

## **Nunavut Adult Learning Strategy**

Jurisdiction: Nunavut

Contact: Bruce Rigby

Level: Adult Learning

Theme: Government and Board Policies

### Description of Practice:

The Government of Nunavut in conjunction with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (the Nunavut Land Claims Body) jointly undertook the development of an Adult Learning Strategy for the territory. This 20 year strategy and associated implementation plan outlines major structural and fundamental changes to post-secondary and adult learning structures for the territory. The strategy is developed using *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit (Inuit traditional values)* and is based on extensive consultation with communities, organizations, and learners. The Strategy was developed by a working group drawn from a range of adult learning organizations including College, AHRDA holders, Inuit organizations, the Nunavut Literacy Council and municipalities.

### Background:

When established in 1999, Nunavut inherited a patchwork quilt of programs and services in the area of adult and post-secondary services. Many of these programs originated with the federal government, with residential schools, with the Government of the Northwest Territories, among other delivery groups. A key element to these programs was that they were, by and large, prescriptive or supply side driven, and rarely taking into account the needs of the individual learner, or that of the community.

### Development:

The Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated entered into an agreement to cooperatively develop a model for the development and delivery of adult services within the territory, and to involve the community in that development. Through wide ranging consultations with Elders, communities, employers, and many others, the Strategy was developed to address many of the issues affecting the timely and efficient delivery of services, while reflecting Inuit societal values.

### Evidence:

The resulting Strategy and Implementation Plan include new approaches on reporting success to Nunavummiut directly through the Legislative Assembly. The Strategy has also focussed on the development of Quality Assurance attributes, and key performance indicators which are reflective of Inuit values, while in the context of national standards. Implementation of the Strategy has begun, involving a wide range of agencies across the territory.

### Adaptability:

The methodology used in developing the strategy, the inclusion of Inuit values and needs, and the development of a strategy which fits into a national context could provide a basis for other jurisdictions. The engagement of the community has been critical in making the strategy a reality.

Further information:

Bruce Rigby  
Senior Advisor, Adult Learning  
Department of Education  
Government of Nunavut  
[brigby@gov.nu.ca](mailto:brigby@gov.nu.ca)