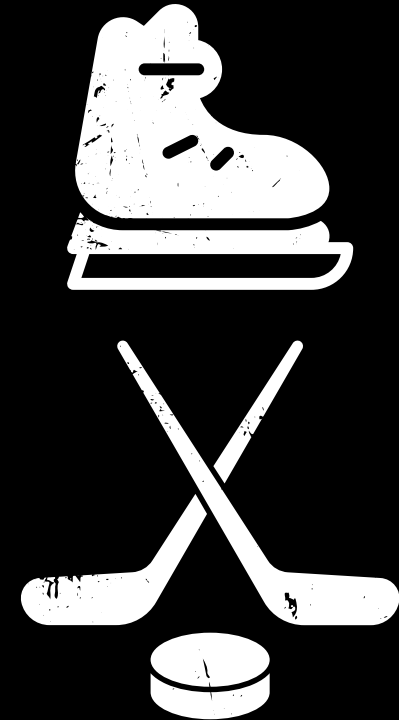


**2017 AIP
YOUTH
CATEGORY
WINNER
\$80,000**



**HOME OF THE
RANKIN ROCK MINOR
HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Arctic Inspiration Prize is the largest annual prize in Canada. It inspires, enables, and celebrates the achievements of the people of the North, recognizing diverse teams with innovative projects in the fields of education; health and wellbeing; culture, arts and language; science and traditional knowledge; climate change; food security; and the economy.

Nominator: David Ningeongan, President & Gabe Karlik, Executive Director, *Kivalliq Inuit Association*

Team: David Clark (Team Leader), AJ Curley, Keenan Eetuk, Connor Faulkner, Steve Faulkner, Panniuq Karetak, Aaron Kopak, Scott Kuksuk, Adriana Kusugak, Pujjuut Kusugak, Jon Maktar, Sidney Nichol, Stephane Nukapiak

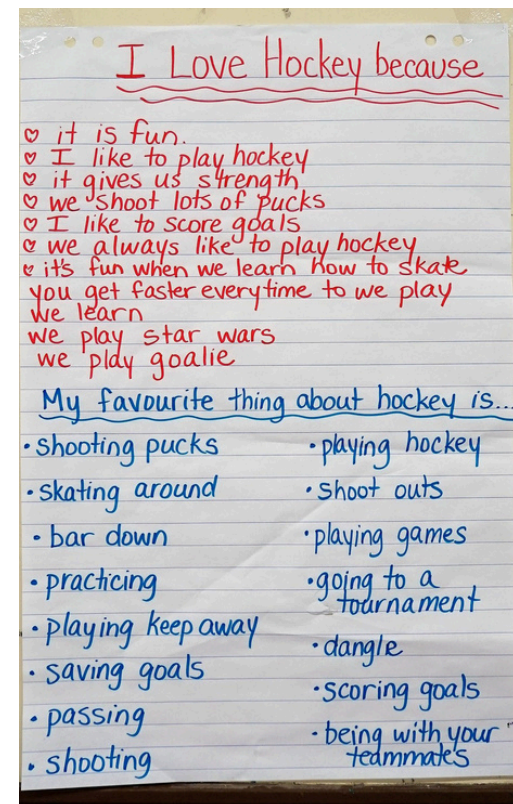
This report was compiled and created by the Qatalyst Research Group, with the help of Ilitaqsiniq, the project team, and AIP.

RANKIN ROCK HOCKEY CAMP

Rankin Rock Hockey Camp (RRHC) started locally in 2013 for youth ages 3 to 17. This camp is a week-long event leading up to the opening of the hockey season. This camp is organized and run by David Clark, the municipal recreation department, and with the help of many local coaches, volunteers, and youth leaders - most having gone through previous years of the hockey camp training themselves.

The camp is broken up into different sections:

- On-ice training: learning how to skate, playing the game
- Off-ice exercises and physical fitness such as stretching, conditioning, cardiovascular training, and strength training
- In-class literacy sessions
- One hour of personal development that includes goal setting, planning personal wellness, making healthy choices, and building self-confidence



THE IMPACT OF AIP FUNDING

The AIP prize allowed David and his team to organize and successfully run 3 hockey camps in the fall of 2018. This is the first time that the team was able to take the camp on the road and work with youth in other communities.

October - Rankin Inlet, Nunavut Regularly scheduled pre-season opener.	Gender	# Participating
November - Baker Lake, Nunavut	Male	140
December - Arviat, Nunavut	Female	90
	Total	230

“It was huge because it allowed us to be able to plan for multiple years. To be able to buy equipment and resources needed to run the program, but it also allowed us to showcase what the program was about.”

Pujjuut Kusugak, on AIP funding

EVERYONE CAN PLAY

For many youth in the North, learning to skate and play hockey is out of reach – it's costly and requires them to go South to take part in hockey camps. The Rankin Rock Hockey Camp is changing that and bringing the game close to home.



“It’s important to have kids play no matter where they come from or how much money they have.”

David Clark

“Working at the camp and seeing little girls who have just learned what hockey is, and are figuring out how much they are going to love it, its so inspiring to stay with the sport you love. I love watching how excited these little kids are to just be on the ice and do anything hockey related.”

Charlotte Siksik

MAKING BETTER CHOICES

The hockey camp provides structure and opportunity for children and youth to have fun, make friends, be active, and follow their dreams. Thanks to the hockey camps, the number of youth playing hockey in Rankin Inlet has increased and have more female youth playing than ever before.

"It proves that girls can do more."

Youth Participant

Charlotte Siksik (right), a former hockey camper turned youth leader and coach, is now playing hockey for the Arcadia Knights at Arcadia University in Glenside, Pennsylvania. She is the first Inuk female hockey player to play college hockey in America.

"Don't give up on your dreams. You can do anything you want, as long as you push yourself and work hard — and stay focused, because there is no limit to what you can do."

Charlotte Siksik



MORE THAN JUST A GAME

The hockey camp promotes healthy and active communities by teaching youth important life skills.

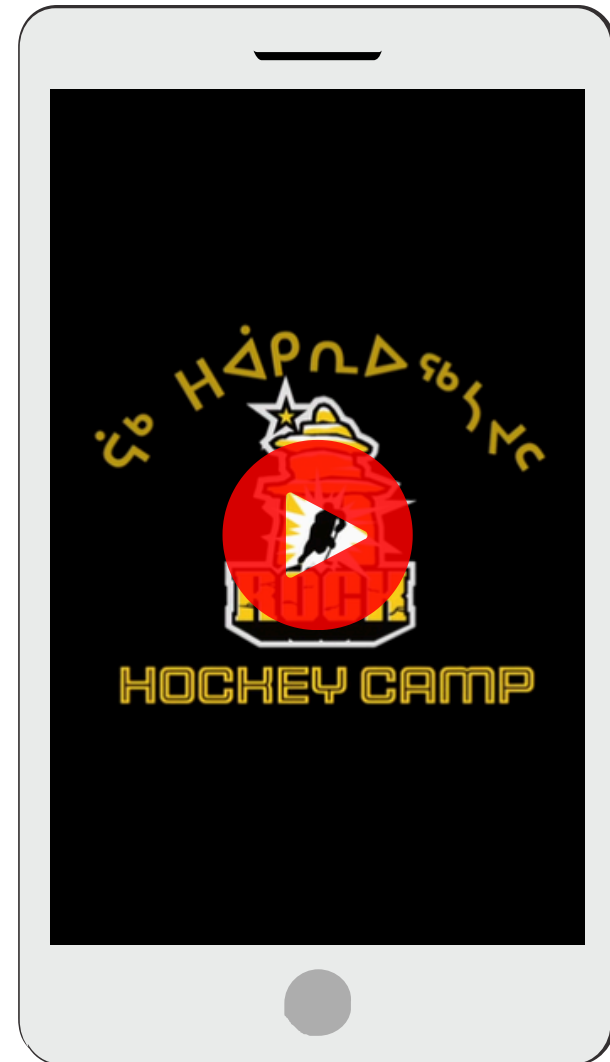
Teamwork	Accountability
Determination	Communication
Resilience	Goal setting
Self-confidence	

Literacy also plays a big part of the hockey camp and youth who are passionate about hockey learn that education is another part of the game.

“You learn to communicate with other people, you learn to communicate as a team... They learn to do hockey drills, then go into the gymnasium and do some gymnasium activities, and then they go into a classroom and they do some classroom work for reading and writing.”

Lorne Kusugak MLA, Rankin Inlet

<https://vimeo.com/744414781>



BUILDING YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAPACITY

The hockey camp engages approximately 10 youth per year to lead the camps. These individuals become leaders on and off the ice, creating huge positive impacts within their communities, schools, and around town.

Youth enhance their own skills and self-confidence while planning and carrying out programming and becoming mentors and role models.



“I think it’s had a huge positive impact, its really rewarding to be a part of something that is really enjoyed by the kids. It’s really probably the most fun week I have during the year.”

Youth Coach

“I’ve always had an interest in coaching and wanting to give back. Being a product of Rankin hockey and getting to play professionally myself I wanted to be able to give back to the program and when David reached out and asked if I wanted to be a part of the crew there was no hesitation there.”

Roger Tagoona

BRINGING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER

“Inuit are showcasing that we can do anything just as good as anybody else.”

Youth Coach

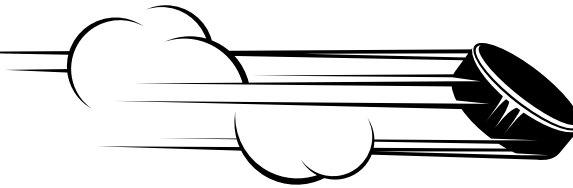
The entire community is very proud of the program and its success. Not only is the Rankin Rock Hockey Camp impacting the lives of children who attend, they are also helping out within their community by partnering with other organizations to provide support. RRHC and the Rankin Inlet Minor Hockey Association organized an event to collect and redistribute new hockey gear to any player who needed it.

“...hockey has provided us [the ability] to give a different experience, but also to show that our community is so capable of running a very good program like this Rankin Rock Hockey Camp.”

Hockey Camp Coach/Trainer



OTHER PARTNERS



Municipality of
Rankin Inlet

Rankin Inlet
Minor Hockey
Association

Kivalliq Inuit
Association

Northwestel

Calm Air

Terrence Tootoo
Memorial



All photos in this document are courtesy of David Clark or through AIP.