

Katimavik



ANNUAL REPORT

2018 - 2019

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OUR HISTORY

Katimavik is a registered charity that engages Canadian youth through volunteer work. Katimavik provides opportunities for young Canadians to participate in five to six-month periods of community service throughout the country via the acclaimed National Experience program. It was founded in 1977 by the late Senator Jacques Hébert and Honourable Barney Danson, a former Minister of National Defence, as a way for young people to learn the value of civic engagement while getting introduced to the diversity of the country.



OUR MISSION

Katimavik's mission is to develop diverse youth as engaged, caring citizens and capable contributors and leaders for a better Canada.

Katimavik collaborates with other organizations to foster understanding, respect and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples and with Canada's other diverse cultures, regions and the environment.

OUR VISION

Diverse, engaged, and empowered youth working together to create just relationships and transform communities, the environment and themselves for a better Canada.



LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This was an exciting year for Katimavik, one that saw the Organization grow and make important advances in our programming.

In July, the acclaimed National Experience program relaunched in six dynamic communities across the country as part of the Canada Service Corps. For over four decades the National Experience has provided an environment for tens of thousands of young Canadians to develop into capable and engaged leaders.

The first cohorts went extremely well and we were thrilled with the excitement and engagement of local organizations and community members. Participants volunteered with community-serving organizations across the country and gained practical life skills over the five-month program.

Beyond that, Truth and Reconciliation learning was a central component of their experience. As part of this process, the youth spent at least one day a week working through an online learning platform focused on actioning Reconciliation as the basis of this curriculum and learning from Indigenous organizations and leaders in their communities. The success of the relaunched program reaffirmed that Katimavik's model for youth engagement remains relevant and effective in building both community and youth leadership.

Katimavik is thankful to our participants, alumni, funders, and everyone else who has helped shape the organization. We appreciate all of you for your time, generosity, and support in such an important period of our history. We are extremely optimistic about our future and look forward to another great year ahead!

M I I G W E T C H , M E R C I , T H A N K Y O U



SAGA WILLIAMS
Acting Chair, Katimavik Board of Directors

KATIMAVIK RELAUNCH

6

COMMUNITIES ACROSS CANADA

132

PARTICIPANTS

66

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
ORGANIZATIONS THAT HOSTED
VOLUNTEER PLACEMENTS

OVER

58,000

VOLUNTEER HOURS

OVER

120

HOURS OF TRUTH AND
RECONCILIATION LEARNING
PER GROUP



In January 2018, Katimavik was relaunched through the Canada Service Corps, Canada's national youth service initiative that operates through Employment and Social Development Canada. Katimavik alumni and supporters around the country celebrated the news while numerous news stories appeared about the organization's role and impact in Canadian communities since it was founded in 1977 by the late Senator Jacques Hébert and late Honourable Barney Danson.

MEDIA COVERAGE



Katimavik is back and is coming for your kids



Katimavik is back opening minds and teaching reconciliation, Calgary volunteer says



Liberals aim to 'instil culture of service' with new national youth initiative



Trudeau lance un nouveau programme jeunesse à l'image de «Katimavik»

During the first half of 2018, staff worked tirelessly in preparing for the relaunch of the new Katimavik National Experience. They developed strong community partnerships across the country, focused recruiting efforts on diversity, hired and trained project leaders, updated various program materials, and prepared the houses to welcome Participants.

The first cohort of the new Katimavik National Experience began in July 2018 followed by a second cohort in January, 2019. 66 Participants lived in Katimavik houses in Nanaimo, British Columbia; Calgary, Alberta; Winnipeg, Manitoba; Sudbury, Ontario; Quebec City, Quebec; and Moncton, New Brunswick. Leaders in each location engaged with Katimavik groups to foster the meaningful relationships, civic engagement, and community building that the program is known for.



As part of the relaunched program, Participants spent at least one day each week focused on learning about Truth and Reconciliation. The education included individual reflection, experiential activities, online resources, and group projects. Katimavik groups also regularly attended events hosted by Indigenous communities and organizations where this learning continued. For example, in Sudbury the group worked with a local Indigenous activist and artist, Bruce McComber, to install a 32 by 12 foot sign alongside Ramsay Lake in Sudbury to identify and honour the traditional Indigenous name (Bitimagamasing — which translates from Anishnaabemowin to “water that lies beside the hill”).

Through the relaunch of the National Experience it was clear that the Katimavik model for service remains a valuable approach to engage youth and allow Participants to develop employment and life skills. The five-month duration of each cohort has been key to the success of the program, allowing Participants time to develop skills incrementally.

The opportunity to experience life in two communities has also been demonstrated as a cornerstone of the experience. Youth have the opportunity to build relationships and learn about realities in two distinct parts of the country while developing a deeper understanding of regional diversity.

Participants in the National Experience gained opportunities for friendship, adventure, learning, and development they would likely not have had without the program. It is a life changing experience for young people to learn about sustainability, local issues, and the importance of Truth and Reconciliation, while also gaining skills in leadership, employment, and teamwork. They make lifelong friends, build their confidence, learn about Canada’s geography and diversity, and how to challenge themselves to overcome barriers.

TRUTH & RECONCILIATION

Victoria Yang, 24, Moncton/Sudbury

Before joining the Katimavik National Experience, Victoria from Waterloo, Ontario had read up on Canada's colonial history and was aware of some of the realities faced by Indigenous youth today — but that proved very different than learning hands-on from face-to-face encounters. She found the emphasis on experiential learning a truly "transformative" aspect of her experience.

"The program provided me with the opportunity to listen to, learn from, and engage with Indigenous communities across the country," she said.

Through hearing the varying perspectives of Indigenous participants in her group and attending ceremonies such as sweat lodges and the Sundance, she was struck by the facts and figures she had previously heard of, now brought to life. Not to mention, the diversity of different Indigenous nations and communities had never been so clear.

For their final community project, Project Bitimagamasing, Victoria's group collaborated with community organizer Bruce McComber to erect a billboard overlooking Ramsey Lake in Sudbury, Ontario, reflecting its traditional Anishinaabemowin name. Victoria helped spearhead communications for the project, which included writing the press release and photographing the launch event. "It reaffirmed my commitment to making positive impacts moving forward," she shared. Upon finishing Katimavik, Victoria moved to Brussels, Belgium to work as a Multimedia Library Intern with NATO. She is now pursuing a master's degree in Library and Information Science.



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Bryler Giroux, 19, Calgary/Quebec

Before joining the National Experience, Bryler, who is from Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan, was engaged in transgender rights activism in Regina. Through Katimavik, he took his advocacy to a new level. As a transgender Cree youth from Pasqua First Nation who had regularly practiced smudging, a ceremony of spiritual cleansing, Bryler first took the initiative to set up this ceremony at the Katimavik house for his group. He also consistently fostered questions and conversations about trans issues and identity among his fellow participants. In fact, his weekly testosterone shots in the living room soon became a staple of their Katimavik experience. After completing the program, Bryler was selected as one of three Canada Service Corps youth delegates to attend the United Nations Sixty-Third Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63 2019) at their headquarters in New York City, where he got to attend panels on issues like transgender rights.



"This program was absolutely life changing," Bryler said of his Katimavik experience. "I learned more about myself than I think I could have in years. You come home, a new person with a whole new view on the world."

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Segen Mehreteab, 23, Quebec/Calgary

Eight years ago, Segen chose to go vegetarian for environmental reasons. Sustainability has always been a subject close to her heart, and she brought that commitment to eco-stewardship with her when she joined the Katimavik National Experience. With other Volunteers in her group, she sought out opportunities for environmental workshops and brought in community members to teach participants how to grow their own garden. The herbs and tomato plants in the backyard of the Calgary house are still blooming!



Together, the group also learned to make sourdough, attended a sustainable fashion panel, and undertook a waste-free week challenge. Everyday conversations about food waste and responsible meat consumption even encouraged one member to go vegetarian during the program. Segen enjoyed taking a leadership role in these talks, particularly concerning consumer habits.

“In terms of diet, clothing, technology,” she said. “There are so many ways I try to be conscious of who I’m buying from, whether I really need it.”

Just as she helped plan the group’s camping trip to Banff, Alberta, Segen spent her months after Katimavik portaging with Project Canoe. In this job, she took youth facing socioeconomic barriers to Algonquin Park, a natural space they would not otherwise have access to.

“If you have a connection to or appreciation of nature, you’ll want to protect it,” she said.

Segen aims to study social work and credits Katimavik with helping her see all the ways to get involved right at home.

“I used to be entirely uninspired by Mississauga,” she said of her Ontario hometown. “After Katimavik, I see opportunities that exist here already, both in environmental work and other non-profit work. There are so many ways to be involved. I see change as so much more attainable.”

EMPLOYMENT SKILLS

Raphaël Darveau, 20, Calgary/Quebec

Raphaël from Varennes, Québec, dropped out of high school at 17. Like many other young adults, he struggled with seeing the real-life application of complicated grammar lessons and opted instead to work in manual labour.



“I was a welder before Katimavik,” he shared, “but I didn’t like it. I was unhappy, and honestly doing a lot of drugs in my basement.”

With little direction on where to go next, he agreed when his aunt and mother urged him to join the National Experience. He hoped to get out of his routine — and he achieved just that. Raphaël’s life turned especially when he arrived in Quebec City. There, he volunteered with L’Arche Étoile, a Katimavik community partner that works with people living with intellectual deficiencies in a live-in environment. He fell in love with the homely atmosphere of the non-profit’s residences, which create a sense of family. From taking walks with the residents, to accompanying them to the hospital, to helping make dinner, Raphaël never missed a single day of work.

He was such an engaged and dutiful Volunteer that towards the end of his time in Katimavik, L’Arche Étoile offered him a full-time live-in job with the organization, doing similar duties with a touch more responsibility. He signed the contract before leaving the program and moved weeks later to begin his new chapter.

Raphaël is still happily working with L’Arche Étoile in Quebec City. In talking about his Katimavik experience, he not only shares how it much changed his life career-wise but also how he treasures “all the friendships” he made.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of
KATIMAVIK YOUTH SERVICES

QUALIFIED OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of KATIMAVIK YOUTH SERVICES (the Organization), which comprise the balance sheet as at March 31, 2019, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion section of our report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at March 31, 2019, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

BASIS FOR QUALIFIED OPINION

In common with many charitable organizations, we were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding donations and fundraising. Consequently, we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to those revenues, excess of revenues over expenses and net asset.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF MANAGEMENT AND THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organization's financial reporting process.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

APSV Chartered Professional Accountants inc.

APSV Chartered Professional Accountants inc.
Montreal, December 23, 2019

**KATIMAVIK YOUTH SERVICES
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2019**

	2019	2018
REVENUES		
National experience	\$ 1,565,869	\$ 79,823
Revenues - Eco-stage Project	138,231	384,799
Fundraising	81,658	-
Contributions from other organizations	12,915	4,358
Donations from individuals	9,025	7,845
Other revenues	3,797	3,173
Contribution from Indigenous youth in transition	-	485,000
Contributions in services from a firm	-	6,032
	<u>1,811,495</u>	<u>971,030</u>
EXPENSES		
Salaries and benefits	737,435	550,910
Travel expenses	265,186	41,728
Rent	177,137	3,552
Food	121,561	584
Office expenses	100,989	11,690
Professional fees	59,072	105,774
Pocket money and persistence bonus	52,403	1,663
Training, recruitment and development	38,718	8,345
Complementary activities	29,599	-
Assurances	22,100	1,247
Other	4,765	8,402
Interests and bank fees	4,182	1,679
Depreciation of fixed assets	2,090	1,547
Expenses — Eco-stage Project	-	202,383
Expenses — Indigenous youth in transition	-	142,123
	<u>1,615,237</u>	<u>1,091,627</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	<u>\$ 196,258</u>	<u>\$ (120,597)</u>

**KATIMAVIK YOUTH SERVICES
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2019**

	2019	2018
BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 75,951	\$ 196,548
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	196,258	(120,597)
BALANCE, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 272,209</u>	<u>\$ 75,951</u>

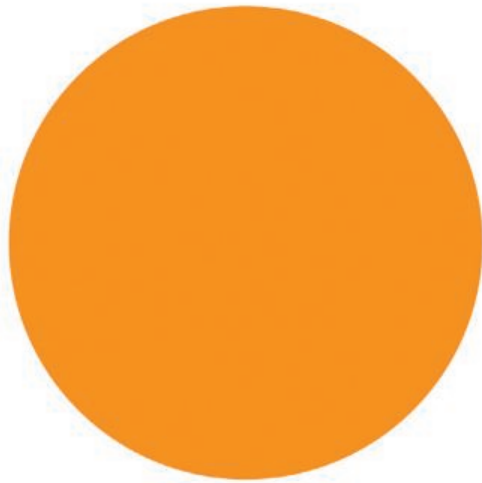
COMMUNITY PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

- Accueil francophone
- Akinoomoshin Inc.
- AmiEs de la Terre de Québec (ATQ)
- Bethlehem Centre
- Better Beginnings Better Futures
- Calgary Food Bank
- Calgary Queer Arts Society
- Centre Accueil Nouveaux Arrivants Francophone (Francophone Newcomers Centre)
- Centre Flavie-Laurent Inc.
- Clay Tree Society
- CNIB/INCA New Brunswick
- Festival du Voyageur Inc.
- Growing Opportunities Farm Community Coop
- Habitat for Humanity ReStore
- Habitat pour l'humanité / Habitat for Humanity Moncton Area (Habitat ReStore)
- Hospice Greater Moncton
- Independent Living Resource Centre corp.
- Inn from the Cold
- Island Crisis Care Society
- Jouisouthèque Basse-Ville
- L'Arche l'Étoile
- La Baratte
- La Patente
- La Radio communautaire du Manitoba Inc. / Envol 91 FM
- Le Club Garçons & Filles de Dieppe / Boys & Girls Club of Dieppe
- Les Habitations du Centre multiethnique de Québec
- Literacy Central Vancouver Island
- MAGMA-AMGM (L'Association Multiculturelle du Grand Moncton)
- Manitoba Indigenous Cultural Education Centre
- Métis Nation of Alberta
- Moisson Québec
- Musée canadien pour les droits de la personne / Canadian Museum for Human Rights
- Nanaimo Aboriginal Centre
- Nanaimo Foodshare
- Nanaimo Women's Resources Society
- NISA/Northern Initiative for Social Action
- Northern Lights Festival Boreal
- PECH (Programme Encadrement Clinique Hébergement)
- Sagesse
- Société de la Rivière St-Charles
- Sudbury and District OSPCA
- United Way Moncton
- Wahbung Abinoonjiiag Inc.
- Winnipeg Harvest
- Women's Centre of Calgary
- YWCA Moncton
- YWCA Québec

KATIMAVIK IS GRATEFUL FOR THE GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS AND SUPPORT OF ITS PARTNERS



Katimavik



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