

INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR COUNCIL – CANADA

President

Nancy Karetak-Lindell

Nancy Karetak-Lindell was elected as the ICC Canada President in April 2016. As the ICC Canada President, Nancy holds a seat on the international ICC Executive Council along with other members from Canada, Greenland, Alaska and Chukotka.

Karetak-Lindell is a former Canadian politician who was elected in 1997 as the first Member of Parliament for the new riding of Nunavut. Re-elected in 2000, 2004 and 2006, she is also the first female Member of Parliament for the Eastern Arctic.

She was the parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Natural Resources in 2003, served as the chair and vice-chair of the Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs & Northern Development, a member of Standing Committee on Fisheries & Oceans and an associate member of other Standing Committees. She was a key player in negotiations to establish Nunavut as a political jurisdiction in Canada.

Her decision to step down in 2008 was to spend more time with her family and her elderly parents. She was director of the Jane Glassco Arctic Fellowship Program from 2009 until 2012. She also chaired the Indigenous Knowledge Program with the IPY2012 in Montreal, Nunavut Development Centre and Nunavut Business Development Centre.

Before entering federal politics, Ms. Karetak-Lindell served for 15 years in managerial positions for the Arviat Housing Association and Eskimo Point Lumber Supply. During this time she sat on the local education council, Arviat Hamlet Council, regional education board, Kivalliq Inuit Association, NWT Power Corporation, Nunavut Arctic College and the Canada Day Committee.

Ms. Karetak-Lindell was born and raised in Arviat (formerly Eskimo Point) on the west coast of Hudson Bay, in the Kivalliq Region of Nunavut. She has four sons, gained four daughters in laws and has twelve grandchildren and credits the strong family support she receives for her achievements.