Iqaluit has lost a great community leader.
Former Mayor and Councillor Jimmy “Flash” Kilabuk passed away on Saturday, April 20th.
Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Annie and his family at this difficult time.

On behalf of City Council and Administration, I would like to offer heartfelt thanks to Mr. Kilabuk for his many years of service to this community.

Mr. Kilabuk got his nickname Flash after winning numerous Toonik Tyme long distance snowmobile races to Kimmirut, in record times, during the 1970s.

Flash became his nickname and it stuck with him for all these years.

Flash arrived from the Pangnirtung area in the mid 1960s. He was born on the land in a traditional Inuit camp called Ukkialivialuk.

He was one of the first Inuit businessmen running his own taxi service.

Flash served for many years with the Northwest Territories Corrections Service and worked at their camp at Mingortuk.

He was a volunteer fireman for many years and also served as Fire Chief.

Flash was an accomplished artist, as is his wife and his sons. He was famous for his ulus.

Flash served this community as a Councillor and Mayor over the past thirty five years. As Mayor he travelled to Iqaluit’s sister community, Sisimiut, in Greenland.

Flash was a great fan of the Montreal Canadiens hockey team and his house is full of Habs memorabilia.

Mr. Kilabuk and his service to Iqaluit is a great example of what one person can do to enhance the place in which he lives.

We need more people like him.

John Graham
Mayor