

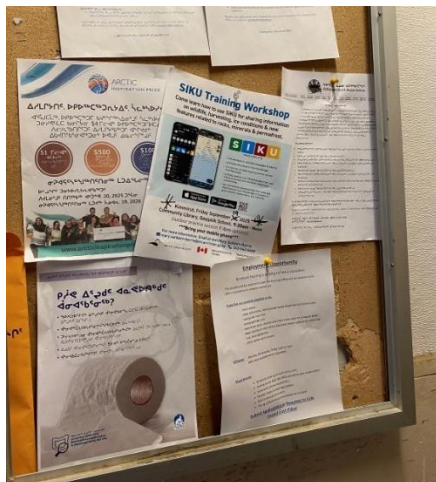
5-day Engagement visit to Kimmirut, NU September 17-22, 2025

Wednesday Sept. 17

Arrive Kimmirut ~3:45 PM (flight was delayed due to a 'make up' flight before our scheduled flight). Met at airport by **Elder Jeannie Padluq** who transported heavy case of rocks and luggage to her home for our homestay. Jeannie is a recipient of the King Charles III's Coronation medal (May 2025) for her significant contributions to the community throughout her life, working to strengthen cultural practices and promote community well-being. Her dedication has had a lasting impact, fostering unity and cultural pride in Kimmirut. Settled into rooms (Mary #3, Angela #4)



Jeannie Padluq transporting our gear, Kimmirut, NU September 17, 2025



Posted flyers announcing SIKU training opportunity at Co-op (left) & Northern (right) stores, Kimmirut, NU

Thursday Sept 18

8AM informal tour of town with resident Kootoo Ikkidluak

9-11AM: Meetings with **Hamlet Staff (867-939-2247)**

- Leetia Naulaq, Qikitani Inuit Association (867-939-2135; kimmirutclo@qia.ca)
- Ey (Community Wellness officer)
- Jenny Lyta (2nd floor reception)
- Mayor Maliktoo Lyta

9:15-10AM: meeting with Chief Financial Officer (**CFO**) and acting **SAO John Mabberi-Mudonyi**:

- introduced the GEM GeoNorth community mapping activity

- discussed linkage to SIKU training,
- explained process of hiring via an Agreement to ensure that Hamlet would be willing to administrate pay via a “Procurement Memorandum of Agreement for Services” to pay hires next summer (Pay Verification form).

Super positive about everything...“It’s a no-brainer” “It’s exactly what we like: training and resources focused on residents” “win-win”.

10AM: met Kitty Arlooktoo Barrieau at the radio station and provided her with Inuktitut explanation of SIKU for announcement

10:30-11AM: meeting with **Economic Development Office (EDO) Nigel Audla**. Extremely positive.



Presenting proposed community mapping activity to EDO Nigel Audla.

11:30-11:50: **Mayukalik Hunters’ and Trappers’ Association (HTA)** introduction with Pitsiulala and Neevee. mayukalik@baffinhto.ca phone 867-939-2355

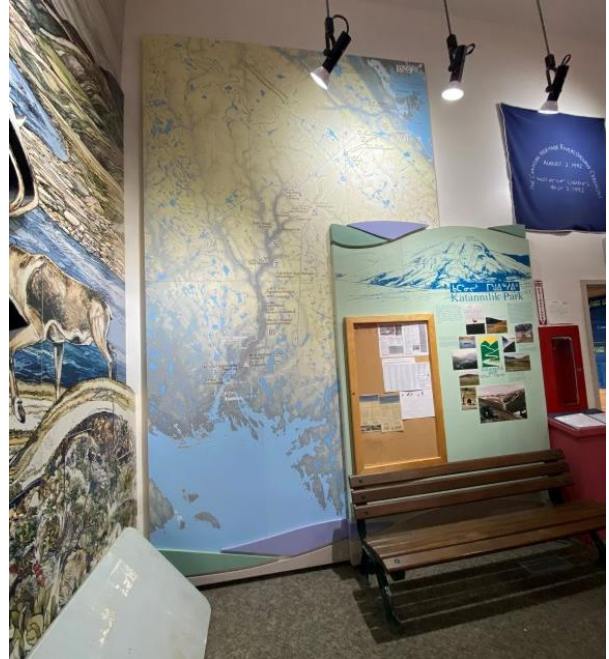
Lunch

Thursday afternoon 1:40 arrival at **Qaqqalik School (867-939-2221)** met Mary (secretary), Alyson Richard (vice-principal), Karen Ross (Principal), Katie, Roberta Wood (supervised the afternoon geo presentations), Mike Wood (science teacher & Roberta’s husband)

2-2:45PM: presentation and hands-on rock and minerals with 9-10’s

2:45-4PM: presentation and hands-on rock and minerals 11-12’s (Shorty and friend; Alec (smart Alec; Abraham signed up for 2026 hiring 867-218-0213)

Meeting with **Nunavut Parks Ranger Andrew Boyd** who requested ‘Points of Interest’ pilot study be extended beyond the municipality of Kimmirut into Katannilik Park, the largest territorial park in the Nunavut park system, to include the Soper River (Canadian Heritage canoe route) and the overland trail (Itijjagiq Trail)) that links Kimmirut to Frobisher Bay.



Wall map of the Itijjagiq (“overland”) Trail from Kimmirut to Frobisher Bay, Katannalik Park Office

Friday Sept 19 2025

Windy day, school cancelled

8AM: met Alyson Richard (Vice Principal) at Qaqqalik School, who opened up the portable used for training

9:30: intro to the “Points of Interest” activity (9:30 AM) followed by Virtual SIKU training (AM) offered by Candice and Kelsey. Gender-balanced attendees were all inuk and included:

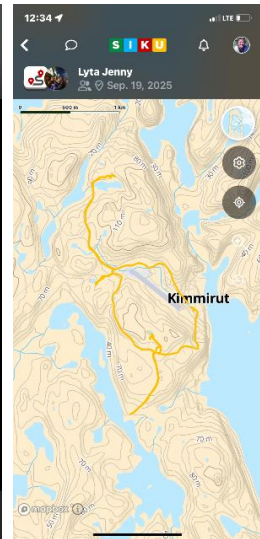
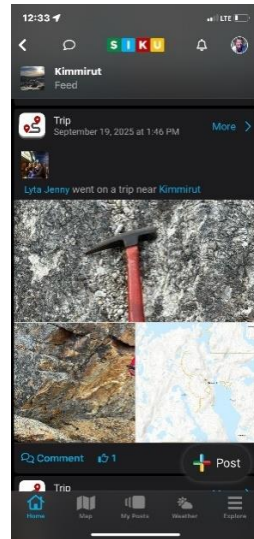
- Laila Onalik (F) heavy equipment operator MaryRiver Mine; SIKU post of northern lights at 1AM Sept 20
- Shorty Onalik (M) grade 11-12, attended school presentation the day before, quiet and focussed
- KooToo Ikkidluak (M) very interested but no dataplan; my hotspot was unsuccessful due to password issues with his account. Got frustrated and left after 30 minutes
- Tommy Akavak (M) noted immediately that traditional names currently portrayed need local input. I scheduled a meeting with Tommy for 5PM Sunday hoping to learn more about traditional places names and their meaning, but he didn’t show. His number is (867) 222-8914 in case Candice wants to re-connect.
- Jenny Lyta (F) receptionist at Hamlet Office; stayed for the afternoon field testing session and posted her trip
- Martha Ikkidluak (F) stayed for the afternoon session and posted her trip
- Simon (M) social grade 4 student with an interest in minerals and rocks; quiet and paid attention to much of the presentation
- Elizabeth (F) social grade 5-6 student, paid attention to much of the presentation



Arctic Eider Society (AES) SIKU trainers Candice Sudlovenik (left) and Kelsey Crouse

SIKU training, Kimmirut, Sept 19 2025

Friday afternoon 1:30 – 4PM Hands on SIKU training



Friday afternoon hands on SIKU training with Martha Ikkidluak (left) & Jenny Lyta (center). Screenshots show rocks and route travelled.

Saturday Sept 20

Mapping (ridge across from Jeannie's and several stops on the out-of-print Geology Tour) and promote community mapping in summer 2026



Sunday Sept 21:

mapping (end of airport runway & the Heel)



Sample of yellow-brown chondrodite ($Mg_5Si_2O_8(F,OH)_2$), white calcite ($CaCO_3$) & violet spinel ($MgAl_2O_4$) in marble at end of runway.



View of the landmark white dolomite ($MgCa(CO_3)_2$) outcrop whose shape like a "heel" translates in Inuktitut to "Kimmirut"

Monday Sept 22:

arrive at Qaqqalik School at 9:30AM and set up posters and samples in the kitchen classroom.



Rocks and minerals setup in kitchen classroom, Sept 22



Teacher Bailey and her 3/4 class

10:25-11AM: Bailey's grade 3/4 class:

- Simon (attended SIKU, took a lens & hauled away)
- Vivian
- Seiena
- Miranda
- Rhoda
- Anneak
- Joshua
- Solomon

11:15-noon 5/6 class

- Mary
- Elizabeth (attended SIKU training)
- Koomelius
- Adamie
- Emily
- Liam
- Amanda
- Robert
- Chris
- Kom
- Nelson
- Ryan
- Mosesie

Blake (grandson of Jeannie)

13:00 Check in at Canadian North counter (kindly assisted by Jeannie's granddaughter Jenn)
14:55 departure for Iqaluit
20:30 departure for Ottawa

Useful words:

o-LA-koo.....good morning

nakurmiik (nak-O-meek).....thank you (but if in regard to food, use "qujannamiik")

okalik or ukalik arctic hare

tuktu..... caribou

arvik (or arvitt).....bowhead whale

muktuk.....skin and blubber of beluga or bowhead whale