

ROLE MODEL BIO:

Vincent “Vinnie” Karetak was born in Arviat, NU, and has been living in Iqaluit, NU, for the past 20 years. Karetak is an actor for film, TV and the stage, as well as a drum dancer and emcee. He is a strong presence at Nunavut’s festivals, events and concerts. Karetak has tireless commitment to Inuit language and culture and champions Inuit performing artists. He is one of the owners of the production company, Qanukiaq, as well as a writer, producer and actor on one of the North’s most popular shows, Qanurli, now entering its seventh season on Aboriginal Peoples Network (APTN). He has acted in various other television shows and films, including The Grizzlies (2018) and Two Lovers and a Bear (2016). Karetak also co-directed, wrote, and was an original actor in the ground-breaking theatre work Kiviuq Returns: An Inuit Epic and has toured with it across the country.

LEARNING GOALS:

- I will make connections between a role model’s life experiences and my own

SUCCESS CRITERIA:

- I can identify 3 specific actions that helped Vinnie achieve their goals
- I can connect examples of these themes to my actions in my own life

IDENTIFY *Some of the themes below are discussed in the Fireside Chat with Vinnie Karetak*

Inuit governance

**asking for help
confidence**

**adaptability and collaboration
storytelling**

How have these themes been present in Vinnie’s life?

- Listen to the interview
- Record notes of relevant themes and examples

CONNECT *Reflect on your own journey. Where do these themes appear in your own life?*

Discuss with a friend or family member. Record your connections in writing, drawing or with music.

“Taking credit for yourself--you should really be able to do that. For a long time I thought the only reason why I did well in this thing or that thing was because of someone else...Learning how to say ‘I had a role in that and I do feel pretty good that it happened’. And accepting it for that made it easier for me to want to try other things”. -Vinnie Karetak

EXTEND *Vinnie Karetak draws inspiration from Inuit storytelling.*

How does participating in the tradition of storytelling help strengthen your understanding of your own individual and collective identities?