

NIHC Jury

Originally from Arctic Bay, **Eva Qamaniq Aariak** is a passionate advocate for Nunavut and a tireless promoter of Inuit culture and language. She was elected to the Legislative Assembly and served as Nunavut's first female premier from 2008-2013. She was Nunavut's first Languages Commissioner from 1999–2003, business owner, teacher, adult educator, Human Resource Officer, coordinator of Inuktitut children's book publishing, and a radio and television reporter for CBC North. In the years leading up to the creation of Nunavut, Aariak worked with the Office of the Interim Commissioner of Nunavut as Public Affairs Manager.

Aariak is a recipient of the Order of Canada and EVE Award and was named a Visionary Canadian by the Bold Vision, Women's Leadership Conference. She has served on many boards, including as President of IHT. She was one of three commissioners for the North Water Polynya Pikialasorsuaq representing Canada with Inuit Circumpolar Commission. Aariak owns Malikkaat Boutique in Iqaluit, has four grown children and is a proud grandmother of four: Tasiana, Joyce, James Aliguq and Benjamin.

Leena Evic is the founder and President of the Pirurvik Centre, an Inuit-owned company dedicated to Inuit language, culture and wellbeing. Pirurvik's programming explores the highest levels of Inuit knowledge, provides language enhancement to Inuktit speakers and teaches Inuktit as a Second Language to younger Inuit and those from outside the culture. The Centre's wellbeing programs are designed around the specific needs of Inuit men, women and youth. Pirurvik also leads in the creation of computing tools for Inuktit in the digital age.

Leena shares her experience and inspiration through speaking events in local communities, throughout Nunavut and the rest of Canada, and on the global stage.

Piita Irniq is an Inuit cultural teacher who has lived most of his life in the Kivalliq Region of Nunavut. He was the executive assistant to Assistant Commissioner of the NWT from 1974 to 1975, then was elected to represent Keewatin Region for four years. He was named director of the Inuit Cultural Institute in 1992 and Director of Communications for Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated the following year. He was appointed Deputy Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth with a mandate to be the guardian of traditional Inuit culture and language. Peter has also been recognized internationally for his artistic ability in designing inuksuit (plural). He has built Inuksuit in Paris, at Juno Beach in Normandy, Houston Texa, Ottawa International Airport, Washington D.C. and numerous other locations.



Nicole Luke is an urban Inuk who is passionate about culture and design. Born in Yellowknife, NWT, Nicole is originally from the Kivalliq region of Nunavut where her family resides. She lives in Winnipeg Manitoba, Treaty 1 territory and homeland of the Metis Nation. She is the first Inuk to receive a Bachelor Degree of Environmental Design in 2019 and Masters in the Department of Architecture in 2021 at the University of Manitoba.

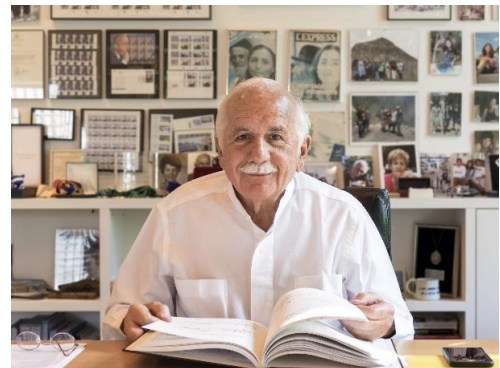
She aspires to become one of the first Inuit architects and aims to expose youth in smaller/ northern communities to greater education related to the design field.

Moshe Safdie is an architect, urban planner, educator, theorist, and author. Embracing a comprehensive and humane design philosophy, Safdie is committed to architecture that supports and enhances a project's program; that is informed by the geographic, social, and cultural elements that define a place; and that responds to human needs and aspirations.

Over a celebrated 55-year career, Safdie has explored the essential principles of socially responsible design with a distinct visual language. His wide range of completed projects include cultural, educational, and civic institutions; neighbourhoods and public parks; housing; mixed-use urban centers; airports; master plans for existing communities and entirely new cities. Safdie's projects can be found in North and South America, and throughout Asia.

Sakiasie Sowdloopik is an IHT Board member. Born in an outpost camp north of Pangnirtung in Illungajut, Bon Accord, he hunted and fished with his father until moving by dog team to Pangnirtung in the 1960s to attend Federal Day School and Vocational Training School. He was an Auyuittuq National Park warden, patrolling by hiking, skiing, and mountain climbing. As Visitor Services Manager he traveled extensively in the High Arctic. Sakiasie was a Wildlife Officer for the Government of Nunavut for 16 years, working with wildlife and marine mammals in Cumberland Sound.

He was a volunteer Assistant Fire Chief, started the local elder's group, and served as Mayor of Pangnirtung, President of Nunavut Municipalities, and CEO of Pangnirtung Fisheries Ltd. Sakiasie owns a vehicle rentals/general contracting business.



Dr. Desiree Valadares is an Assistant Professor at UBC-Vancouver in the Geography Department and a Faculty Affiliate in the Asian Canadian and Asian Migration Studies program. She is trained as a landscape architect (Guelph; Edinburgh), urban designer (McGill) and architectural historian (UC Berkeley) with research and policy expertise on issues of stewardship, access, repatriation, and collective ownership of culturally significant places and objects. She currently serves on two national committees: the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA) Cultural and Historic Landscapes Committee, and the ICOMOS Canada's (International Council on Monuments and Sites) Heritage Policy Standing Committee where she advocates for the protection of culturally significant landscapes at the local, provincial/territorial, and national levels.

