



April 3, 2023

### **NIIA Funding Program 2023-2024**

Nunalituqait Ikajuqatigiittut Inuit Association (NIIA) would like to thank you for deciding to get involved in substance abuse prevention in your community! Prevention means different things to different people, but at NIIA, when we review requests for funds, we think of prevention as anything that helps reduce the use, risk, and or impact of substance use in Nunavik.

There are not always as many dollars as there are requests, so we look for projects that affect the most significant numbers of people “at risk” or developing and having a problem of substance abuse. Our population is very young and growing fast.

The earlier a person uses alcohol, drugs or tobacco, the longer they will probably use over their life span. Will your project help children delay their experimentation with substance use and abuse? We have many young families and parents. Children and youth who have been abused and or neglected, or whose parents have had parenting problems are very high risk for substance abuse. Will your project offer support and assistance to parents? Is it aimed at reducing abuse and neglect? Is it promoting “safety” in the community?

Substance and mental health problems often occur together. Does your project promote mental wellness? Does your project offer opportunities for children or youth to learn skills and techniques that can help them deal with their emotions and stress and more able to cope with life’s challenges? Children and Youth who are well connected to their families and extended families are less “at risk” for substance abuse. Does your project promote inter-generational and extended family interaction?

If you have an idea and wonder if NIIA can help you with funding, we invite you to call us at 1-866-964-2976 and explore your idea with our staff before you submit a request, they may be able to offer you some assistance. Working together is something we have always known how to do, and we are proud to be able to look forward to working together with you.

The Board and Staff of Nunalituqait Ikajuqatigiittut Inuit Association.

Sincerely,

Charlie Okpik  
NIIA President

