City of Iqaluit
1085 Mivvik Street
P.O. Box 460
Iqaluit, Nunavut
X0A 0H0

NEWS RELEASE

Iqaluit Recreation Master Plan Recipient of National Award of Excellence – Research, from Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA)

August 8, 2022- Iqaluit, Nunavut

George Harris Collaborative Inc. was presented a National Award of Excellent, in the research category, from the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA) for their work with the City of Iqaluit on the Iqaluit Recreation Master Plan.

Based on Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, the research in the Iqaluit Recreation Master Plan applied the LocalsKnow approach to learn about vernacular recreation practices, acknowledging that facilities are not only physical places, but also have cultural and spiritual dimensions. The result of the research proposed a 'Shift' from a focus on facilities to one that puts the needs and preferences of Iqalummiut first.

The plan highlights the existing and distinct strengths of the community, inventories current programs, infrastructure and the potential for further development of holistic recreation programs across the lifespan. It acknowledges that the needs of residents go beyond the pre-established notions of recreation in ways that support Iqalummiut to sustain a lifestyle that is fulfilling. The plan is primarily informed by locally gathered data as well as traditional and contemporary recreation patterns in both a local and circumpolar context. Typical industry measures of success such as facility utilization rates and program participation only scratch the surface of the much wider role that the City of Iqaluit Recreation Department plays in the community.

The City of Iqaluit would like to thank George Harris Collaborative Inc. and all residents who provided feedback to allow the City of Iqaluit to have a robust Recreation Master Plan that will serve our residents for the coming years.

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For additional information, please contact:

Aleksey Cameron
Communications and Customer Service Manager
City of Iqaluit
867-979-5607 | a.cameron@iqaluit.ca