



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAJOR MILESTONE FOR ARCTIC INSPIRATION PRIZE

All four Inuit regions of Canada now on board with new team members from Inuvialuit, Nunavik and Nunatsiavut joining AIP team members from Nunavut

Ottawa, ON, October 31, 2014 - The Arctic Inspiration Prize (AIP) is proud to announce the newest members of its expanding team of Selection Committee, Partners and Ambassadors.

Nellie Cournoyea, Chair and CEO of Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, and **Jobie Tukkiapik**, President of Makivik Corporation have joined the Selection Committee that will choose the Laureates of the \$1 million Arctic Inspiration Prize.

The **Nunatsiavut Group of Companies**, the **Kativik Regional Government** and **Makivik Corporation** have joined the Arctic Inspiration Prize as financial partners. The Kativik Regional Government continues to serve as Ambassador for the Arctic Inspiration Prize and has been joined by **Makivik Corporation**, the **Nunatsiavut Regional Government**, and the **Labrador North Chamber of Commerce**. The AIP also welcomes the **Great Northern Arts Festival**, the **Nunatsiavut Regional Government** and **Avataq Cultural Institute** who will provide their expertise as art advisors for their respective regions of Inuvialuit, Nunatsiavut and Nunavik.

"All four Inuit regions of Canada have now joined and taken the lead in the Arctic Inspiration Prize initiative," said Arnold Witzig, AIP co-founder. "In less than three years, the value and importance of the AIP has been recognized," added Witzig.

About the Arctic Inspiration Prize

Founded in 2012, the \$1 million AIP recognizes and promotes the extraordinary contribution made by diverse teams in the gathering of Arctic knowledge, and their plans to implement this knowledge to real world applications for the benefit of the Canadian Arctic, Arctic Peoples, and therefore Canada as a whole. To-date, seven teams have been awarded prizes totalling \$2 million to support innovative, sustainable, multi-disciplinary projects that will have long-term positive impacts in Arctic communities. In addition to the financial prize, recipients are presented with original artwork created by northern artists.

Along with the \$1 million prize money provided by the founders of the AIP, there are three equally important and essential branches of the AIP team that contribute to the success and longevity of the Prize: the Selection Committee, Partners and Ambassadors. The twelve-member **Selection Committee**, comprised of individuals known for their commitment to the Canadian Arctic and its Peoples, makes a unique contribution to the Prize by determining the successful recipients. **AIP Partners** provide critical financial, infrastructure, and in-kind support and knowledge to the Prize. **AIP Ambassadors** serve as spokespersons for the Prize, broadening awareness, actively seeking out teams and projects, mentoring and assisting teams to apply for the Prize, nominating teams, and celebrating their achievements.

2014 Arctic Inspiration Prize

The nomination process for the 2014 Arctic Inspiration Prize is now closed. The AIP Screening Committee will provide its shortlist of nominees on November 3 and the 12-member Selection Committee will choose the 2014 Laureates on November 13.

Arctic Inspiration Prize Awards Ceremony

Co-hosted by Eva Aariak and Peter Mansbridge, and with a keynote address by the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, the Arctic Inspiration Prize Awards Ceremony will take place in Ottawa on December 10th in conjunction with the international Arctic Change 2014 conference.

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