

HIGH SCHOOL

Tuugaalik High School Naujaat, Nunavut, Canada





New Construction/Addition Entire school/campus building

Parkin Architects Limited

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DESIGN TEAM

Robert Borks, Parkin Architects Limited, Project/ Design Architect

Justin Leclair, Parkin Architects Limited, Design/Job

Chantal Blatti, Parkin Arhitects Limited, Interior Designer

Accutech Engineering Inc., Project Lead Accutech Engineering Inc., Mechanical, Electrical, Structural Engineers

OWNER/CLIENT

Tuugaalik High School Naujaat, Nunavut, Canada Paul Mulak, Director, Capital Projects 867/975-5414

KEY STATS

Capacity: 210 students Size of Site: 2.7 acres Building Area: 32,000 gsf

Grades Served: 9-12

Space per Student: 152 sq. ft.

Cost per Student: \$128,571.42 (includes northern cost premium)

Square Foot Cost: \$843.75 (includes northern cost premium)

Project Cost: \$27,000,000 (includes northern cost premium)

Completion Date: August 2016

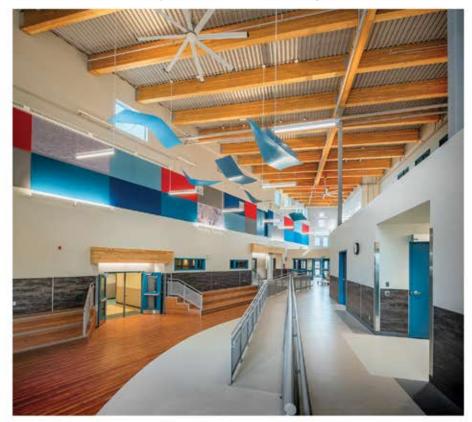
Sustainability Rating Status: Designed to Sustainable Principles

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Tuugaalik High School lies directly on the Arctic Circle in the hamlet of Naujaat, in northern Canada. Opened in August 2016, the school serves a primarily lnuk student population of 210. The 32,000 sq. ft. facility includes 10 teaching classrooms, two trades classrooms, a gym, daycare, and a large communal space called a "Kiva." It has been in only the last two

or three generations that the Inuit have felt the effects associated with the transformation of a nomadic culture to a sedentary, village culture. Lack of employment opportunities, substandard housing, and difficult living conditions all contribute to a situation that is reflected in low academic attendance and graduation rates.

In addressing education needs of the stu-





dents, the architect was influenced by Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (IQ)—Inuk guidelines that are meant to inform all aspects of daily life. Elements of IQ, which informed the design included: respect, being open and welcoming, community service, consensus building, resourcefulness, and environment-caring. Traditional methods of Inuit learning were based on teaching survival skills through informal, community interaction. In addition to providing learning spaces associated with southern pedagogy, the Tuugaalik design provides spaces for more traditional activities such as fur preparation and carving.

The school also includes a large interstitial space between classrooms and gym for informal learning. By mimicking the sloping terrain, the Kiva celebrates the ascending southern





sun, and connections to the Arctic Ocean. The space is meant to be welcoming to community elders who, it is hoped, will feel welcomed to enter the school and share their traditional knowledge in an informal, communal space.

Vibrant colors, which are symbolic of the Arctic's brief spring, help to dispel negative attributes associated with institutions. Specialized building techniques were employed to help protect the permafrost and help keep snow away from building facades.