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**OPINION** 

TAISSUMANI

FEATURES WEEKLY EDITION

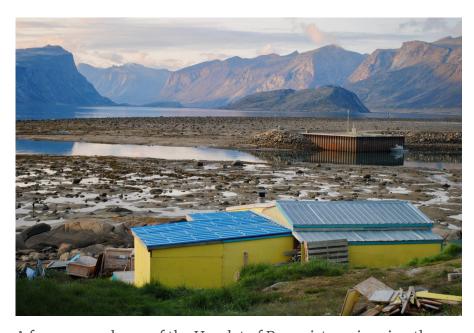
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**NEWS** MAR 22, 2021 - 9:30 AM EDT

# Woman alleges former Pangnirtung SAO terminated her job for refusing sex

**NEWS** 

Harassment claims are detailed in lawsuit against hamlet and Nunavut government



A former employee of the Hamlet of Pangnirtung is suing the hamlet and territorial government, claiming neither intervened when she reported her boss for sexually harassing her. (File photo)







#### By Randi Beers

A former finance director for the Hamlet of Pangnirtung is suing the hamlet and Nunavut government, saying neither protected her from sexual abuse she says happened at the hands of her boss.

The allegations are detailed in a statement of claim filed in Nunavut court last May, and haven't been proven in court.

The plaintiff, who was granted an application to have her identity protected by Nunavut court and is identified in the claim as Jane Doe, moved to Pangnirtung with her young daughter for a one-year contract with the hamlet in May 2018.

She alleges her boss, former senior administrative officer Jim Crawford, touched her without consent, sent her sexual text messages, made "highly sexualized" comments to her, "aggressively" pursued an intimate relationship with her, and terminated her employment about three months into her contract because she would not have sex with him.

The woman describes the treatment as sexual abuse multiple times throughout her statement of claim.

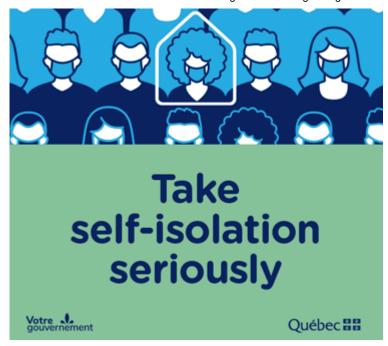
She says she was forced to move out of staff housing after her employment was terminated, and incurred financial costs related to having to relocate a "significant" distance away, according to the statement of claim.











The woman says the experience harmed her in several ways. She says she lost the opportunity to earn an income, and suffered psychological anguish, continued distress resulting from memories of the harassment, loss of reputation and standing in Pangnirtung, and humiliation due to Crawford "having violated her physically, sexually, spiritually and emotionally."

She says she "explicitly and directly" told both the hamlet and territorial government about Crawford's actions, and neither intervened.

The Nunavut government is also named in the lawsuit because, the plaintiff argues, the territorial Hamlets Act gave it a duty to step in after the municipal government failed to respond to her complaints.

The territorial government is fighting to be removed from the lawsuit. It argues that in Nunavut, hamlets control their own affairs, and that the plaintiff's claim is "vexatious" and "frivolous."

Earlier this month, Nunavut Court judge Christian Lyons rejected these arguments, and the territorial









government is appealing that decision, confirmed territorial government lawyer William Lu.

Neither the hamlet nor the territorial government have submitted statements of defence.



Crawford is not named as a defendant in the lawsuit and the allegations against him have not been proven.

He moved to Pangnirtung from British Columbia to serve as SAO in June 2018, according to a Nunavut News report from that year.

Crawford is no longer working for the hamlet, according to Pangnirtung's director of finance Nazmul Huda, who estimates he left two and a half years ago.

Nunatsiaq News has been unable to reach Crawford for comment.

The plaintiff's lawyer, Geoffrey Budden, said a date still needs to be set to argue the Nunavut government's appeal.









A trial, if it happens, is still "months down the road," he said.

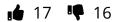
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#### Posted by Reality on Mar 22, 2021

So the plaintiff gets to remain anonymous, yet her alleged abuser's name is announced and he doesn't even get to defend himself as he's not even named in her lawsuit? Yet she does know to go after the entities that have money and knows that government tends to settle rather than defend themselves. A whole lot of questionable ethics going on.



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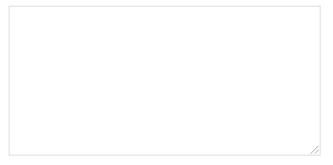
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### **Notices & Tenders**

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES - GN Department of Human Resources

Community Development Officer – Technical, and more...

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#### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - Kitikmeot Inuit Association

Land and Environment Project Officer

**ENGLISH** 

### **BOARD RECRUITMENT - Qulliq Energy Corporation**

Qulliq Energy Corporation accepting applications for the Board of Directors

**ENGLISH, FRENCH, INUKTITUT, INUINNAQTUN** 

### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - Inuit Heritage Trust**

Archaeologist

**ENGLISH | INUKTITUT** 

# **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - Inuit Heritage Trust**

**Curator of Community Engagement** 

**ENGLISH** INUKTITUT

### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES - GN Department of Human Resources**

Budget Analyst, and more...

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### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - Nunavut Water Board**

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**ENGLISH** 

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### NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS - Kakivak Association

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### INUIT CHILD FIRST INITIATIVE - Indigenous Services Canada

Every child deserves access to services that they need

ENGLISH, FRENCH INUKTITUT, INUINNAQTUN

#### **VISIT YOUR CO-OP - Arctic Co-operatives**

Ice Breaker Sale - until March 27, 2021

**ENGLISH, INUKTITUT** 

## **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS - Nunavut Employees Union**

**NEU 8th Triennial Convention Delegates** 

ENGLISH | INUKTITUT | FRENCH | INUINNAQTUN

#### **MINING - Tata Steel Minerals Canada**

Iron ore mining operations

**ENGLISH** 

# CALL FOR NOMINATIONS AND NOTICE OF ELECTIONS - Nunavut Employees Union

Seven (7) NEU Regional Vice-President (RVP) and Alternate RVP Positions

ENGLISH | INUKTITUT | FRENCH | INUINNAQTUN

### THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS - The Marketplace

Prices in effect March 19 to April 4, 2021

**ENGLISH, INUKTITUT** 

### STUDENT WORK PLACEMENTS - Government of Canada Magnet project

Looking for a brilliant new idea to help grow your business?

**ENGLISH, INUKTITUT** 

### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - Hamlet of Whale Cove**

Senior Administrative Officer (SAO)

**ENGLISH** | INUKTITUT

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES - GN Department of Human Resources

Manager of Health Records, and more...

**ENGLISH** | INUKTITUT

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES - Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami

Senior Research and Policy Advisor, and more...

ENGLISH INUKTITUT

## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - Sakku Investments Corporation**

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**ENGLISH INUKTITUT** 

#### LANGUAGE RIGHTS - Office of the Languages Commissioner of Nunavut

Your language rights, our priority!

**ENGLISH, FRENCH, INUKTITUT, INUINNAQTUN** 

#### **NOTICE - Nunavut Impact Review Board**

Agnico Eagle's "Saline Effluent Discharge to Marine Environment" Proposal

ENGLISH INUKTITUT INUINNAQTUN

#### COVID-19 VACCINE - Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada

For my community

ENGLISH, INUKTITUT | FRENCH, INUINNAQTUN

#### **COVID-19 - Government of Québec**

We all want to know more about COVID-19 vaccination

**ENGLISH** 

#### **COVID-19 - Government of Québec**

Take self-isolation seriously

**ENGLISH** 

### **REQUEST FOR TENDERS/PROPOSALS - GN Community and Government Services**

Go to Nunavuttenders.ca to download new procurement opportunities.

**ENGLISH** | INUKTITUT

## **HUMAN RIGHTS - Nunavut Human Rights Tribunal**

You have the right to equal treatment

**ENGLISH, INUKTITUT** | **FRENCH, INUINNAQTUN** 

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