

Nunamin Illihakvia: *learning from the land*

Helen Kalvak Elihakvik On-the-Land Programs

01 FEB 2019 - *Friday*

What did you do?

Winter camping and seal hunting: set up a camp on the sea ice with a *tupik* (tent), snow blocks, stoves, tea and food, and set a seal hook in an *aglu* (seal breathing hole).

Where did you go?

Nanualuk and sea ice

Who were the hunter-mentors?

1. Allen Pogotak
2. Roger Memorana
3. Danny Taptuna
4. Kelly Nigiyok

Who were the students and what were their roles?

1. Markus Kuptana (leadership)
2. Teegan Okheena (leadership)
3. Devon Notaina (leadership)
4. Alexandria Banksland (photography)
5. Lucy-Ann Okheena (leadership)
6. Trent Kuptana (photography)

Who else went?

1. Tristan Pearce (university researcher)
2. Miguel van der Velden (university student)

What equipment did you take?

- 3 *alliak* (sleds)
- 4 rifles
- 1 *omingmak kok* (musk-ox skin)
- 1 foam mattress
- 2 coleman two-burner stoves with tanks
- 1 *tupik* (tent)
- 1 saw
- 3 snow knives
- 1 seal hook



What supplies did you take?

Grub box: bannock, cookies, soup, klick, hot chocolate, 3 thermos' with hot water, fish *coak* (frozen fish)

↳ *What supplies did you forget?* coffee, tea, sugar, coffee-mate

What skills were learned?

- How to dress warm for traveling
- How to tie-down supplies and gas on an *alliak* (sled)
- How to pack a grub box
- How to choose a good place on the sea ice to set up a tent
- How to identify good snow for snow blocks and how to cut snow blocks using a snow knife
- How to start a naptha stove
- How to find a *nattiq aglu* (seal breathing hole) using an *unak*: what it looks like and what it smells like
- How to set a seal hook
- How to call using a satellite phone

Preparation and debrief

It was a very good day and everyone was safe and happy. The hunter-mentors made sure that all equipment and supplies were put away nicely so they are ready for the next trip. Students learned some of the things that they need to remember to bring on the next trip including, fuel tanks for the stoves, coffee, coffee-mate, tea, sugar, *unaks*, snow knives and *tuktu* (caribou) or *omingmak* (musk-ox) hides to sit on.

Photos: Google Drive Folder shared with Principal Richard McKinnon and Vice-Principal Shawn Feener

Report writer(s): Donna Akhiatak, Tristan Pearce and Markus Kuptana

01 FEB 2019

What was the activity?

Fox trapping: checking and setting traps and travelling on the sea ice

Where did you go?

Prince Albert Sound

Who were the hunter-mentors?

1. Ron Kallak
2. Tony Alanak

Who were the students?

5. Michael Kaodlak
6. Domonick Okheena
7. Preston Aleekuk



What equipment did you take?

7. 3 snow mobiles
8. 2 *alliak* (sleds)
9. 2 rifles
10. 2 snow knives
11. 1 axe
12. 1 shovel

What supplies did you take?

- Thermos bag: hot water, tea and cookies

What skills were learned?

3. How to set a trap
4. How to check a trap
5. How to travel on the sea ice

What else do you want to learn?

- prepare a fox skin for sale
- how to travel safely on the sea ice

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