

The Suburban, October 6, 2023 – By Mike Cohen



Pinchuk & Blair in Aupaluk, Nunavik, September 18, 2023

PROJECT FOR HEALING: After the extent of the residential school tragedy came to light a few years ago, **Gary Blair** and **Earl Pinchuk** thought it would be a nice idea to bring Indigenous art to the Indigenous people. They were in touch with the Minister of Indigenous Affairs office and were given a list of 10 Indigenous healthcare centres across Canada. “We started with Quebec and made a proposal to the Ungava Tulattavik Health Centre in Kuujjuaq, Nunavik,” said Pinchuk. “They gladly accepted our offer of 14 Indigenous artworks and directed the donation to the brand new CLSC Aupaluk in Aupaluk, Nunavik, population of 233.”

The duo flew into Aupaluk last month and installed the artwork with a technician. There was also a ceremony to officially inaugurate the new CLSC, as well as their new permanent Indigenous art gallery. Each work has a plaque next to it, so the Indigenous community can learn more about their rich culture. “We’ve already been hired to do two more projects, both in Kuujjuaq, always with the same theme – Indigenous art for the Indigenous people,” said Pinchuk.