



### Statement of Proposed Research

I am an anthropologist and archaeologist with more than ten years of experience carrying out research on the long and complex history of Inuit life in the North. Over the summer of 2018, I hope to engage in a small research project on historic Inuit life at the old village site *Avvajja* (NiHg-1), nearby to Iglulik. Based upon information I have gathered from local elders' accounts and historical records, it is clear *Avvajja* was one of the most important sites in the region before the establishment of the modern community. Along with a small field crew of one field assistant and an Inuk student (who will be paid an honorarium), I hope to achieve the following at *Avvajja*:

1. On-site **consultation with Iglulingmiut elders** who have firsthand knowledge of life at the site;
2. Detailed **mapping of the Inuit-built sod house features** at the site, as well as the *Tuniit* houses located nearby; and
3. Limited archaeological testing of parts of the site identified by elders as places where animal bones and other food waste were thrown away from the houses.

At every stage of the work—from the design of the project to interpretation of the results—I hope to involve Inuit in meaningful ways. It is important to note that **I do not intend to do excavate or disturb any of the sod houses at the site**. I understand the deep connection many Iglulingmiut elders have to these recently occupied places, and I am primarily interested in learning more about them through *Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit*. I believe promoting elders' knowledge of the site both within and beyond Nunavut, as well as learning more about hunting and diets at the site through scientific methods, would be greatly beneficial to Iglulingmiut. In addition, a local student would gain invaluable surveying and mapping experience.

I look forward to hearing from locals how this research could be improved or added-to; all perspectives are welcome.

Sincerely,

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