."

Brooklyn, who is in Grade 10 this fall, would like to pursue a career in nursing. But for now, it's back with her friends and the community that is proud of her achievements.

"I knew there was a parade planned for her when we arrived home," says her grandmother. "I didn't tell her. I wanted it to be a surprise. We cried when we arrived and saw that people were so supportive. That welcome really put the icing on the cake."

Light Show

With its northerly location and little in the way of light pollution, the Vale mine site at Voisey's Bay is an excellent place to view the Northern Lights. Kirby Hancock, a TSI supervisor on the mine expansion project, captured these photos near the 5.2 rock cut. They were taken with an iPhone, using Night mode. The top photo was taken on February 12, 2022 and the ones below on April 24 and 25, 2023. (Photos: Kirby Hancock)