



January 17, 2024

Helen Klengenberg
Chair, Board of Governors
Nunavut Arctic College
Box 600
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0.

Minister Daniel Qavvik
Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College
Legislative Building of Nunavut
926 Federal Road Iqaluit, NU
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Re: Board of Governors' Response to Letter of Expectation 2023-24

Dear Minister Qavvik:

On behalf of the Nunavut Arctic College Board of Governors (Board), I am pleased to provide this response to the Letter of Expectation for 2023-24. I thank you for outlining the priorities and goals for Nunavut Arctic College (NAC) in the new fiscal year. The Board looks forward to working with you and the Executive team towards achieving these priorities and goals.

The Board has reviewed the Government of Nunavut's *Katujjiluta* mandate, and we share the vision of reinvesting in education. The College business plan speaks specifically to the importance of healthcare and treatment and developing a skilled and engaged workforce, including in social work and nursing.

The College has a history of solid accountability and financial management and will stive to continue this. The College is working on implementing its Student Information System and will use this tool to support reporting on meaningful performance indicators.

The College continues to explore options to increase its Inuit employment across the various employment categories. The College understands that the development of instructional capacity of Inuit currently in or moving into instructor positions in the professional category of employment is contingent on the achievement of higher levels of educational attainment. The College will work with its University partner, Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador, to explore program opportunities into Masters level credentials to support the range of skills, education and experience currently held by staff at the College.

Regarding long term strategic planning, many of the items stressed in your letter will be addressed in the strategic priorities similar to those noted in our current Business Plan. To implement the strategic priorities, the Board encourages the College to continue its pursuit of partnerships and opportunities to collaborate with others, both in Nunavut and beyond. So much of our program offerings depend upon third party contributions. Through our partnership with Memorial University, there has been, and will continue to be, an expansion of opportunities for our students, educators, and researchers.

In regard to working with GN departments and other employers to identify specific program opportunities, NAC had significant support for three of its programs for the 2023-2024 academic year: the expansion of the Nunavut Teacher Education Program, the Licensed Practical Nurse Program and the Computer Systems Technician program. Expansion of programs into additional communities has been developed through opportunities from third party funding and working closely with departments and employers, most notably for the Nunavut Teacher Education Program. The decentralized delivery model of this program will serve as an important lesson for the College, and all Nunavut stakeholders interested in supporting training and education in Nunavut communities.

Accessibility as an educational institution and Inuktitut Language are building blocks of the College . The College will continue to work to meet its responsibilities under the *Official Languages Act*. The College will work towards implementing these priorities as well as provide Inuktitut training that will compliment the labour force needs for other Departments to implement the *Act*.

In the area of financial accountability and expectations, the Board is fortunate to currently have a member who is a professional accountant. He remains in touch with the College's Chief Financial Officer and reviews financial documents prior to meetings, so we are well informed when making decisions. The College strives to fulfill its financial reporting obligations and meet its deadlines; it has tended to receive favorable reports from the Office of the Auditor General and any issues noted have been addressed in a timely manner. The Board works with the Chief Financial Officer and the College's Finance and Administrative team to ensure that the College's financial obligations are being met as required.

The Board also seeks to support the administration of the College. NAC's participation on the Territorial Corporations Committee will provide an opportunity for the corporations to collaborate and will promote consistency in meeting reporting requirements. Both our Director of Policy and our Chief Financial Officer participate on this committee on behalf of the College.

Additionally, NAC will work with the Department of Finance to establish a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Nunavut. This will clarify the respective roles and responsibilities for our organizations, independently and in working together.



In closing, I would like to thank you for sharing your high expectations and priorities with us. The Board and the College will strive to realize them to the best of our ability, although we are somewhat hampered by many staff and faculty vacancies. We also strive to realize the visions for community development, education and training set out in *Katujjiluta*. At the same time, we aspire to contribute and to meet the expectations and standards of other academic institutions, particularly in Canada and the circumpolar world.

Minister Qavvik, the Board members look forward to an opportunity to meet with you. We especially look forward to the time when we can share our strategic priorities with you.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Klengenber
Chair, Nunavut Arctic College Board of Governors

Cc: Rebecca Mearns, President, Nunavut Arctic College
Daniel Young, Deputy Minister, Department of Finance