**Director Robert Watt**

Since his early career, Mr. Robert Watt has been involved in promoting, protecting, and preserving Inuktitut. He organized and facilitated Inuktitut terminology workshops, created databases for translators and interpreters, and personally helped develop and teach the Adult Education Translator/Interpreter Program.

As elected President of the Avataq Cultural Institute from 1998 to 2001, Mr. Watt co-created and initiated the commercial production and marketing of Avataq’s five blends of herbal teas. He ensured that all proceeds would be used for the protection and preservation of Inuit Culture and Language., Mr. Watt also facilitated the first ever national gathering of Canadian Inuit throat singers organized by the Avataq Cultural Institute. This event paved the way to the provincial government granting throat singing as a special cultural heritage status in Quebec.

Co-Director of the Inuit Sub-Commission at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Mr. Watt visited numerous Canadian communities, collecting almost 800 statements from residential school and intergenerational trauma survivors. Hearing the hurts and hopes conveyed by these testimonies has increased his own sense of heritage and identity.

More recently, Mr. Watt was President and Commissioner of Kativik Ilisarniliriniq, a school board created under the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement. In this role, he actively supported initiatives to advance the protection, strengthening and development the Inuktitut language through educational programming rooted in the Inuit identity and worldview.