



# NUNAVUT TUNNGAVIK INC.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Cambridge Bay, Nunavut

October 24-26, 2023

**Resolution #: RSA-23-10-12**

**High Cost of Living in Nunavut**

**Moved by:** Charlie Qumuatuq

**Seconded by:** Katherina Lucy Pudluk

**WHEREAS** the cost of everyday living, including the basic necessities such as housing and food, is prohibitively high in Nunavut;

**AND WHEREAS** the high food price is exacerbated by the fact that more than half of the \$131-million annual Nutrition North subsidy paid directly to grocery retailers serving over 120 remote northern communities from Labrador to Yukon is reportedly pocketed by the retailers instead of being passed on to consumers as required by the program;

**AND WHEREAS** it is also prohibitively expensive to travel by air or to transport goods by air between communities in Nunavut and between Nunavut other parts of Canada;

**AND WHEREAS** over a quarter of Inuit under 65 years of age are unemployed with no stable income other than social assistance, and one third of households in poverty;

**AND WHEREAS** the Indigenous Community Support Fund (ICSF) provided by the Government of Canada during the COVID-19 pandemic and administered by the Inuit Organizations, had provided significant relief for Inuit;

**AND WHEREAS** in May 2023, the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut unanimously called for the Auditor General of Canada to audit the Nutrition North subsidy program;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Members call on the Government of Canada and the Government of Nunavut to take immediate actions to combat the high cost of living in Nunavut, including, without limitation, increasing income support payments and providing more support to harvesters;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Members call on the Government of Canada to continue providing Indigenous Community Support Fund or an alternative or equivalent minimum income program, as a permanent or pilot program to combat poverty in Nunavut;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Members call on the Government of Canada to audit the Nutrition North subsidy program and to enhance monitoring and enforcement mechanism to ensure the annual Nutrition North subsidy is fully passed on to Inuit.

**In Favour:** All

**Against:**

**Abstention:**

Carried:

Defeated:

Date: October 26, 2023