



## TUNGASUVVINGAT INUIT CONCLUDES 34<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021

OTTAWA, ON - [Tungasuvvingat Inuit](#) (TI) is pleased to announce the successful completion of our 34th Annual General Meeting in Ottawa, Ontario on Thursday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The annual meeting was held virtually for the second year due to COVID-19.

The AGM was well attended (virtually) by Inuit community, TI staff and stakeholders and partners. A variety of presentations showcasing the incredible achievements of program service and delivery while placing a spotlight on the growth at TI in 2020 – 2021 were applauded by all who attended. As the urban Inuit community grows across [Ontario](#), TI has worked hard to match the demands. TI now employees the largest number of employees it ever has in its 34-year history. As the urban Inuit community grows, the demand for more employees to deliver programs grows and the need for more funding also increases. TI has never been tested like we have this past year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. TI and our teams were able to pivot and successfully deploy critical programming and service delivery like food security, housing assistance, cultural supports, employment training, human trafficking intervention and much more. [The Board of Directors](#) and management team express extreme gratitude and respect to our staff that have made considerable sacrifices to ensure supports were available for urban Inuit to access.

In his year end address, TI Board of Director President, Kaajuk Kablalik stated, “In our lifetime, we have never witnessed the kinds of challenges we have faced since late 2019. The pandemic has threatened our urban Inuit community in many ways. The courage and strength of the people at TI came together and we could not be prouder of the effort, the resiliency, and the level of innovation that it took to push through.” Executive Director, Amanda Kilabuk highlighted the significant work TI accomplished despite the health challenges at hand saying, “As an organization, we strengthened our relationships with our Indigenous partners, participated on provincial and federal tables on topics like the [Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women National Action Plan](#). Throughout the vaccination engagement process, TI contributed using an urban Inuit lens in collaboration with [The Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health](#) in Ottawa, [Ottawa Public Health](#) and [Ontario Public Health](#). We successfully hosted a pop-up vaccination clinic and provided barrier free access to the vaccine.

TI is very much looking forward to 2022 and our 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary providing programs and services to Inuit in Ottawa and Ontario. It started with a dream and a small original funding base of \$80,000. 34 years later we are funded to over \$10,000,000 annually. Ontario’s Inuit population has grown from under 100 in 1987 to estimates of 6000+ in Ontario. Most of these individuals have either personally accessed or had a family member access services or programming that is offered by TI. To match the growing urban Inuit population, TI will be diligent as we continue to invest in partnerships that will provide much-needed funding to build supports in Ottawa and Ontario.

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Tungasuvvingat Inuit is the only Inuit-specific service organization of its kind in Canada offering 20+ highly integrated, front-line programs and services to urban Inuit in Ontario. Tungasuvvingat Inuit is a one-stop resource centre to meet the rapidly growing, complex, and evolving needs of Inuit in Ontario and is recognized as a leading advocate for urban Inuit and is prominent within the framework of national Inuit organizations