

Inuit Art Foundation Strategic Plan 2019–2023

Inuit Art
FOUNDATION



Executive Summary

The Inuit Art Foundation is dedicated to supporting Inuit artists. Its programs and programming are developed in response to community needs. Program development is always led by Inuit feedback and guided by Inuit knowledge. The IAF embraces diversity and innovation, creating new paths to sustainable support that are transformational for Inuit artists and their art.

The Inuit Art Foundation's strategic plan provides a path to ensure the IAF lives its values and achieves its goals of:

- Providing access to the work being produced by Inuit.
- Building dedicated platforms for popular and scholarly discussions of art by Inuit.
- Directly supporting artistic development.
- Advocating with and serving the needs and interests of Inuit artists throughout Canada.

This plan sets the framework for a four-year operational plan that focuses on expanding services for and benefits to artists and ensuring long-term sustainability for the artform and its creators.

ABOVE
Niap drum dancing at the
opening of her exhibition.
COURTESY OBORO
PHOTO ROMAN GUILBAULT, 2018



Inuit leadership is critical to ensuring the future of Inuit art. The IAF will expand and deepen its partnerships with Inuit artists, organizations, governments and associations to ensure all programs developed serve the needs of Inuit artists and are directed by Inuit artists. The IAF seeks to create a culture of inclusivity and engagement—for and by Inuit—and to amplify cultural resiliency through art and self-determination.

The IAF wants to ensure exposure for art being created by Inuit in the North and the South. Ensuring Inuit art is included in the global discussion about fine art is important. Through existing programs— the *Inuit Art Quarterly*, the Inuit Art Database, Igloo Tag Trademark, Virginia Watt Scholarship and Kenojuak Ashevak Memorial Award—as well as yet-to-be-developed programs, the IAF will seek to be a trusted and impartial international voice for Inuit art. These integrated programs will be comprehensive in offerings to emerging and established artists, as well as important stakeholders.

A network of allies who believe in making a difference to the future of Inuit art is critical in perpetuating the artform. We hope allies will participate, advocate and donate to benefit Inuit artists, curators and art professionals, and programs that perpetuate and celebrate Inuit art. The IAF seeks to increase audiences, as well as the number of users, donors and beneficiaries, by deepening relationships with and between stakeholders in the IAF family. Additionally, the IAF will attract new audiences, and diversify audiences and users by expanding offerings and the presence in the North.

- Growth in the number of artists, students, curators, writers, arts administrators and other supporters participating in programs and programming, with particular emphasis on increasing Inuit participation across Inuit Nunangat.
- Increased diversity of Inuit Art Foundation programs, guided by the needs of Inuit artists and arts professionals.
- Increased presence in the North, with staff, advocates and partners throughout Inuit Nunangat.
- Increased number of *Inuit Art Quarterly* subscribers.
- Increased loyalty of donors to support operations and special projects.
- Numbers of Inuit art supporters and advocates of a new generation.
- Satisfied artists and collectors.

Inuit Art Foundation prioritizes the needs of artists, and greatly values the input and needs of all current stakeholders, including artists, arts workers, art critics, collectors, curators, distributors, gallerists and leaders in arts communities. The Foundation understands that as the industry evolves, so may its stakeholders.