



# A SPECIAL TRIBUTE to Mark Kalluak

## Atuqtuarvik Corporation Dedicates Its Building



Atuqtuarvik Corporation is an Inuit-owned investment company that was established in 2000 to help ensure direct Inuit participation in major economic opportunities in Nunavut. For the last 17 years, it has successfully provided debt and equity financing to viable Inuit businesses for start-ups, acquisitions and expansions. In addition, the corporation

Mr. Kalluak was an advocate for the people through the time he devoted to the Hamlet Council as Mayor of Arviat, as a teacher and adult educator, as an interpreter-translator (he translated the New Testament into Inuktitut), a small business owner and a storyteller/author. His significant contributions were recognized when he was presented with the Order of Nunavut as well as the Order of Canada for his lifetime achievements.

introduced new financial services to Nunavummiut through its strategic investment in FNBC (the First Nations Bank of Canada) as a majority shareholder.

In May 2017, the corporation held its Building Dedication Ceremony. It flew in some of Mr. Kalluak's family to Rankin Inlet to share in the very special event. Instead of the customary practice of a ribbon cutting ceremony, Atuqtuarvik Corporation invited the family to collect stones from Arviat and bring them to Rankin Inlet. As part of the ceremony, the family placed the rocks as the base for an Inukshuk, representing a solid foundation for Atuqtuarvik Corporation. Board members joined in and also placed rocks on the Inukshuk to signify the 'raising' of the building. This ceremony and the meaning of the Inukshuk is special to Atuqtuarvik Corporation because it symbolizes the corporation and Inuit businesses moving forward in a positive and progressive direction. This Inukshuk is now showcased in the Atuqtuarvik Corporation Board Room in the recently named "Mark Kalluak Building".

Since its beginning, the corporation had the goal of one day constructing and owning its own office building to develop its assets rather than pay rent. After much planning, it became a reality in February 2013 when the corporation opened its office building. The vision of the Board of Directors led to a quality building being the new home of the corporation in Rankin Inlet, Nunavut. It was an exciting achievement.

In 2016, the Board of Directors decided it was the time to name the building after a leading Inuk who contributed to the communities and people of Nunavut. It was a comprehensive search because there were many Inuit who embodied the spirit of contributing and giving back to Nunavut in their lives. Since Atuqtuarvik Corporation provides financing to Inuit businesses Nunavut-wide, Directors considered various Inuit from across the territory. After much deliberation, Directors decided to dedicate the building to commemorate the work of the late Mr. Mark Kalluak of Arviat, Nunavut.

During the ceremony, Mark's son, Kevin Kalluak spoke of his father and how he portrayed integrity, passion and worked hard in everything he did. Atuqtuarvik Corporation is devoted to ensuring Mark's qualities are carried on by conducting its business with that passion, care and dedication to its clients and shareholders. Sheila Napayok, Mr. Kalluak's daughter, added "All my siblings are very honoured that the Board members have chosen our Dad's name for the new building."



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