ULUKHAQTUUP TATQIQHIUTAA

Ulukhaktok cultural calendar

Tatqiqhiut tamaan tatqiq aktuumayuq qanuriliurutaitigut nunaplu angutillu

Every month the Moon has something to do with what happens to the land and the animals

When Caribou teaches us about trails and routes

David Kuptana, February 22, 2023

When caribou are migrating, I'm going to explain the best way I can ...

My dad taught me where to travel by, and what route to take, and how to recognize it. I was following him for a period of time. He would explain to me: "don't take this channel, it's not the right channel." You have to remember which channel you're going to take, the right or the left one. You could get them mistaken, because they go to each other at the valleys. And when he taught me that, then I remembered, when I was growing up: this is where my dad went by, this is where I'm coming back home by. Now, when I teach my kids I tell them, when I'm going by that same area: "this is where your grandpa taught me where to go by, and I'm teaching you, you take this trail, not this one. This one might have lots of rocks.". If I teach my kids that, and then they'll teach their kids... OK.

Now the same goes for animals. If a caribou is migrating from South to North, he goes by specific migrating path - in our maps we call it Aulaviit. In springtime, if a female takes her yearling and goes to the calving site, and calves there - her yearling is with her though. And then when fall time starts coming, after they're finished calving up there, she's going to take her calf and her yearling, and will migrate back where she came through. With the same route. But that yearling already went forward and back. But that calf, it's his first time going South. So if the mother is not living anymore and that yearling is with his sister or brother, then he's going to teach him where his mom brought him by. It's the same way we teach our kids, the animals do the same thing.

Even in the ocean. They follow the shoreline or where they could find a good feeding ground. They stay there. They know what season is a good feeding ground for them. Us, we know where the good hunting area in the fall time is for us. That's what our parents taught us. My dad told me "that area is good in fall time to hunt caribou". So it's the same thing for animals, they have seasons.

NANIRIAQTUQNIQ [NANEGIAKTUKNIK]

- Ukalrit itpaktut hamani ukiuraaluk, kihimi nakuutqiyat naniriaqtungnahigaanat ukiahami, uhunikkaanata. Hiquraqhugit pittaaqtut naniriaqlugitluunniit. Kihimi iqakuukviup qanigingittaani. Ungahiktumin ikluqangningmin taimaa 15km mik. Mamaqtut chickenin mamatqiyat.
- Pittaaqtullu amaqqunik ukiuraaluk, tiriganniallu naniriaqtungnahiraanat (Novembermin Aprilmun), Amiit tunitaaqtut ENRmun.
- Tariuk ikaaranat amaqqut tumainnik takuniaqtutit. Amagunikyuumiyuq ukiuni kinuvanit. Amigaikyuutait aallangukpaktut tuktuqangniutigut.
- Inuit naniraiqtuutait aallatqiit, kihimi naniriaqturuvit nunami tiriganniaqtatit kumaqangniaqtut. Hinaanungaraanata, uaqpaktut tariumi apunmilu halummahaliqpaktut mitqumingnik kumaiyaqhutik, naniriaqtungrumaguvit naniriaqtugit hinaani.
- Angnalluit nunamiitpaktut hitimingnin qanilruani. Ilaani anutillu. Taimaa naniriaqturiami hinaani nukuyuq nuliaqtut tiriganniat hugiyaungitlutik.
- Ukiumi avinnat amigaitkaanata, tiriganniallu ukpiillu amigaikyuumivaktut. Amigaikyuutait aallanayut malrukluunniit, pingahutluunniit ukiut naatkaanata.

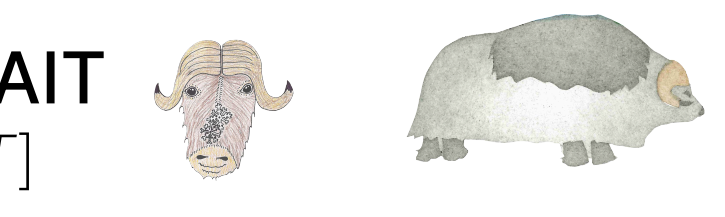
- Rabbits are around all year, but they are best at the beginning of the trapping season in fall, when the white hares are fat. You can shoot them or set trap lines. Not too close to the dump though, you have to get them far from town, at least 15 km. Then they are really tasty, better than roasted chicken!
- You can harvest wolves all year long, and foxes during the trapping season (from November to April), and sell their hides to ENR.
- When you head across the ocean, you have good chances to run into a pack of wolves' tracks. There's quite a few wolves now. More than over the past years. Their numbers go up and down with the caribou.
- Everyone has a different way to set traps, but if you set your trap on land, you can get foxes with bugs. Once on the shore, they wash in the ocean or rub on dry snow to get their bugs off, so better set your trap along the shore.
- Females have to stay close to the den on land. Sometimes the males too. So trapping along the shore, you won't disturb mating foxes.
- In years with lots of lemmings, you will see plenty of foxes and owls. They go up and down every 2 to 3 years.

Kate Inuktalik, February 21, 2023

Before the lakes used to start freezing in September. Now you have to wait for October. When the ocean starts to freeze with thin ice, we knew the lakes were ready for lake fishing. Lakes take longer to freeze now. Especially the lakes close to the ocean. October used to get frozen all along the shoreline. Now we have to wait, sometimes until November. Small lakes. Nowadays it doesn't form until October-November.

Shore starts to freeze first. It used to freeze up early but now it's not before late September. When the ocean starts freezing with a thin cover, then you can go fishing to the lake because the ice on the lake will be thick enough. Fish Lake and Ukpilik Lake freeze at about the same time. Larger lakes take longer to freeze so if there is not enough ice on big lakes you can go to smaller lakes. When many rivers come into the lakes, it will take them longer to freeze.

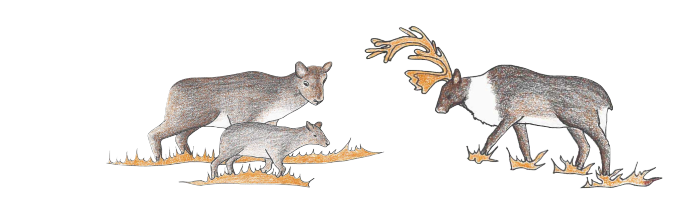
UMINGMAIT [OMIKMAIT]



- Umingmaktaaqtut ukiuraaluk, qiqiqtamiitpaktut ukiuk tamaat. Kihimi ilaani ungahiktumun aullaaqpaktugut nanihinahuaqhuta. Ublut qaumaniit naitkaanata naniriaqtuqpaktugut nihikkullu nattingniaqhuta qaniirumi ikluqpaqangniup. Umingmakhiuqluayuittugut qanitpata kihimi.
- Nuliaqpaktut Augustmi, humaagingnittavut, kulavaillu, nuraillu piliqpaktavut.
- Ukiumi pangniit piliqpaktavut nuliangitmata aulaluangitmata niqait nakuuyut, mipkuliuriami. Umingmaillu, tuktullu adjikiivyaktuk uvaptingni, kihimi umingmait aulaviqangittut utiqtayuittut nunalluamun.

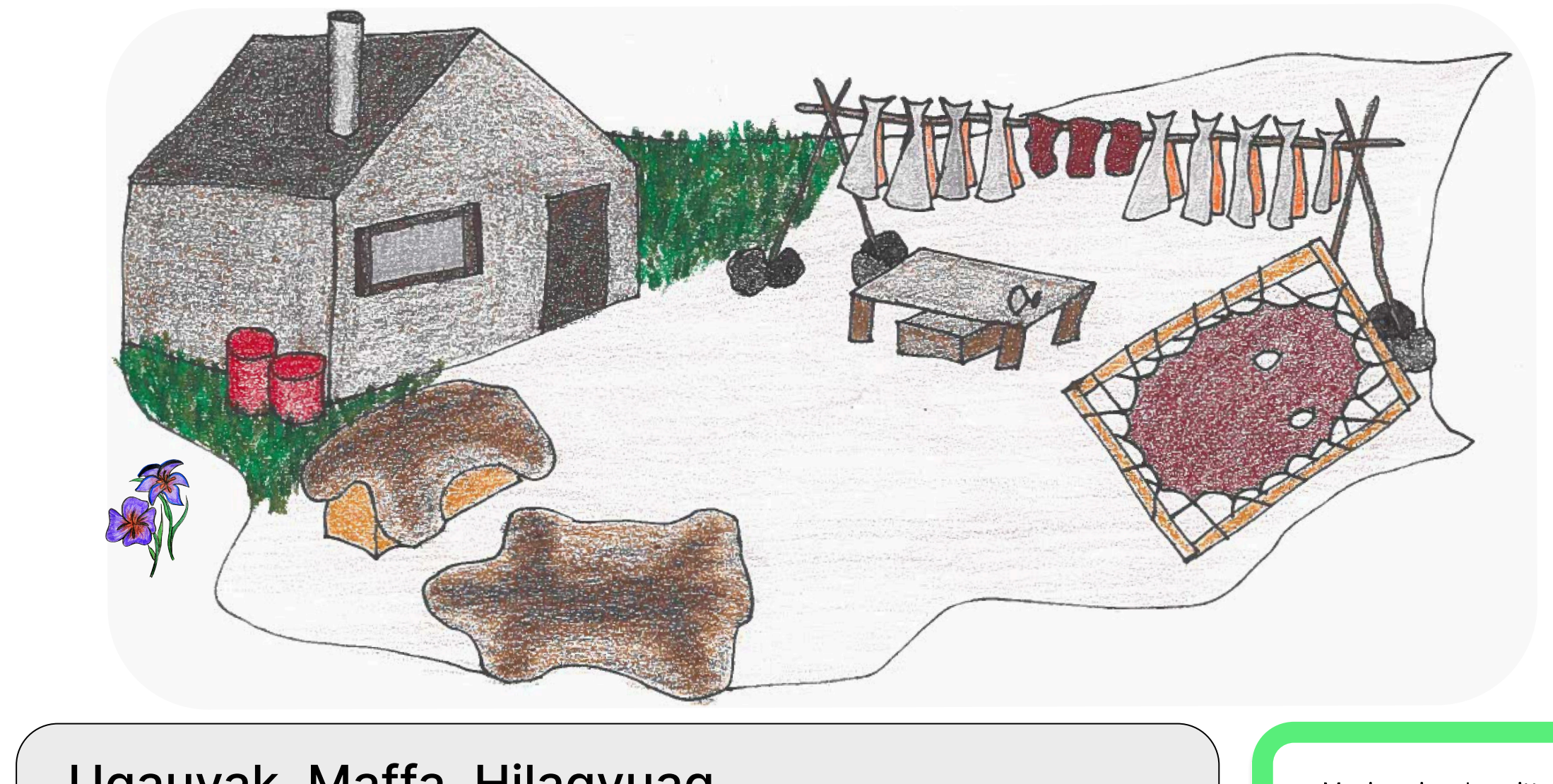
- You can get musk-oxen all year round, they stay on the island through all seasons. But sometimes you have to travel far away to find them. When daylight is short we usually do more trapping and seal hooking closer to town. Not so much musk-ox hunting, unless they're nearby.
- They mate in August, but we don't mind their mating, we go for females or younger ones at that time.
- In winter, we go for the bulls because they're not mating nor moving too much so the meat is good - you can make good dry meat. Musk-ox and caribou are very similar to us, except that musk-oxen don't migrate.

TUKTUT [TOKTOT]



- Tuktut piulluaqpaktut hannaiyaliraanat ukiumut, atugakhanik amiqangmata, niqainniklu, kihimilu qauyimayakhanik (takulugu unipkaak 'Uqauyaq, Maffa, Hilariuaq')
- Decembermin Marchmun pangniit atauttimiitpaktut. Aprilmi aulaliqpaktut. Kulavait hivulliuvaktut, pangniit mallauvaktut. Pangniit malauvaktut kulavait malikhugit Novembermun aklaat.Nuliaqpaktut tukliq tatqiq ilunguraanan. Ukiuraanat Novembermi utiuvaktut. Taimaattauq Decembermi pangniillu, kulavaillu avitpangmiyut.
- Aprilmin Julymun hugiyuitavut irgniungnahuaraanata.
- Nakuutqiyaq tuktuhiuriami Julymin Octobermun, apivaliraanan. Talvuuna amigaikyuumivaktut, hanitquliraanata. Kihimi ilaani ungahiktumun aullaaqpaktugut naninahuaqhugit.
- Julymi uunnakkaanat pangalikpaktut tariup hinaanut qimaaplutik niviaqyunit nuviuvanit, hinaaniiliqpaktut niklaumaningmi.
- Aqilginik takuguvit, tuktuqangniaqtuq.

- Caribou is key in the preparation of winter, providing fur, meat, but also knowledge (see the story "Uqauyak, Maffa, Hilaqyuaq").
- From December to March, the males are together. In April they start migrating: the females go, and the males follow. Males then each follow a different herd and stay with the females until November. They mate during the second full moon of October. In November, at the end of fall, they migrate back. In December males and females separate again.
- From April to July we try not to do anything with them because they go down and calf.
- The best time for caribou hunting is from July until about October, when snow starts falling. That's when they are most abundant, when they're passing by. But sometimes we have to travel a long way to find them.
- When it's hot in July they run to the shore to get away from the bugs and they stay along the shoreline in the cool areas.
- When you see ptarmigans, there will be caribou.



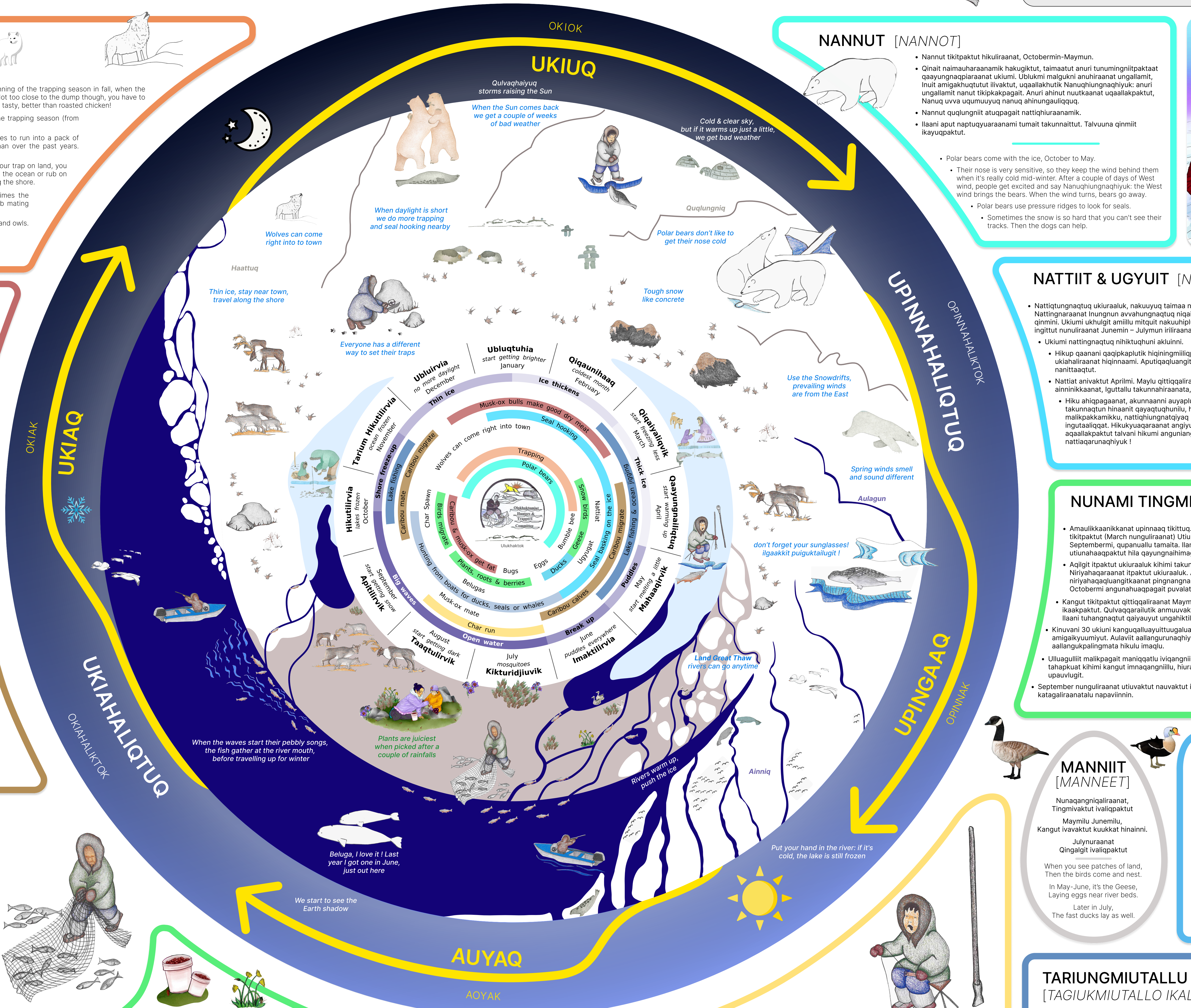
Uqauyak, Maffa, Hilaqyuaq

Robert & Agnes Kuptana, February 18, 2023

I will tell you a little bit about caribou. In the summertime, our people used to live up inland, maybe 500 km North of here. Walking and hunting all summer long (Pihuayut). And then they would hunt caribou and get a lot of fur and food, enough for the winter. And by the end of August, when the weather starts to change, to cool off a bit, then the hills become really important, because in the South side of the hills, facing the Sun, the land grows Uqauyak, a little plant, like knuckleheads, that we use to smoke or meat, kind of green plant. That's what the caribou eat. For maybe 2 weeks, after that it's really no longer good.

And then the caribou leave that part again. So when they finish eating that for a couple of weeks, Kangiryuarmuit Inuit would look for a bull caribou, and study it. And there's only one thing that they study at that time, because it's very important to them. They are looking for the pancreas: *Maffa*. Because it's the only part that doesn't get fat or skinny. But if it's wide, they say that it is going to be a mild winter, with a lot of snow for the igloo. But if it's narrow, it means it's going to be a cold winter, cold and dry with hardly any snow. If the pancreas is narrow, you will see your breath that winter.

They say the reason why there's two different things there, it's because something happens somewhere long ways up in the air, maybe somewhere in the Universe (*Hilaqyuaq*), and it has an effect in our world that way. The effects come from the Universe somewhere. Something happens, maybe blows up or something, way up there.



OKIOK

UKIUQ

Qulvaqhaiyuq
storms raising the Sun

When the Sun comes back we get a couple of weeks of bad weather

Cold & clear sky, but if it warms up just a little, we get bad weather

Wolves can come right into to town

When daylight is short we do more trapping and seal hooking nearby

Quqlungniq

Polar bears don't like to get their nose cold

Haattuq

Thin ice, stay near town, travel along the shore

Tough snow like concrete

Everyone has a different way to set their traps

Use the Snowdrifts, prevailing winds are from the East

UPINNAHALIQTUQ

OPINNAHALIKTOK

Spring winds smell and sound different

Aulagun

don't forget your sunglasses!
ilgaakkit puiguktailugit !

Land Great Thaw rivers can go anytime

UPINGAAQ

OPINNAK

Ainniq

Rivers warm up, push the ice

Put your hand in the river: if it's cold, the lake is still frozen

AUYAQ

AOYAK

We start to see the Earth shadow

Beluga, I love it ! Last year I got one in June, just out here

Plants are juiciest when picked after a couple of rainfalls

When the waves start their pebbly songs, the fish gather at the river mouth, before travelling up for winter

UKIAHALIQTUQ

OKIAHALIKTOK

UKIAQ

OKIAK

Ubluqtuhia start getting brighter January

Qiqaunihaaq coldest month February

Qiqaiyaliqvik start freezing less March

Qaayungnailiqtuq start warming up April

Mahaaqirvik May start melting a little

Imaktilirvia June puddles everywhere

Kikturidjiuvik July mosquitoes

Taaqtulirvik August start getting dark

Apitilirvik September start getting snow

Hikutilirvia lakes frozen October

Tarium Hikutilirvia ocean frozen November

Ubluirvia no more daylight December

Thin ice

Ice thickens

Thick ice

Puddles

Break up

Open water

Big waves

Shore freeze-up

Musk-ox bulls make good dry meat

Seal hooking

Lake fishing & ocean jigging

Lake fishing

Caribou migrate

Caribou mate

Caribou migrate

Caribou calves

Wolves can come right into town

Seal basking on the ice

Char run

Hunting from boats for ducks, seals or whales

Musk-ox mate

Belugas

Char Spawn

Birds migrate

Caribou & musk-ox get fat

Plants, roots & berries

Bugs

Eggs

Ducks

Ugyugat

Geese

Bumble bee

Snow birds

Nattiat

Trapping

Polar bears

Ulukhaktok

When Seals get crazy and wild, and careless

Robert Kuptana, February 18, 2023

In mid-winter, once it gets thick enough, seals start to use the Moon. Usually about January on until April. Close to Qahinnuqtarvik in Minto Inlet, where there are lots of seals, people used to watch for the first streak of the Moon, really narrow, before it reaches the first quarter. It's got a lot of Lunar pull, like a magnet. When that happens, for about 3 to 4 days, it pulls all kinds of little planktons and little fish right up against the ice, and that's when seals get crazy and wild, and get careless.

Seals get really fat in the winter time - about 5 inches thick blubber. Polar bears know that, and their main food is seal, so when that happens - usually 3 to 4 days maximum each month - they start to roam around and look for Seal holes. Because they know. During that 3-day period, polar bears hunt seals day and night, they wait for seals. And then after that, all these little fish, they go back down to the bottom of the ocean.

And so there is another creature coming up: the human. Top of the food chain. For 3 days we would see lots of tracks, and then after that they get quiet again, and polar bears slow down, it's like there are no more polar bears. When that happens, when everything gets quiet again, seals get really smart and you have to be a scientist to hunt them in the seal hole. They get so smart.

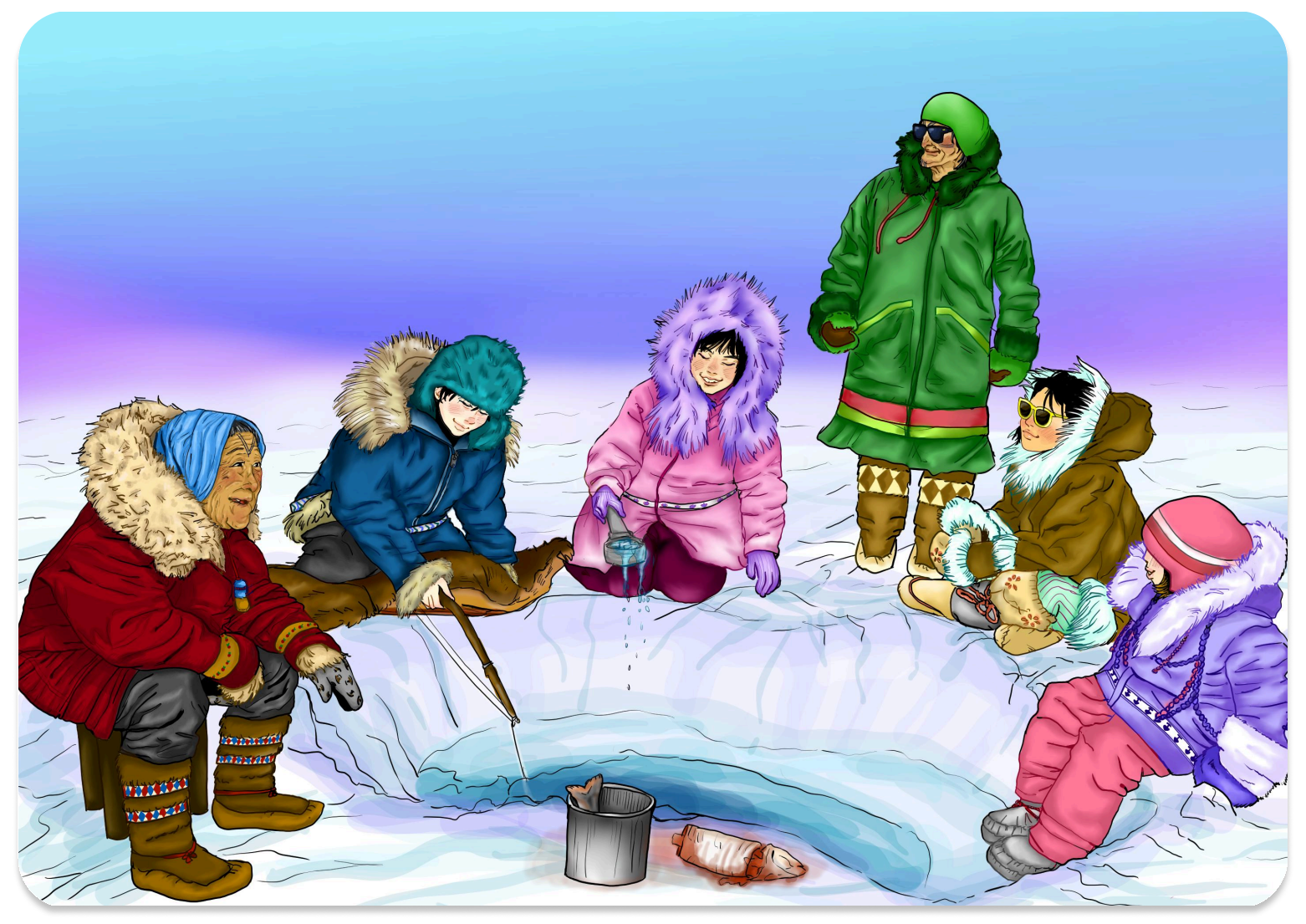
Seals get really wise and smart and they don't move anything, not even water. So Inuit have to make tools to see if a seal comes up in his hole. They would use the most finest fur in the Arctic: arctic hare fur. They would put it over the seal hole and watch that. And then, even the Arctic hare hair itself, it doesn't go a lot, just a little bit. And when they do that they harpoon and they get the seal. It could be one foot away from your seal, you don't know it. So you know, that's what they use.

Because I was born premature myself, my granny had to use that kind of a tool, for them to know I was still alive, by putting it in my nose. That's how I survived, using traditional knowledge and hunting tools to find out if I was still alive. It's just like a doctor's machine with things moving and all, it's like that. Just a tiny little hair. So it was pretty much like a technology itself.

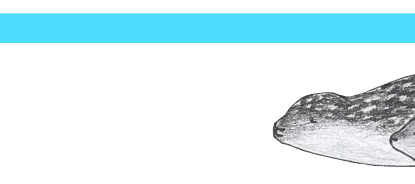
NANNUT [NANNOT]

- Nannut tikitpaktut hikuliraanat, Octobermin-Maymun.
- Qinait naimauharaanamik hakugiktut, taimaatut anuri tunumingniitpaktaat qaayungnaqpiaraanat ukiumi. Ublukmi malgukni anuhiraanat ungallamit, Inuit amigakhuqtutut ilivaktut, uqaallakhutik Nanuqhiungnaqhiyuk: anuri ungallamit nanut tikipkakpagait. Anuri ahinut nuutkaanat uqaallakpaktut, Nanuq uvva uqumuuyuq nanuq ahinungauliqquq.
- Nannut quqlungniit atuqpagait nattiqhiuraanamik.
- Ilaani aput naptuqyuaraanami tumait takunnaittut. Talvuuna qinmiit ikayuqpaktut.

- Polar bears come with the ice, October to May.
  - Their nose is very sensitive, so they keep the wind behind them when it's really cold mid-winter. After a couple of days of West wind, people get excited and say Nanuqhiungnaqhiyuk: the West wind brings the bears. When the wind turns, bears go away.
    - Polar bears use pressure ridges to look for seals.
      - Sometimes the snow is so hard that you can't see their tracks. Then the dogs can help.



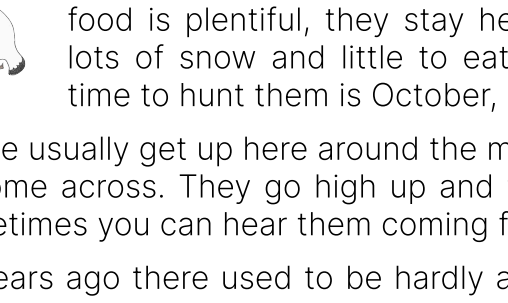
NATTIIT & UGYUIT [NATTEET & UGYUET]



- Nattiqtungnaqtuq ukiuraaluk, nakuuyuq taimaa niqailliungnaittuq. Nattingnaraanat Inungnun avvahungnaqtuq niqaillu nakuuyut qinmini. Ukiumi ukhulgit amiillu mitquit nakuuhiplutik. Taimaa ingittut nunuliraanat Junemin – Julymun iriliraanata.
  - Ukiumi nattingnaqtuq nihiktuqhuni akluinni.
    - Hikup qaanani qaqipkaplutik hiqiningmiiliqpaktut ukiahaliraanat hiqinnaami. Aputiqaqluangitqaanat nanittaaqtut.
    - Nattiat anivaktut Aprilmi. Maylu qittiqqaliraanat, ainninikkaanat, Iguttallu takunnahiraanata, ugyuat anivaktut.
      - Hiku ahiqpagaanat, akunnaanni auyaplu upinnaplu takunnaqtun hinaanit qayaqtuqhunilu, hikut malikpakkamikku, nattiqhiungnatqiyaq hikuiktinnagu hiku ingutaaliqqat. Hikukyuaqaraanat angiyumik iningnihaat aqaallakpaktut talvani hikumi anguniangniarit nattiaqarunaqhiyuk !

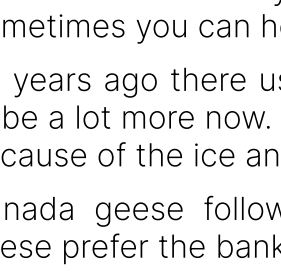
- You can have seals year-round, really useful to avoid food shortages. You get enough to share with people and it's good food for the dogs. They get really fat in winter and their fur is really good quality. Less so at the end of June/July when they're molting.
- During winter, you can use seal hooks in their breathing holes.
- They like to lay on the ice in the early spring sun. When there is less snow, they are easier to find.
- Baby ringed seals (Nattiat) are born in April. Around the middle of May, when the cracks are there, and when you see the bumble bees, baby bearded seals (Ugyugat) are born.
- When the ice leaves, between spring and summer, you can see them from the shore or by boat, as they usually follow the ice. A good time to hunt seals is right before losing the ice, when it starts moving. If there was a really big piece of ice just out there, the elders would say "go hunt that ice, there's gotta be a young seal around!".

NUNAMI TINGMIVAKTUT [NONAMI TIKMIVAKTOT]



- Amaulikkaanikkanat upinnaaq tikittuq. Hivulliuplutik tikitpaktut (March nunguliraanat) Utiuplutik pinangnamun Septembermi, qupanuallu tamaita. Ilangit utiunahaaqpaktut hila qayungnaihimagaanat.
- Aqilgit itpaktut ukiuraaluk kihimi takunnaittut auyami. Niriyahaqaraanat itpaktut ukiuraaluk. Aputiqaqyuaraanat niriyahaqaqluangitkaanat pingnangnamungauvaktut, Octobermi angunahuaqpagait puvalatillugit.
  - Kangut tikitpaktut qittiqqaliraanat Maymi, anuri atuhugu ikaakpaktut. Qulvaqqarailutik anmuuvaktut anuri atuqhugu. Ilaani tuhangnaqtut qaiyauyut ungahiktillugit.
- Kinuvani 30 ukiuni kanguqalluayuittuugaluaq taja amigaikyuumiyut. Aulaviit aallangurunaqhiyut aallangukpalingmata hikulu imaqlu.
- Ulluagulliit malikpagait maniqqatlu iviqangniillu, tahapkuat kihimi kangut imnaqangniillu, hiuraqangniillu upauvlugit.
- September nunguliraanat utiuvaktut nauvaktut ikikligaanata katagaliraanatalu napaviinnin.

- When you see snowbirds, spring begins. They are first to come (end of March), and usually migrate back south in September with all other birds. Some stay longer when the weather is warmer.



- Ptarmigans are around all year except for summertime. If food is plentiful, they stay here all winter. When there is lots of snow and little to eat, they move South. A good time to hunt them is October, when they're fat.
- Geese usually get up here around the middle of May, using the wind to come across. They go high up and then they glide, like surfing. Sometimes you can hear them coming from miles away.
- 30 years ago there used to be hardly any snow geese, there seem to be a lot more now. They might be changing migrating routes now, because of the ice and the water.
- Canada geese follow bare land and grass patches, while snow geese prefer the banks and sand hills.
- Later in September, when the geese go back, the plants start to fade and fall off their stem.

MANNIIT [MANNEET]

Nunaqangniqaliraanat,
Tingmivaktut ivaliqpaktut

Maymilu Junemilu,
Kangut ivavaktut kuukkat hinainni.

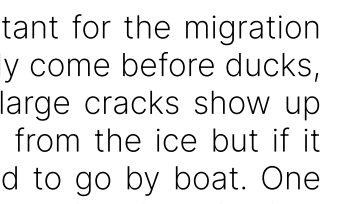
Julynuraanat
Qingalgit ivaliqpaktut

When you see patches of land,
Then the birds come and nest.

In May-June, it's the Geese,
Laying eggs near river beds.

Later in July,
The fast ducks lay as well.

TARIUMI TINGMIVAKTUT [TAGIOMI TIKMIVAKTOT]



- Naujat tikitpaktut Maymi, qingalgitlu tuulliitlu ainniqaliraanat tikitpaktut.
- Ainniit piulluaqtut tingmiani aulaliraanata. Kangut tikitqaaqpaktut tingmianit, kihimi aallangungniarunaqhiyuq ainniqaliqpalirumi qilamik. Tingmiahiuqpaktugut hikumi kihimi hikuiyaqqat qilamik qayaqtungnaqtuq. Ukiumi atauhiqmi Aprilmi uiniqalingman Inuit qayangmingni tingmittiiyun. Hannaihimayukhauyuhi qanurinniangmanaan.
- Tingmiahiuqtaaqtuqlu qayakkut Septembermilu, Octobermilu tingmiat utiunahualiraanata anuhilaqiqyauqtinnagu hinaalu hikuliqtinnagu.
- Tingmiat tariuktut iptilgit. Kangut iptilgit nunamik.

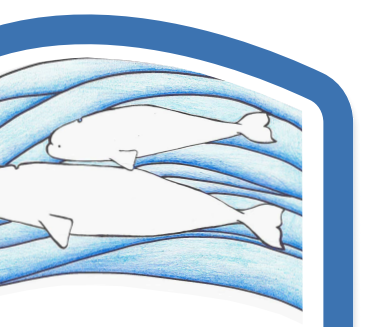
- Seagulls come around May, then King Eiders and Loons come right with the cracks.
- Ice cracks, are important for the migration of birds. Geese usually come before ducks, but it can change if large cracks show up early. We hunt ducks from the ice but if it breaks early you need to go by boat. One year we had open water already in April so people were in boats waiting for ducks. You have to adapt and be ready.
- You can also hunt ducks from boats in September-October when they migrate back before the fall storms and the shore starts freezing-up.
- Ducks taste like the ocean. Geese taste like the land.

NAUTTIAT [NAOTTIAT]

- Maniqami hunaittumi nauttiat nauliqpaktut. Kihimi mahaktiraanat qilamik, qilamik nauyut tuquvaktut. Aput mahainnangitkanat, kaplat ikhaaqpaktut imaqainnaraanata.
- Qungulrit nauvaktut immap haniani. Hungayaaqtut uummatitut avatiqaqtut, hiingnaqtut. Iningingnuliraanat nauhimayunik pukukpaktutit naugaanata. Qunguliqtaqpaktut July atulliraanat qitiqangniarutaanun, nauvaktut qilamik qilamiklu nakuungnikhutik.
- Ikhutiqaqpaktugut amigaikhugit ihihiidjutiplugit nikinut. Nauviit nuna paniumayukhaq, nakuuyumik ikulayaangani. Tiiliurutittaaqtahilu.
- Kanuuyat nakuruqpaktut July nunuliraanat nakuunnihutik Septembermi. Pukuktaalaqivaktut ailalaqigaanat Augustmi. Ipirautigiliqpaktavut qullini.
- August nunutkaanat hila allanguliraanat niklaqpaliraanat pinangnaniyainnit pinuatikkanni ugauyat nauvaktut, tiiliurutigigaanata aqiaqqumi nakuruutauyuq.
- Nauyut hiingnatqiyat pukugiami nipalitqigaanat. Nakuutqiyauyut talvani nauvaktunik pukugiami. Mahut nakuuyut niriyaami taimaatuinnaq, uhumiillugitluunniit.
- Aallatqiinik kaplaqaqtugut Kigutiqangniillu, paunnaniklu, kablaniklu. Nakuruqpaktut auyailiraanat ukiahaqyuqqiliraanat.

- With bare ground, the plants start to come out. But the faster it melts, the faster the plants wilt. If the snow stays longer, the berries last longer because they have more water.
- Arctic sorrel (Qunguliq) grows by the water. It is a heart-shaped green leaf, really sweet. As you get older, you try to harvest the plants when they're there. Arctic sorrel needs to be picked early-to-mid July, because now they grow so fast and fade rapidly.
- We can collect piles of heather to smoke the meat. The ground where they grow needs to be dry enough, otherwise it won't burn well. You can also make tea with it.
- Arctic cotton (Kanuuyaq) blooms in late July and fades in September. They are easier to pick when the first dew shows up in August. We use it as wick for the Kudlik.
- By the end of August, when the weather starts to change and cool off a bit, on the South facing hills, the land grows Uqauyak. When used as tea, they're good to calm your stomach.
- Plants are juiciest when picked after a couple of rainfalls. It is the best time of the year to get your greens and roots. Mahu root is good just like that, or fermented.
- We got all kinds of berries: black, blue and red. They are ready later in the summer, just before it starts turning into fall.

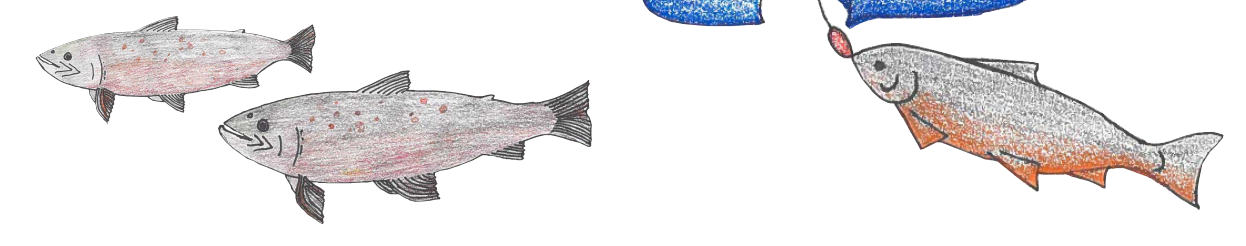
QILALUKKAT [KILALOKKAT]



Maymi aulagutiqaqqat Ikaahuklu uiniqaqqat malikpagait imaqangniit. Qilalugaaniliqpaktut Junemi taimaa iliqpaktut Augustmun aklaan. Kihimi hiku ivyugaanat naptugaanatlu qilalukkatlu aallalluakviit qainahaaqpaktut.

In May, if there's a lead and if Banks Island has open water, belugas follow the open lead. They have their calf in June and can stay around until August. If the ice is thick and solid, the belugas and other whales will take a little while to come.

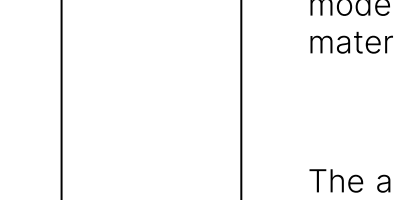
IQALUKPIIT [IKALOKPEET]



- Inuit aulattiyaqtuqpaktut tattinut upinnaami, pihukhutik qinihiaplutik tuuqpaktut agluahamingnik talvani Marchmilu Aprilmilu, qaayungnaivyaaqpaktuq ilagiit aullaaraani.
- Niklaumagaanat hiku hiqulaaliqpaktuq iqaluit taamna nakuugiyaat. Ilaani tatqiq qaummaqpiaraanat takuttaaqtut hunavalungnik hikum ataani kuvyatillu. Taimaatut aputiqangningnik qiniqpaktut. Aputiqaraanat malruk itikat aktilaananik aputiqangnimik hiku ivyuqyuangittuq, taimaa ikuutaariami ayungnaitqiyaq.
- Iqalukpiit aulaliraanata auyami hamunga qaivaktut tattinit, hinaagut. Imaq qayungnaraanat iqaluit talvaniinniaqtut, iqalukluangnaittuq, qayungnaivyaaraanat iqalungnatqiyaq. Kuvyatit takuqtaqlugit.
- Tahingmi iqalukhiungnik piuyuq ukiahami, Septembermin Novembermun. Iqaluit ukhulgit taimaalu ivittaaruqtaaqtutin, Octobermi ikliliuqpaktut.

- Everybody goes fishing out to the lakes in springtime, walks around, chisels and makes holes. Around March-April, it gets warm enough to go with the family.
- When it's cooler, the lake ice cracks and the fish like that. Sometimes the Moon is so bright that they can see everything under the ice, even your net. So better find a spot where there is snow. And with 2 feet of snow the ice is not too thick, so it's easier to drill through.
- During the char run in summer, they come our way from the lakes, along the shore. If the water is cold, fish will be there. It can be slow fishing. But if it's cool the fishing is better. You have to keep checking your net.
- Lake fishing is also important in fall, from September right till November: fish have more fat and you can get the red ones (Ivitaaruq) that spawn in October.

TARIUNGMIUTALLU IQALUIT [TAGIUKMIUTALLO IKALUET]



- Upinnaami aulattivaktugut hikumi: Aullattivluta kuvyaqtuqhuta tattini ihuuhuknik, iqalukpingnik, kapihilikniklu taimaalu aulattivaktugut tagiumi ugakhiuhuta.
- Quppani Aprilmi, Maymilu tautukpaktugut amigaittunik iqalunnuanik: iituuqnik taivaktait 2×4nut qiqliraqhugit pivaktavut. Taimaalu kinuqaqyuayuktuugaluaq kanikhuani hinaani, taja takunnalluarungnaittut, taja tahapuaninnait takuliqpaktavut uukkat.
- Ukiahami Septembermi amihunik angmagiaqtaqpaktugut hinaanit, pingangnamit anuhiraanat akhut takyaalaqigaanat nutaqqat qaluraqpaktait hinaanit, ivalumut nuviuhaqhugit anuqimi panihiqhugit mamahaunmik iliqiblugit mamaqtut ! Taimailitpaktuq kihimi qaffit ukiut naatkaanata. Aallakullu aulavagunahigamik ilihimannaqtuq hunaqaliraanat akviilu, ugyuillu niriniaIiraanata.

- In Springtime we fish through the ice: jigging or netting in the lakes for trout, char or whitefish but also jigging for cod (uugaq) in the ocean.
- In the cracks, around April-May, we used to see hundreds of little fish: Arctic cod (lituq). We would get them out on the ice with 2×4s. And there used to be a lot of small krill along the shoreline in the bay, but we hardly see them anymore. Now the only ones we see are the uugaq.
- In the fall around September, we get lots of capelin, angmagiaq, along the shoreline. When there's a big South wind and rolling waves, kids scoop them up on the shore, and then you thread them and let them dry in the wind, spice them up, and ohh gosh! They come only every few years though, they probably travel different routes. Sometimes you can tell something is here when the whales and bearded seals are around feeding.

Mary Kudlak, February 21, 2023

I remember the sound of the South wind. You know in springtime when a really warm wind is coming, you could see the heat waves above the land. You could hear it. It's different from summer. Spring wind sounds different.

As soon as we have open water, school is over, kids are out fishing 24h a day.

By the weather you see fall is coming. Change of the sky. End of July you start seeing the Earth's shadow. We used to have really good radio reception when the days started to get short. We would eat outside, do things out there and still hear the radio.

Summer ends when dew shows up making it easier to pick arctic cotton. Fall starts when the waves shake the pebbles - right after it. I remember my late husband's grandpa. Them elders used to talk about how, in the ocean, the waves would start to grow and the gravel would go back and forth. The sound of it is like a musical. They say 'the fish travel and then gather around the mouth of the river. That's their time, before they travel up the river for winter'. That is the thing they used to live by.

Now my tongue is tired.

DISCLAIMER

The authors acknowledge, with respect, the history and traditions of the people of Ulukhaktok at the core of the Ulukhaktok Seasonal Calendar.

Community members requested the diffusion of these materials under various formats. These materials were created for multiple purposes including but not limited to:

- education and documentation: intergenerational knowledge transmission, community culture and knowledge archival,
- climate adaptation: fostering discussions about climate change, about past and future changes in local seasonal cycles and harvest practices,
- fostering collaborations and supporting communication between community members and scientists on a broad range of research topics.

The authors refer to interview and workshop recordings, including stories from the Ulukhaktok community, to build these materials. Each contribution: story, drawing, or quote, remains owned by their author (listed as contributor), who generously agreed to share their knowledge to be featured in these materials. All art and illustrations in these materials have been reproduced with the express consent of the artists who continue to own and possess the copyright for their individual pieces. Their work should not be reproduced or distributed outside the specific use of these materials as part of the Ulukhaktok Seasonal Calendar.

The community of Ulukhaktok welcomes the use of the calendar as a source of inspiration for others (such as scientists, students, or other Inuit communities), under two conditions:

1. Respecting the integrity of the calendar as a whole. Individual pieces of the calendar (e.g. single stories or drawings out of context) cannot be used without express consent from the OHTC, representing local contributors' rights and ownership.
2. Whenever using these materials, use the following citation to acknowledge authorship: Patrick Farnole, Allen Pogotak, Koral Memogana, Mark Stoller, Nadja Steiner. Ulukhaktok Cultural Calendar. Olokhaktomiut Hunters & Trappers Committee, 2024.

If you have any question, please reach out to the first author (patrick.farnole@polytechnique.org) or the OHTC:

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