



## News Release

### **MAJOR INUIT THEATRE PRODUCTION TO PERFORM AT THE ARCTIC INSPIRATION PRIZE JAN 31 WITH IQALUIT SHOW JAN 27**

**Jan 23, 2018– IQALUIT (Canada) –The Qaggiavuut Society** announces rehearsals Jan 23-27 in Iqaluit for a major Inuit theatre production, *Kiviuq Returns*, featuring a 12-member cast and crew, including Inuit music, storytelling, costumes and digital design.

This year's production of *Kiviuq Returns* is performing at the Arctic Inspiration Prize ceremony in Ottawa. Before leaving Iqaluit, Qaggiavuut will host a pay-what-you-can show at the Anglican Parish Hall at 7pm, Saturday, January 27. This version of *Kiviuq Returns* is a 25-minute version of the original 80-minute production, that premiered at the National Arts Centre Canada Scene Festival in 2017.

*Kiviuq Returns* is based on Inuit legends and the writing is supported by the knowledge of elders including Miriam Aglukark, Susan Avingaq, Qaunaq Mikigaq and Madeline Ivalu who are also the show's dramaturgists.

"I am so proud to see *Kiviuq Returns* continuing to live and evolve," says Qaggiavuut's Vinnie Karetak. "I have participated in the elders passing the stories down to our first cast and now I am witness to the process of another cast receiving them."

The pan-Nunavut cast and crew assembles in Iqaluit January 23 to 27, flying to Ottawa Jan 28 to mount the show for the Arctic Inspiration Prize ceremony on January 31. On Feb 4 cast and crew fly to Arviat, Rankin, Kuglugtuk, Cambridge Bay to train youth and perform *Kiviuq Returns* for Nunavut communities.

The cast is equally excited to perform for Nunavummiut as well as the anticipated 1000-member audience at the Arctic Inspiration Prize. "I have worked hard on my performance career as a young person," says actor Natasha Allakariallak. "I have watched artists I look up to perform on the Arctic Inspiration Prize stage and now I am going to be there myself. Hard work pays off."

The Qaggiavuut Society launched a major fundraising campaign for a Nunavut Performing Arts Centre in the summer of 2017 and continues to build partnerships and collaborative relationships hoping to make the Centre a reality by 2019.

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**Laakkuluk Williamson Bathory, Jamie Griffiths and Vinnie Karetak**

Office: 867-979-6485

Cell: 867-222-6414

[www.qaggiavuut.com/en/kiviuqreturns/](http://www.qaggiavuut.com/en/kiviuqreturns/)