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INUIT TAPIIRIT KANATAMI

National Inuit Climate Change Strategy

About Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami

Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK) is the national representative organization for the 65,000 Inuit in Canada, the majority of whom live in Inuit Nunangat, the Inuit homeland encompassing 51 communities across the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (Northwest Territories), Nunavut, Nunavik (Northern Québec), and Nunatsiavut (Northern Labrador). Inuit Nunangat makes up nearly one third of Canada's landmass and 50 percent of its coastline. ITK represents the rights and interests of Inuit at the national level through a democratic governance structure that represents all Inuit regions. ITK advocates for policies, programs, and services to address the social, cultural, political, and environmental issues facing our people.

ITK's Board of Directors are as follows:

- Chair and CEO, Inuvialuit Regional Corporation
- President, Makivik Corporation
- President, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
- President, Nunatsiavut Government

In addition to voting members, the following non-voting Permanent Participant Representatives also sit on the Board:

- President, Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada
- President, Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada
- President, National Inuit Youth Council

Vision

Canadian Inuit are prospering through unity and self-determination

Mission

Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami is the national voice for protecting and advancing the rights and interests of Inuit in Canada

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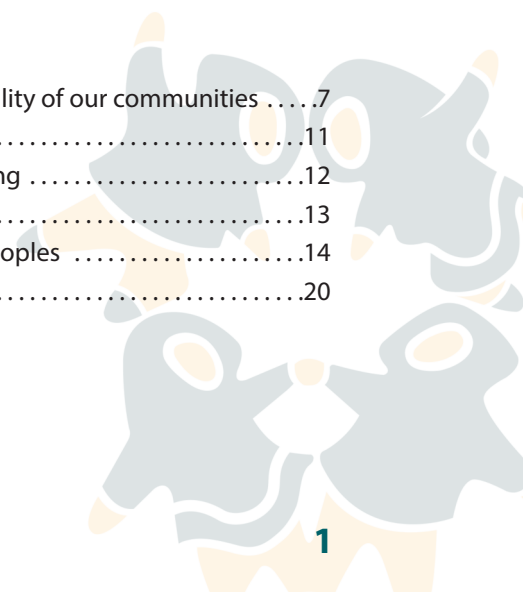
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1. Letter from ITK's President



As Inuit, our relationship with the environment is steeped with meaning. It shapes our identity, values and world view. Climate change has already brought marked changes to our way of life and the wildlife and ecosystems that sustain us. We must be prepared to take exceptional actions to adapt and remain resilient. Keeping our homeland cold is critical to us as a people. The international community understands now, more than ever, just how key keeping Inuit Nunangat cold is to avoiding irreversible changes to the Earth's entire climate system.

I am honoured to walk in the footsteps of past and current Inuit leaders who have consistently emphasized the critical importance of the snow, ice and permafrost that define us. For us, ice is a fundamental source of learning, memories, knowledge and wisdom. The United Nations warns that if humanity does not jump on the opportunity in the next decade to substantively and rapidly curb the current global rate of GHG emissions, we are literally leaving our children to face the consequences of catastrophic climate change, and nowhere more so than in our homeland.

If the world carries on emitting GHGs at current rates, it is projected Inuit will experience an average winter temperature increase of well over 10°C leading to an unimaginably stark climate reality for my children and future grandchildren. In my lifetime, the pace of warming in Inuit Nunangat has increased at nearly three times the rate of the rise in the average global temperature. Studies show that the majority of our infrastructure will be affected by thawing permafrost by 2050. Extreme weather events, storm surges and severe coastal erosion are also causing loss and damage to our inadequate housing and community infrastructure. The costs of replacing or repairing our damaged infrastructure and in some cases relocating entire communities will be staggering, never mind the incalculable costs on the health and safety of our people.

We have already lost almost 40 percent of our sea ice cover, and shipping activity in the Northwest Passage has showed increasing trends in the last decade. It is projected that in 30 years most of our marine areas will be free of ice altogether for at least one month every summer, with multi-year ice from the High Arctic drifting into ice free areas and presenting significant marine navigation hazards. A recent assessment by the Arctic Council warns that if we continue on our current emissions path we will lose the chance to stabilize Arctic sea ice loss and permafrost thaw within a decade.

In the light of these dire projections, ITK's National Inuit Climate Change Committee (NICCC) worked for over a year to develop a Strategy identifying common Inuit climate priorities across our homeland, Inuit Nunangat. The key considerations framing the Strategy centre its implementation on Inuit rights and the governance structures defined in our land claims agreements. This Strategy provides guidance to existing and future partners, including governments and organizations, on how to work with us to achieve our climate priorities. Successful working partnerships will require a mutual understanding of how Inuit are represented and engaged on climate issues through a rights-based approach. A complementary collaboration framework (Appendix A) describes our governance systems and how potential and existing partners can work with us to achieve our climate priorities.

This Strategy is also designed to support the ongoing development of Inuit regional climate strategies, and our ongoing participation and involvement in international climate policy-making and discussions. We recognize that the engagement of our communities in the work to achieve the Strategy's priorities is key. This engagement will be led by regionally-developed processes connecting this national strategy, and our positions at an international level, with local priorities. It is also critical that information about the outcomes of national and international discussions reach our communities.

Our aim is to revisit the Strategy regularly to ensure it guides flexible, effective and coordinated policy shifts among Inuit organizations in a rapidly evolving climate policy environment. We limited the initial implementation of the Strategy to a three-year timeframe to ensure it stays relevant and responsive to climatic and policy shifts in the immediate future, while striving for sustained long-term outcomes.

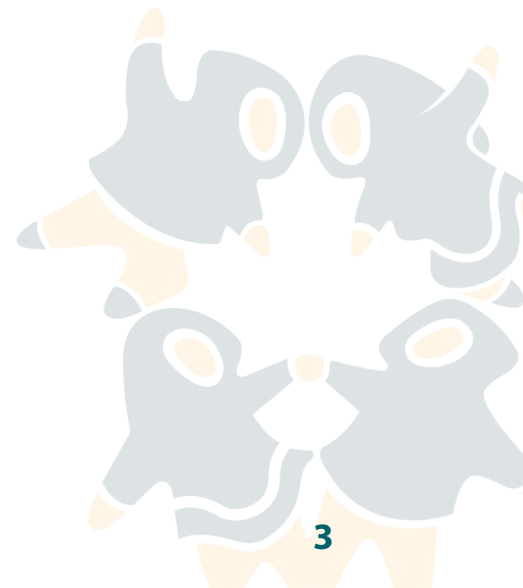
Alarming, some studies indicate there is only a 5% chance that humanity will achieve the Paris Agreement goal of limiting warming to 2°C by the end of the 21st century. In response, a rapidly growing number of communities, cities, even entire countries around the world are declaring climate emergencies. We can afford nothing less than transformative actions to drastically curb GHG emissions and proactively adapt to current and emerging climate risks. As diverse as we are, every human being on this planet is bound by an interdependence on the environment and profound concern for the future of our children. As Inuit, we have found the strength to remain resilient in the face of the devastating changes brought to our lives by colonialism. We are committed to drawing on the same resolve to help lead sustainable and just transformations that will ensure all our children thrive in the face of current and future climate risks. Climate change is a formidable crisis that requires unparalleled action. This is an emergency unlike any we have faced before, requiring all our shared strength and wisdom.

I hope this document inspires you to work with us to ensure our communities are equipped to adapt and thrive in the face of the profound change we are already experiencing.

Nakummek,



Natan Obed



2. Executive Summary

We understand climate change in our homelands, and our leaders are responding to it.

Inuit Nunangat is recognized as a global climate change hotspot, garnering national and global concern. We continue to emphasize that no one is more aware or concerned about the changes taking place in our homelands and their consequences than Inuit, as evidenced by our strident and effective advocacy for global action on climate change over the last three decades. We have an intimate understanding of how climate change is impacting the physical environment, and the wildlife and ecosystems that sustain us.

We are deeply concerned about the complex impacts of climate change on our social, cultural and economic systems, and our health and well-being.

Our vision and priorities must guide climate action that affects Inuit Nunangat

Coordinated, effective action to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change is essential. We are determined to actively shape climate policies and actions so that they are inclusive and effective for Inuit, improving our quality of life rather than adding to the socio-economic inequities we already face. We emphasize that we have critical contributions to make to climate policy and decision-making as rights-holders and knowledge-holders first and foremost. Our message is that for climate actions to be effective, appropriate, equitable, and sustainable for Inuit Nunangat, they must be in line with our collective Inuit vision for building the sustainability, prosperity, and well-being of our communities in the face of a changing climate. This vision and its context are described in detail in Part I of the Strategy.

Five priority areas for climate action

The Strategy identifies practical actions in five priority areas where integrated approaches and coordinated actions are necessary to meet our pressing adaptation, mitigation, and resilience-building needs: 1) knowledge and capacity-building; 2) health, well-being, and the environment; 3) food systems; 4) infrastructure; and 5) energy. An overview of key actions over the next four years associated with our priorities are outlined in the Strategy at a Glance and presented in detail in Part II of the Strategy.

Partnerships

We are seeking partnerships both domestically and internationally to achieve the objectives outlined in this Strategy based on our right to self-determination, and the expectation that domestic and international climate actions undertaken by Canada are predicated on this right. Only by working with Inuit can climate actions affecting our homelands be effective and sustainable in the long-term. A complementary collaboration framework (Appendix A) provides guidance on how existing and potential partners can meaningfully collaborate with us through our existing governance structures to protect our way of life, and support the sustainability of our communities in the face of our changing climate reality.

3. Introduction: The role of Inuit in climate action

The National Inuit Climate Change Strategy identifies the coordinated actions that are necessary within five priority areas to meet our adaptation, mitigation and resilience-building needs in the face of rapid climate change, and a quickly evolving climate policy environment. The Strategy lays out practical objectives to advance Inuit-driven climate actions, and guidance on how to work with us to protect our way of life and support the sustainability of our communities in the face of our changing climate reality.

Case studies illustrating the kinds of Inuit-led climate initiatives and partnerships we are seeking are highlighted throughout the Strategy (see numbered examples).

Example 1. Food security in the face of climate change: A community-based response

Inuvialuit Settlement Region

Climate change impacts on wildlife habitat are intersecting with a growing demand for country food and rising market food prices to impact food security in the ISR. In response, Inuvialuit are taking an integrated, community-based approach. As changing temperatures have meant that traditional, below-ground freezer storage has become unreliable and unsafe, the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC) is installing industrial community freezers in each of the Inuvialuit communities. Using a rebate from the Arctic Energy Alliance's Community Renewable Energy Program, a 2.5 kW grid-tied solar photovoltaic system was installed at the Inuvialuit Community Freezer in Inuvik. Solar panels are being installed on community freezers in other Inuvialuit communities as well—creating renewable energy generation capacity as well as solar installation training opportunities. Promoting food sharing through community freezers is being complemented by the development of country food processing facilities in many communities, as well as an initiative to commercialize country food distribution.

The Inuvialuit Community Economic Development Organization (ICEDO) has invested in the development of a certified Country Food Processing Methods training course and a purpose-built country food processing training facility that will work in concert to support the growth of the sector. This initiative aims to sustainably maximize economic benefits from and accessibility to nutritious country foods in the ISR — and ultimately, to improve food security — through awareness-raising, skills development, and product development. Should the initiative prove a viable and effective solution for increasing food security in Inuvialuit communities, the development of smaller custom processing facilities associated with community freezers in each Inuvialuit community will be pursued.

Inuit must be actively engaged by governments as partners in shaping climate policy. We first spoke out internationally about unprecedented climate change in our homeland well before the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was adopted more than 25 years ago. We have regularly appealed to global leaders to take substantive action ever since, including the leaders of the 197 countries who are parties to the UNFCCC. Most have now ratified the historic 2015 Paris Agreement,¹ a commitment to limit global warming below 2°C, with the ambition of limiting it to 1.5°C above pre-industrial temperatures.

Inuit Nunangat is recognized as a global climate change hotspot and projected to remain so in the future.² Even under a low emissions scenario where human caused GHG emissions immediately and substantively decline, in little more than 10 years, the annual mean temperature in our homeland is projected to reach close to 2°C. If human-caused emissions continue to rise at current rates, by the time our pre-teen children reach their mid-70s, the annual mean temperature in our homeland will potentially rise to close to 8°C (Canada's Changing Climate Report, <https://www.changingclimate.ca/CCCR2019/>). The climatic impacts we are experiencing are not just about changes to our physical environment and the wildlife and ecosystems that sustain us. Our social, cultural and economic systems are affected and ultimately so is our overall health and well-being.

Example 2: The Imappivut initiative: “Recognizing Labrador Inuit connection, knowledge and rights to our ocean”

Nunatsiavut

The Nunatsiavut Government’s Imappivut (Our Oceans) initiative was launched in September 2017 with the signing of a landmark Statement of Intent between the Nunatsiavut and Canadian governments. In this document, the governments expressed a commitment to working together to develop a marine management plan for northern Labrador’s marine waters — which extend along a stretch of coastline longer than the State of California — that centres Labrador Inuit rights and interests.

Climate change has already had impacts on marine life and Inuit use of the marine environment along the Labrador coast. To protect marine life while protecting Inuit use of the ocean, the initiative may include the creation and co-management of marine protected areas, including Indigenous Protected Areas.

In 2018, the Nunatsiavut Government began engaging with communities to consult and collect knowledge on local marine area uses, marine protection priorities, and options for job and opportunity creation.

As stated by Nunatsiavut President Johannes Lampe, “the Imappivut initiative is about recognizing Labrador Inuit connection, knowledge and rights to our ocean. It is about respecting our history and current needs by partnering with the Government of Canada to develop a management plan that ultimately improves the lives of those who depend on the water and the ecosystem itself.”

We continue to dispel stereotypes that portray us solely as passive witnesses to climate change, or as an early warning of the changes the rest of the world will increasingly experience, or a source of knowledge to be mined for use in research and policy-making that affects us but does not include us. Therefore, we require long-term and flexible funding that enables us to efficiently develop and deliver sustainable and holistic climate actions that reflect the diverse needs of our communities. At the same time, we are strategically exploring options to reduce our dependence on carbon intensive goods and services without causing an increase in the already high cost of living in our remote communities.

Example 3. Youth-led research and capacity-building to monitor climate change impacts on water quality and human health

Nunavut

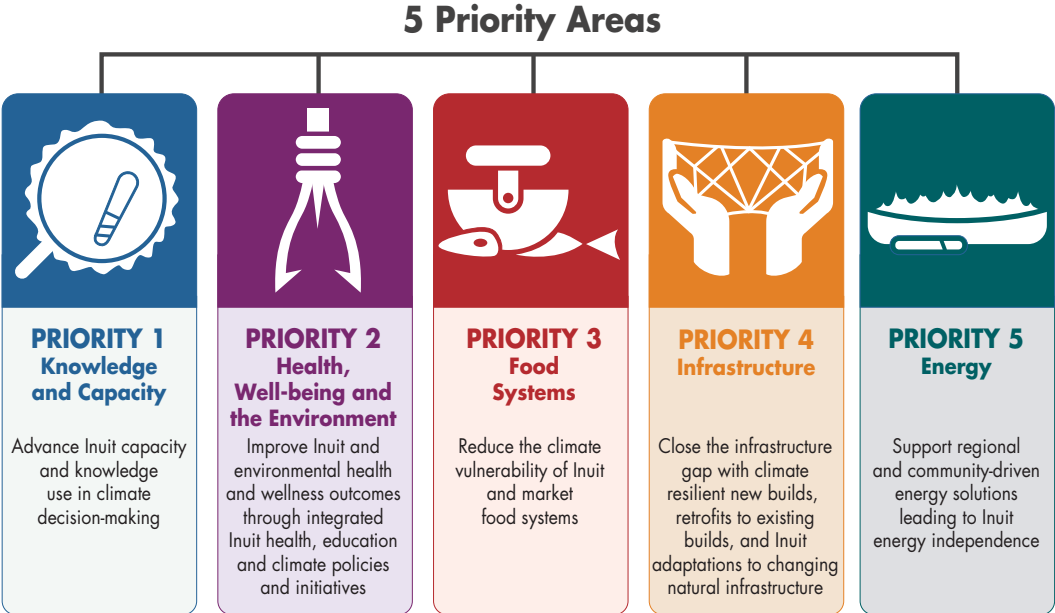
A group of local youth initiated and are conducting a multi-year, Inuit-led research project to study the pressing issue of the increased frequency of gastrointestinal illnesses in the community of Mittimatalik (Pond Inlet). With the support of local leaders and Elders, ARCTIConnexion, the Nunavut Research Institute and other partners, young Mittimatalirmiut are using scientific methods and Inuit knowledge and principles to investigate freshwater quality in the community, assess water quality risks to human health, and examine the impact of climate change on the community’s freshwater supplies.

In 2014, the team surveyed Mittimatalirmiut’s water use habits, quantified indicators of possible fecal contamination, monitored water parameters, sampled benthic invertebrates, and documented historical knowledge of freshwater among Elders. In 2015, the team expanded their research to study harmful pathogens, conducted a health survey with over 100 households, and ran an Elders’ Camp that brought local students together to learn more about historical changes in water quality. The project is now in the data analysis and reporting stage. As stated by the youth researchers, “we wish that this model would inspire youth from other communities and researchers to team-up and build more research capacity in the North.”

Part I of the Strategy provides the key considerations framing the Strategy, and the context driving the actions we are proposing. We also provide an overview of our vision for building the sustainability of our communities in a quickly changing climate, the sense of purpose driving our vision, the principles guiding our efforts, and the nature of the collaborations we are seeking with our fellow Inuit, as well as with outside partners both domestically and internationally.

Part II details the goals and actions associated with five interconnected priorities: 1) Advance Inuit capacity and knowledge use in climate decision-making; 2) Improve Inuit and environmental health and wellness outcomes through integrated public health, education and climate policies and initiatives; 3) Reduce the climate vulnerability of Inuit and market food systems; 4) Close the infrastructure gap with climate resilient new builds, retrofits to existing builds, and Inuit adaptations to changing natural infrastructure; and 5) Support regional and community-driven energy solutions leading to Inuit energy independence (see **Figure 1: Inuit-driven climate actions protecting our way of life and the sustainability of our communities**).

Figure 1: Inuit-driven climate actions protecting our way of life and the sustainability of our communities



4. Part I: Vision, purpose and guiding principles

The National Inuit Climate Change Strategy lays out the collective Inuit Nunangat-wide climate priorities and goals we have identified as core to the protection of our culture, language and way of life in the face of a changing climate.

The Strategy was developed with the following vision, two-fold purpose, and guiding principles in mind:

Vision

- Sustainable Inuit communities bound by the inextricable links between our culture, way of life and the environment working collaboratively in the face of a changing climate to overcome inequities, ensure our long-term prosperity, and strengthen our health and well-being.

Purpose

- To shape local, regional, national, and international climate policy.
- To advance Inuit-driven climate research, policy making and actions through ethical partnerships that meet our distinct, immediate, growing and diverse needs.

Guiding Principles

- rights and self-determination
- leadership and resilience
- long-term and holistic

We envision a future where our communities are self-sufficient and we no longer face social, economic, and health inequities compared to other Canadians. We see our distinct regions working together to identify and actively manage the risks climate change poses to our communities and our way of life. Self-determined governance models will support climate initiatives that meet the needs of our young and rapidly growing population³ and allow us to benefit directly from climate change opportunities — including the adoption of new and emerging cleaner technologies — while protecting our food, water, and energy security. Our ongoing leadership and participation in international fora will ensure Inuit continue to contribute solutions to global discussions and actions.

Example 4: Studying the impact of climate change on Arctic char

Nunavik

The Nunavik Research Centre (NRC) was established by Makivik Corporation in Kuujjuaq in 1978. For the last forty years, it has conducted scientific research on the natural environment and wildlife, including administering country food monitoring programs that directly respond to the needs of Inuit in Nunavik communities as well as in neighbouring Inuit regions. With a staff of nine, including seven technical staff, the NRC engages in numerous collaborative research projects, monitors wildlife diseases, and conducts in-house environmental studies and contaminants research with its state-of-the-art trace metal analytical laboratory.

One of the NRC's long-standing Inuit-initiated and Inuit-led studies involves examining climate change impacts on Arctic char at the Nepihjee River, near Kuujjuaq. The project is managed by the NRC in collaboration with the Nayumivik Landholding Corporation. This monitoring program has been carried out for nearly two decades, creating a repository of long-term baseline char population data that can be used to predict and validate the responses of Arctic char to climate change.

We are advocating for climate policies in local, regional, national, and international settings designed to measurably improve our quality of life and safeguard our unique cultural and social needs. We will continue to work actively through research and policy to foster the development and delivery of climate programs and services that contribute to a healthy and prosperous Inuit society.

Example 5: First Nation-Inuit moose and seal knowledge exchange

Nunatsiavut

Moose are moving northward in Labrador due to climate change, and are now found in areas that they have never previously occupied. Changes in the availability of other wild foods, such as caribou, have meant that moose is growing in importance as a food source for Labrador Inuit. To expand areas of knowledge for the traditional harvesting and processing of moose in Nunatsiavut, the Nunatsiavut Government is leading an Indigenous knowledge exchange project with First Nations hunters from the Northwest Territories. First Nations hunters will come to Nunatsiavut to build capacity and provide the necessary skills to Labrador Inuit related to moose harvesting and processing. In exchange, Labrador Inuit will share their expertise on the harvesting, processing and use of ringed seals.



4.1 Why a National Inuit Climate Change Strategy is needed

- to create unprecedented interjurisdictional partnerships for transformative action that simultaneously address climate change and the inequities that Inuit face,
- to foster opportunities for shared learning of climate solutions that support resilient and sustainable Inuit communities, and
- to shape national climate policies that recognize the diversity of the climate realities that exist in Inuit Nunangat.

The climate risks we face compound the social and economic inequities we have endured for generations. Our standard of living remains significantly lower than that of most Canadians. The poverty rate in Inuit Nunangat is almost five times the rate for Canada as a whole, a rate that is much higher when household composition and income distribution are taken into account.⁴ We are determined to actively shape climate policies and actions so that they are inclusive and effective for Inuit, improving our quality of life rather than adding to the burden of socio-economic inequities too many Inuit already face (see **Figure 2: Social and Economic Inequities in Inuit Nunangat**).

Impacts of climate change on Inuit

Our rich culture, values, and language have thrived because we have embraced our interconnectedness with the land, sea and ice that is our home. Most Inuit elders alive today were born on the land and their values and their knowledge were shaped by largely predictable changes in the environment. However, significant reductions in sea ice cover in the summer and fall months have occurred over the last 50 years across Inuit Nunangat along with the increasing replacement of multi-year sea ice by thinner seasonal ice. Now, even some of our most knowledgeable hunters are falling through the ice, and travel routes used by generations of Inuit are unsafe or must be altered to adapt to rapidly changing conditions.

Our hunters are particularly challenged by increasing risks and safety issues. The weather is difficult to predict even for the most experienced hunters, ice conditions are rapidly changing and increasingly unpredictable, and wildlife movements and distributions differ from known variations. There are ripple effects on our livelihoods, local economies and the learning and development of our youth as our food sharing networks and our abilities to share and teach our land-based knowledge, skills, values and language are tested. These activities lie at the core of our cultural identity. Our knowledge systems, food systems and sharing networks are key to our food security, health and well-being.⁵ (see **Figure 3: The direct and indirect effects of climate change on health and well-being**). We also face increasing exposure to food, water and vector-borne as well as zoonotic diseases.⁶ There are indications that changes in our climate are altering the amount of contaminants that travel to Inuit Nunangat and how they get here.⁷ We share concerns about the release of greenhouse gases and contaminants from thawing permafrost.⁸

Figure 2: Social and economic inequities in Inuit Nunangat

Social and Economic Inequity in Inuit Nunangat

Many Inuit face social and economic inequities that impact our health and wellbeing

Inuit Nunangat

52% of Inuit in Inuit Nunangat live in crowded homes*¹



34% of Inuit aged 25 to 64 in Inuit Nunangat have earned a high school diploma¹



70% of Inuit households in Nunavut are food insecure²



\$23,485 The median before tax individual income for Inuit in Inuit Nunangat¹



30 The number of physicians per 100,000 population in Nunavut⁴



47.5% of Inuit in Inuit Nunangat are employed¹



72.4 years The projected life expectancy for Inuit in Canada^{† 5}



12.3 The infant mortality rate per 1,000 for Inuit infants in Canada.⁶

IMR

All Canadians

9% of all Canadians live in crowded homes*¹

86% of all Canadians aged 25 to 64 have earned a high school diploma¹

8% of all households in Canada are food insecure³

\$92,011 The median before tax individual income for non-Indigenous people in Inuit Nunangat¹

119 The number of physicians per 100,000 population in Urban Health Authorities⁴

60.2% of all Canadians are employed¹

82.9 years The projected life expectancy for non-Indigenous people in Canada⁵

4.4 The non-indigenous infant mortality rate per 1,000 for Canada.⁶

* Should not be compared with crowding data for previous years. Based on the suitability definition (whether the dwelling has enough bedrooms for the size and composition of the household). The previous figure was based on the number of persons per room definition.

† Should not be compared with previous life expectancy data. The figure is a national 2017 projection of life expectancy for Inuit. Previous figures were for 2004-2008 for all residents of Inuit Nunangat, including non-Inuit.

1 Statistics Canada, 2016 Census. (crowded homes: 98-400-X2016163; high school diploma 98-400-X2016265; income: unpublished custom table provided to ITK; employment: 98-400-X2016266)

2 Grace M. Egeland, Inuit Health Survey 2007-2008: Nunavut (Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, QC: Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Nutrition and Environment, May 2010), 12.

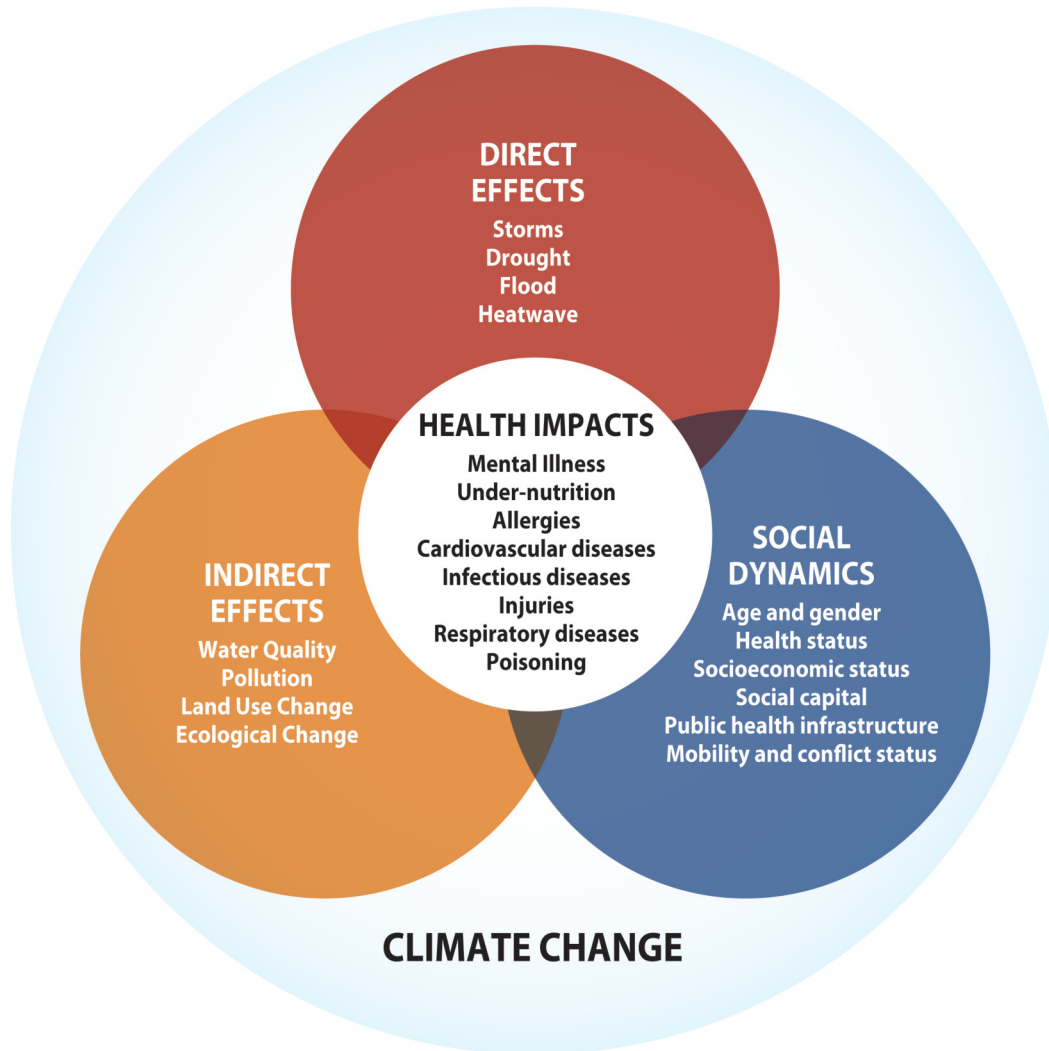
3 Shirin Roshanafshar and Emma Hawkins. Health at a Glance: Food Insecurity in Canada (Ottawa, ON: Statistics Canada, March 25, 2015).

4 Canadian Institute for Health Information, Supply, Distribution and Migration of Physicians in Canada, 2014 (Ottawa, ON: Canadian Institute for Health Information, September 2015).

5 Custom table based on Statistics Canada's Projections of the Aboriginal Population and Households in Canada, 2011 to 2036.

6 Sheppard et al 2017. "Birth outcomes among First Nations, Inuit and Metis populations." Health Reports Vol. 28. No. 11

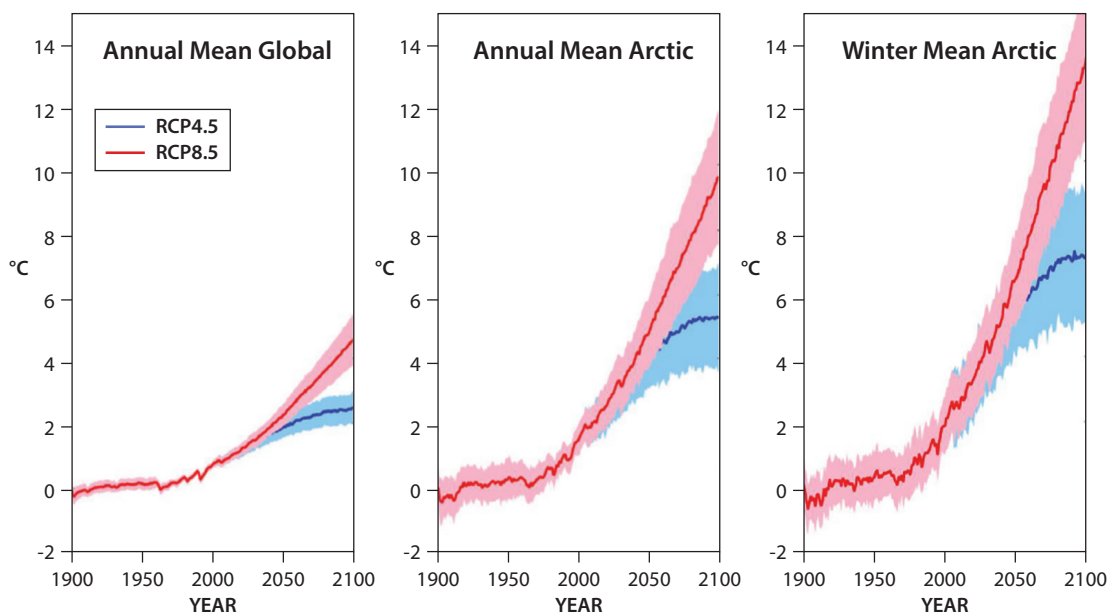
Figure 3: The direct and indirect effects of climate change on health and well-being



(Adapted from Watts et al. 2015. Health and climate change: policy responses to protect public health. *The Lancet* 386(10006): 1861-1914, [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(15\)60854-6/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(15)60854-6/fulltext))

The Arctic Council’s Snow, Water, Ice, Permafrost in the Arctic Assessment (SWIPA) — an update of the original 2005 Arctic Climate Impact Assessment — shows that the average temperature increase in the Arctic as a whole has already surpassed 2.2°C above the 1951-1990 average, twice the global average (see **Figure 4: Projected changes in global and Arctic temperatures**). Overall trends include more mobile sea ice and associated increasing sea ice-related hazards, decreasing snow cover and duration, warming permafrost, and the accelerating loss of land-based ice. SWIPA 2017 also indicates that even if the global average temperature is stabilized at the Paris Agreement’s target of 2°C by 2100, the Arctic is locked into the impacts of past and current emissions for at least the next 30 years. Inuit Nunangat will continue to experience change, and in some cases at a much more accelerated rate, even if global emissions are drastically cut in the short-term.⁹ This means that a baby born in Inuit Nunangat today will likely experience a significantly different climate reality as an adult. We must take forward thinking actions to reduce the vulnerabilities and build the resilience of our communities for the coming generation,¹⁰ while we are adapting to the changes we are experiencing now.

Figure 4: Projected changes in global and Arctic temperatures



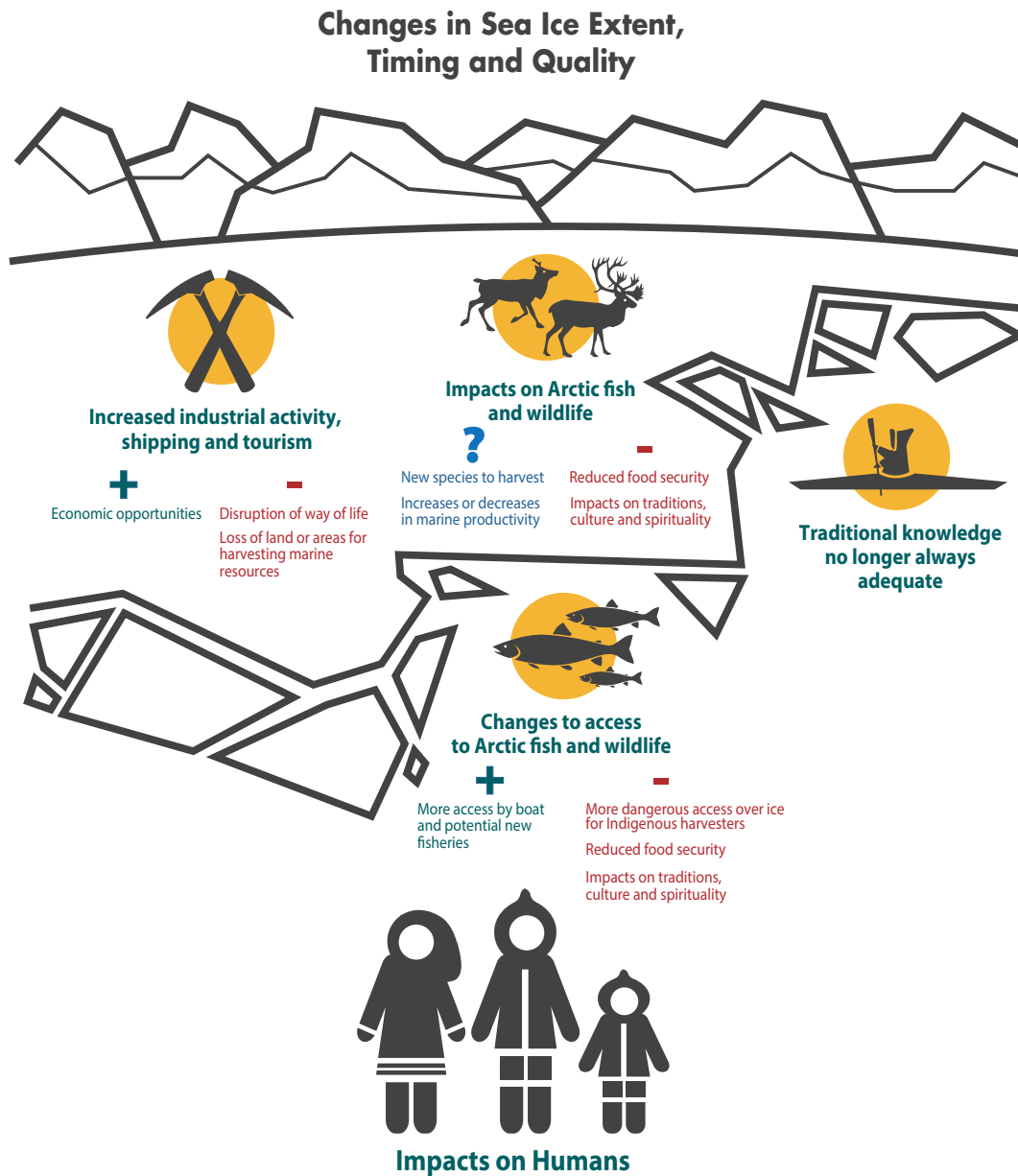
(A comparison of high emissions 'business-as-usual' scenario (RCP8.5) versus moderate scenario where the concentration of GHGs in the atmosphere is stabilized by 2100 (RCP4.5); From SWIPA 2017, Fact Sheet #2)

For us, changing sea ice represents changes to our critical infrastructure. Beyond its role in providing our key transportation and food security needs, sea ice plays a fundamental role in sustaining our overall health and well-being¹¹ (see **Figure 5: Impacts of changing sea ice and associated fish and wildlife on Arctic peoples**). In the South, a “green lens” is increasingly used to make sure that climate policies and investments allow living, natural infrastructure to build community resilience. In contrast, we require an “ice lens” to be applied to climate policies, investments and decision-making in Inuit Nunangat to allow our unique adaptation needs to be met in the face of our changing ice conditions.

The principles guiding the Strategy’s work are interconnected and set the overall context for the actions and partnerships we are seeking to achieve our climate priorities. These principles will remain constant despite any shifts in direction that may come in future iterations of the Strategy, and include recognition of the right we have to design climate actions that best suit our needs.



Figure 5: Impacts of changing sea ice and associated fish and wildlife on Arctic peoples



(Adapted from: Eamer et al. 2013. Life Linked to Ice: A guide to sea-ice-associated biodiversity in this time of rapid change. CAFF Assessment Series No. 10, p.64)

A rights-based approach to climate action

Inuit are rights holders and any climate action should apply a rights-based approach premised on partnerships with representatives of Inuit and governments. Inuit democracy is grounded in land claims agreements that provide the foundation for self-determined climate decision-making where Inuit lead and develop partnerships for outcomes that address Inuit priorities. Inuit must be meaningful partners in the development of the climate change policies that affect us. The recognition of the inherent rights of Inuit self-determination detailed in constitutionally-protected land claims agreements, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, must be the first step when seeking to develop climate policies.

Example 6. Pikialasorsuaq Commission: Supporting the Inuit-led conservation of a critical marine ecosystem

International — Canada & Greenland

Pikialasorsuaq means “great upwelling” and is the Kalaallisut name for the North Water polynya located between Greenland and Canada’s Ellesmere Island. Polynyas are ocean areas that remain free of ice throughout the winter and are rich in biodiversity and nutrients. The Pikialasorsuaq is a critical habitat for many migratory species, and the most biologically productive region north of the Arctic Circle. The culture, health, local economies, infrastructure and livelihoods of Inuit communities surrounding the Pikialasorsuaq are all dependent on its integrity.

The Pikialasorsuaq Commission — a three-person commission comprised of Inuit representatives from Canada and Greenland — was initiated by the Inuit Circumpolar Council to provide Inuit-led solutions to increasing threats facing the Pikialasorsuaq, including climate change impacts.

The Commission developed three key recommendations based on the outcomes of community consultations:

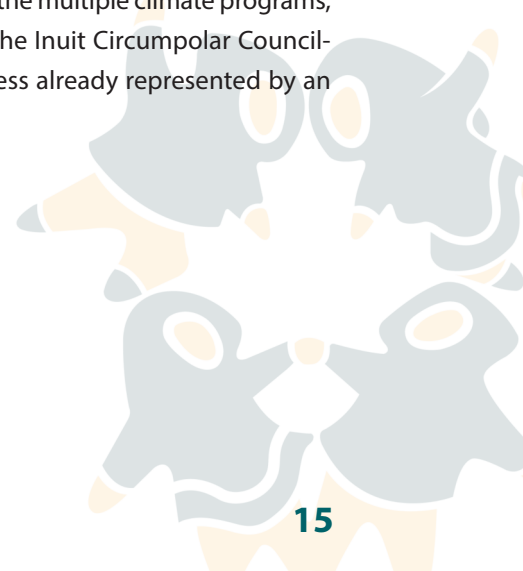
1. Establishment of an Inuit Management Authority consisting of representation from communities in the Pikialasorsuaq region.
2. Establishment of an Inuit management zone that ensures cultural integrity and overall ecological health.
3. Establishment of a free travel zone to address the increasing challenges of cross-border travel between communities of the Pikialasorsuaq.

In May 2018, an international three-day workshop was hosted to discuss the current governance of the Pikialasorsuaq, existing monitoring and research programs, and an implementation plan for the Commission’s recommendations.

The work of the commission showcases a global model for Indigenous Protected Areas to promote self-determination. The Commission’s work, including the final report, is available at www.pikialasorsuaq.org.

We are particularly interested in designing climate initiatives that support the contributions of Inuit elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities¹² to understanding climate impacts, inspire Inuit-driven climate adaptations, and decrease greenhouse gas emissions while ensuring Inuit health and well-being.

Through a renewed Inuit-Crown relationship, we are striving to ensure Inuit Nunangat is recognized in Inuit-specific policies, where the federal government works in partnership with Inuit rights-holders, and our respective provincial and territorial partners, to ensure that our right to self-determination is respected in the multiple climate programs, policies and services that are delivered in each of our land claims areas. ITK and the Inuit Circumpolar Council-Canada also work to share these needs at the federal and international level, unless already represented by an affected Inuit rights-holding organization.



Example 7. Improving energy efficiency through district heating systems

Nunavut

The Qulliq Energy Corporation is owned by the Government of Nunavut and is the sole power utility generating and distributing power in Nunavut. Currently, all electricity needs in Nunavut's communities are met through the operation of stand-alone diesel power plants that rely on imported fossil fuels.

To reduce reliance on diesel fuel and cut carbon emissions, the Qulliq Energy Corporation has worked with several Nunavut communities to install district heating systems (DHS). DHS recover waste heat from diesel generators and supplies it to customers through a piped delivery system. This process adapts existing infrastructure to significantly reduce carbon emissions and fossil fuel use; without DHS, over 3 million litres of additional heating fuel would be required in Nunavut annually for space heating. DHS is currently available on a commercial basis in Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet, Arviat, and Kugluktuk, and expansion is being studied in Sanikiluaq, Hall Beach, and Taloyoak.

In January 2018, federal funds were granted to Qulliq Energy Corporation and the City of Iqaluit to expand the district heating system of the Aquatic Center for space and water heating. This initiative will save more than 150,000 L of fossil fuel per year, which corresponds to an annual greenhouse gas reduction of 466 tonnes of CO₂.

Profound infrastructure gaps in Inuit Nunangat must be closed

We also have fundamental built infrastructure gaps including a decades-old housing crisis. A partial understanding of the severity of the infrastructure deficits we face can be appreciated by considering that 40% of Inuit live in overcrowded housing conditions, compared to 2% of Canadians, with 20% of our households providing temporary shelter to more than two homeless visitors on average and more than 25% of our homes requiring major repairs and our population is growing quickly.¹³ This crisis has knock-on effects including on our extremely high rates of tuberculosis among other social and health inequities.¹⁴

Example 8. Tarquti Energy Corporation: Positioning Inuit at the helm of renewable energy development in Nunavik

Nunavik

Tarquti Energy Corporation is an historic joint venture between the two main economic development organizations in Nunavik — Makivik Corporation and la Fédération des Coopératives du Nouveau Québec (FCNQ). The 100% Inuit-owned company was launched in February 2017. Currently, 100% of the electricity produced in the Nunavik region is from diesel generators. Tarquti Energy Corporation will develop renewable energy projects that will contribute to Nunavik Inuit efforts to reduce Canada's greenhouse gas emissions, but in a way that ensures Inuit control of the long-term development of renewables in Nunavik.

Growing Inuit expertise knowledge in the renewable energy field is a key objective of Tarquti, as is generating Inuit employment, contributing to local economic development from returns, and ensuring local involvement in renewable energy projects. Since its launch, Tarquti has purchased five meteorological towers, three 60-m and two 34-m. Using sensors positioned at various heights, the towers will gather environmental data for a full year to assess the wind and solar energy potential at each site.

Prior to partnering with the FCNQ to launch Tarquti, Makivik Corporation researched renewable energy potential in Nunavik for over 5 years. In September 2017, Makivik installed solar panels on its head office building in Kuujuaq and the Nunavik Research Centre (NRC), which serve the dual purpose of generating energy and gathering seasonal and weather data (snow and ice) impacts on energy generation. Since the installations in September 2017, the panels on the head office building and the NRC have generated approximately 12 and 15 MWh respectively, saving between 8,000 and 9,000 L of diesel fuel. In June 2018 alone, the 20 kW solar panel array generated over 3,200 kWh and saved more than 1,000 L of diesel.

Most of us live in off-grid communities where the cost of living is two to three times higher than in southern Canada.¹⁵ Almost all of our communities are off the North American highway system and North American energy grid. Perishable supplies must be shipped to our communities by air year-round. While non-perishables can be shipped more economically by barge, this is only possible in the summer months when ice conditions allow. We are therefore highly reliant on expensive and carbon intensive goods and services, making us disproportionately vulnerable to climate policies that target carbon intensive goods and services if proactive measures are not taken to mitigate the impacts of those actions on our already high energy, food and transportation costs. Equitable carbon pricing policies must include direct measures to mitigate the greater proportion of costs that carbon pricing systems will bring to bear on our low income households.



Example 9. Energy security in the ISR: Natural gas feasibility study

Inuvialuit Settlement Region

Energy costs are high and rising in the ISR, where communities are reliant on diesel imports. The IRC is seeking to lower living costs for local residents and businesses by exploring options for securing a regional energy source to replace diesel.

The IRC is leading a feasibility study to assess the potential for natural gas development in the Beaufort Delta region, with funding and support from the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency and from the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Should natural gas extraction be viable, the development of this resource could provide clean energy security, employment opportunities, and support a sustainable economic future in the ISR.

A feasibility study was completed in July 2018, and findings related to resource viability, economic feasibility, and potential local and regional benefits are under regional review to determine next steps.

5. Part II: Priorities, Objectives and Actions

We are taking a holistic approach to addressing the connections between the five main priority areas we have identified for action (see **Figure 1: Inuit-driven climate actions protecting our way of life and the sustainability of our communities**). There are complex connections between these priority areas focused on fostering self-determined Inuit climate decision-making, food and energy security, the links between the environment and Inuit health and well-being, and closing the profound infrastructure gaps that compound the impacts of climate change in Inuit Nunangat. We have diverse and varied experiences with climatic change, and actions to implement these goals will necessarily be regionally-specific. There are ongoing efforts to create regional climate strategies in each of the four Inuit regions. Regional experiences and strategies are also crucial in communication and advocacy at the international level to shape increasing outside influences and interests in Inuit Nunangat.

With appropriate partnerships in place between Inuit, federal, provincial and territorial governments, and groups including professional organizations, industry and the academic community, the goals associated with each priority are practical and achievable in the short-term (2019), and medium-term (2022). We also describe the connection between this targeted three-year strategy and our aspirations for long-term outcomes. We will evaluate our short-term goals early in 2020 and re-adjust our medium-term goals as necessary to determine their alignment with long-term outcomes, leaving us in a position to revisit the success of the Strategy's implementation early in 2022. After this evaluation we also aim to have a greater sense of how and where climate actions are measurably improving the well-being of Inuit communities.



1. Advance Inuit capacity and knowledge use in climate decision-making



2. Improve linked Inuit and environmental health and wellness outcomes through integrated Inuit health, education and climate policies and initiatives



3. Reduce the climate vulnerability of Inuit and market food systems



4. Close the infrastructure gap with climate resilient new builds, retrofits to existing builds, and Inuit adaptations to changing natural infrastructure



5. Support regional and community-driven energy solutions leading to Inuit energy independence

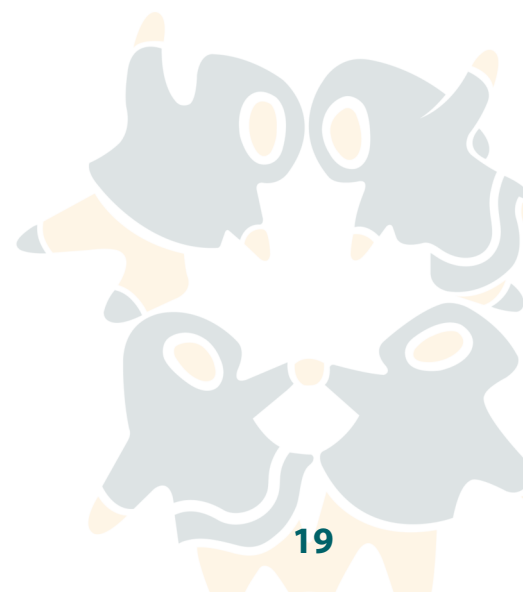


Figure 6: *Interconnected Inuit Climate Priorities*



PRIORITY AREA 1:

Advance Inuit capacity and knowledge in climate decision-making



Inuit have largely been excluded from participation in federal, provincial, and territorial climate decision-making. In order to ensure that Inuit can meaningfully contribute to climate decisions, and to improve local Inuit access to the best available climate data and services, we must have the opportunity and capacity to become fully engaged. Increased capacity, coordination and information sharing are necessary to benefit climate decision-making both within and beyond Inuit Nunangat by improving climate research and educational goals, and enabling more effective use of Inuit knowledge.

OBJECTIVES

- 1.1 Strengthen Inuit self-determination in climate change decisions, policy-making and assessment processes
- 1.2 Facilitate and support regional Inuit climate change strategies
- 1.3 Promote Inuit-driven climate change research and monitoring

ACTIONS

- 1.1.1 Influence policy and practice to ensure Inuit knowledge is equitably used in climate change decision-making
- 1.2.1 Ensure regional climate strategies are in place and linked to the adoption of the national Inuit climate change strategy
- 1.3.1 Ensure climate information is available to all Inuit to inform evidence-based decision-making
- 1.3.2 Establish two-way climate change information sharing best practices among Inuit from the local to the international level
- 1.3.3 Build Inuit regional and circumpolar climate change exchange opportunities
- 1.3.4 Develop a mechanism for effective in-house sharing of emerging Inuit climate change initiatives and corresponding data among Inuit representational organizations
- 1.3.5 Promote Inuit-led and co-produced climate change research and monitoring

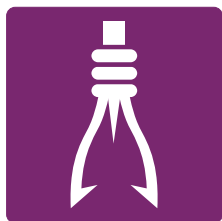
LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

Inuit have meaningful roles at climate change decision-making tables

Culturally appropriate, Inuktitut educational initiatives linked to on-the-land Inuit knowledge transfer are sustainably and widely available across Inuit Nunangat, and internationally across Inuit Nunaat to Inuit in other circumpolar countries

Best available knowledge, both Indigenous and scientific, is accessible and used in climate decision-making across Inuit Nunangat and Inuit Nunaat

PRIORITY AREA 2:
Improve Inuit and environmental health and wellness outcomes through integrated health, education and climate policies and initiatives



Climate change is recognized as the largest human health concern this century.¹⁶ Public health activities must incorporate direct and indirect climate impacts influencing environmental changes linked to Inuit health and well-being in a systematic way. Our local health systems have a core role to play in developing integrated approaches to managing our climate change health risks. For Inuit the health concerns from climate change include disruptions to our livelihoods and cultural practices, disruptions to our access to both wild and market foods, and increased death and injuries from unpredictable ice and weather

conditions. We also face the increased distribution, frequency and risk of food-borne, water-borne, insect and parasite-borne diseases; increased heat stress and skin damage; and increased respiratory challenges from new allergens and forest fires experienced hundreds and even thousands of miles from their source. We are seeking culturally appropriate ways to understand, mitigate and adapt to these health impacts and enhance our wellness and resilience in the face of our new climate and environmental reality.

We face magnified health impacts from new and emerging environmental contaminant pathways and relocations and displacements due to sea level rise and coastal erosion. These health effects, whether direct or indirect, lead to unique emotional and mental distress including impacts tied to a loss of sense of place, changing cultural practices, and decreasing ability to travel safely or reliably on land or ice. Given the connections between climate change and mental health, along with the emphasis and importance of mental health as a top priority for Inuit nationally and internationally, this work will be coordinated with the aims and actions of the National Inuit Suicide Prevention Strategy, and related international initiatives.

OBJECTIVE

2.1 Ensure climate adaptation policies are informed by Inuit-specific health and wellness considerations

ACTIONS

- 2.1.1 Increase understandings of the influences of climate change on the social determinants of Inuit health
- 2.1.2 Support local Inuit-led climate health adaptation initiatives focused on ecosystem health and Inuit health and safety issues
- 2.1.3 Create Inuit-specific, culturally relevant, and gender-specific health and wellness indicators that incorporate climate vulnerabilities
- 2.1.4 Document climate change influences on Inuit land-based and sea ice-based cultural and harvesting activities to improve understandings of associated health outcomes, and allow evidence-based climate adaptation policy-making

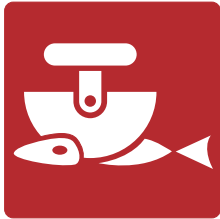
LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

Effective, integrated, culturally appropriate and gender-specific public health approaches designed to ensure climate change impacts do not add to negative Inuit health and wellness outcomes

Inuit-led health adaptation initiatives increase youth access to on-the-land experiences, improving mental health outcomes and building community resilience

PRIORITY AREA 3:

Reduce the climate vulnerability of Inuit and market food systems



Food systems in Inuit Nunangat include market foods shipped to our remote communities from the south and wild foods harvested from our local environments. Inuit food systems remain the core of Inuit sharing values, culture and well-being, and country foods remain a central component of our way of life. Our harvesting, distribution and consumption of wild foods plays a central role in the way we share our values, knowledge and skills.

Climate change impacts on our wild food systems are not just threats to our public health, they are threats to the social, economic and cultural well-being of our communities, which are already the most food insecure indigenous communities in a developed country.¹⁷ Climate change poses particular risks to our wild food systems due to changes in access to harvesting areas, the changing distribution and range of wild food sources (animal and plant), the contamination or loss of water sources, changes in wild food preparation and preservation techniques, and potential changes in contaminant pathways.¹⁸ These challenges are compounded by a lack of available and affordable market foods (including nutritionally rich and fresh foods).

OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 Support Inuit households facing loss and damage to harvesting infrastructure due to climate change impacts
- 3.2 Ensure food policies, programs, strategies and services in Inuit Nunangat are informed by Inuit-specific climate change and food systems research

ACTIONS

- 3.1.1 Identify opportunities to improve the sustainability of hunter support programs and their capacity to build the climate resilience of Inuit harvesters, including as one aspect, Nutrition North Canada's recently introduced (late 2018) federal harvesters support grant
- 3.2.1 Identify climate change induced needs and gaps in the food systems Inuit depend on, including Inuit and market food systems
- 3.2.2 Secure direct Inuit involvement in the design and delivery of any policies, programs, and services that affect Inuit food security
- 3.2.3 Build harvester safety supports including search and rescue and marine services infrastructure and capacity
- 3.2.4 Secure Inuit participation and inclusion in the design of climate risk communications on Inuit food systems
- 3.2.5 Advocate for strong partnerships between public health authorities and local food security initiatives for the surveillance of Inuit exposure to emerging climate influenced food and water-borne infectious diseases, contaminants, and parasites.

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

Measures are in place to ensure culturally preferred and healthy foods are available despite climate impacts
Climate risks to accessible and nutritious market food supplies are assessed and mitigated

PRIORITY AREA 4:

Close the infrastructure gap in Inuit Nunangat with climate resilient new builds, retrofits to existing builds, and Inuit adaptations to changing natural infrastructure



Profound infrastructure gaps have existed between Inuit Nunangat and most other parts of Canada since Inuit began living in settled communities. These gaps compound climate impacts, including impacts on natural infrastructure such as ice. Existing built infrastructure in Inuit Nunangat is increasingly vulnerable due to climate change related issues such as permafrost degradation, coastal erosion, changing temperatures, and changing precipitation patterns. Adapting existing infrastructure to make it more resilient to these stresses carries significant costs. Our communities currently have limited access to funding, training and

learning opportunities that would increase our capacity to support community development planning that addresses climate change and build the climate resilience of our municipal infrastructure.

OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 Assess the climate vulnerability of built and natural infrastructure across Inuit Nunangat and ensure Inuit have the agency and the resources to mitigate and adapt
- 4.2 Identify climate hazard mapping and vulnerability needs and advocate for resources
- 4.3 Create built infrastructure incentives for climate resilient new builds and retrofits of existing infrastructure across Inuit Nunangat

ACTIONS

- 4.1.1 Share information and best practices on built infrastructure hazard mapping, vulnerability assessments and adaptation planning across Inuit Nunangat as well as with other circumpolar Inuit regions
- 4.1.2 Advocate for the incorporation of Inuit knowledge into building codes and practices
- 4.2.1 Advocate for Inuit Nunangat-wide investments in hazard mapping and vulnerability assessments
- 4.3.1 Work to eliminate the infrastructure deficit in Inuit Nunangat with climate resilient builds
- 4.3.2 Secure infrastructure investments that integrate an Inuit-driven climate lens
- 4.3.3 Develop a long-term strategy for transformative climate resilient infrastructure investments in Inuit Nunangat, including air and marine transportation, telecommunications, housing and municipal infrastructure

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

Built infrastructure is climate resilient, energy efficient, sustainable and meets cultural needs and preferences. Climate resilient social infrastructure and adaptation tools allow us to adapt to changing natural infrastructure conditions.

PRIORITY AREA 5:

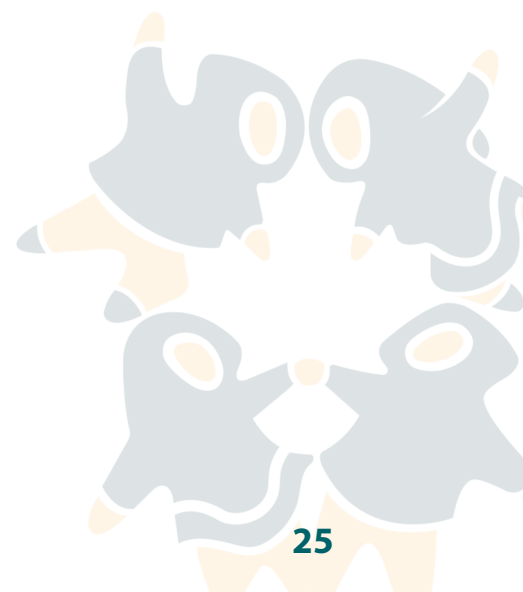
Support regional and community-driven energy solutions leading to Inuit energy independence



None of our communities are connected to the North American energy grid, and with the exception of Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk, none are connected to the North American Highway system. Inuit organizations have been largely disconnected from federal, provincial and territorial energy planning to date and a significant portion of the committed federal funding is being dispersed directly to provinces and territories through bilateral agreements. In addition, all communities in Inuit Nunangat are served by state-owned utilities, some of which do not currently have independent power producer (IPP) legislation, which further

limits Inuit involvement in current and future energy systems. We must work in partnership with governments to create policy environments where diesel fuel subsidies can be responsibly and strategically reinvested in the creation of energy mixes that not only bring down all our communities' energy costs, but also provide our communities with reliable and sustainable energy sources in the long-term. We want to benefit from investment, training, and job creation opportunities that allow Inuit to participate in and benefit from alternative energy and cleaner technology options. The steps taken to create a 'lower carbon economy' must be fair and equitable for Inuit. Current policies do not consider the effects of carbon pricing on the high cost of living in Inuit communities.

We are encouraged by the rapid increase in energy independence achieved by off-grid Alaskan and Greenlandic communities and seek to share best practices and learn from other Inuit regions. However, we recognize that in Canada we face a very different energy market system. Alternative energy solutions in Inuit Nunangat will not be achieved unless significant policy and capacity gaps are addressed in partnership with Inuit.



OBJECTIVES

- 5.1 Advocate for Inuit Nunangat specific energy policy, programs and investments driven by Inuit sustainable energy needs and priorities
- 5.2 Increase Inuit ownership, governance and control of energy systems in Inuit communities
- 5.3 Develop and articulate a vision for an Inuit-driven transition to a sustainable energy security future across Inuit Nunangat
- 5.4 Advocate for a whole of government approach to Inuit energy security and independence

ACTIONS

- 5.1.1 Define national Inuit energy priorities
- 5.1.2 Strengthen Inuit-driven efforts to support interjurisdictional learning on cleaner energy options and carbon pricing impacts
- 5.2.1 Define pathways to increase Inuit ownership and governance of energy systems (energy policy, business and financing models, funding and support programs)
- 5.2.2 Advance a sustainable energy research and development program based in Inuit Nunangat and designed to foster social and technical innovations including Inuit ownership models
- 5.3.1 Support energy literacy, energy efficiency and energy conservation initiatives at the community level
- 5.3.2 Advocate for separate funding programs to finance energy audits and efficiency retrofits in social housing that supplement the funding available to address the housing shortage
- 5.4.1 Reinforce a holistic view of energy issues by fostering deeper connections to related issues such as housing, food security, cost of living, economic development and the environment

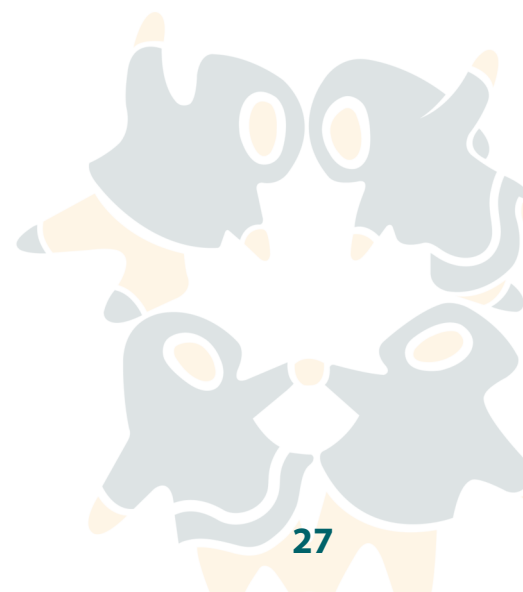
LONG-TERM OUTCOME

Reliable, sustainable and affordable energy systems are in place in all Inuit communities.

6. Conclusion

Inuit recognize the urgency of taking actions to ensure our communities are able to adapt and strengthen their resilience to current and emerging impacts. Even if global emissions are stabilized at the Paris goal of 2°C, our homelands are locked into the impacts of past and current emissions for at least 30 years. We currently live in a world more than 1°C warmer than it was at the start of the 20th century. In our homeland, that now equates to at least more than double that rise depending on the Inuit region. Close to 80% of Arctic sea ice is now year-old ice compared to the mid-80s when 45% of Arctic sea ice was multi-year ice. It is key to note that the difference for us between a 1.5°C and 2°C world is severe. It is the difference between ice-free summers every 100 years rather than every 10 years or the thaw of 38% more permafrost.

We recognize the need for unprecedented transformations in the global economy. It is at these times that we remind ourselves of the incredible and collective resolve that human beings can draw upon when urgent and high risk issues requiring immediate action emerge. The world came together to end atmospheric nuclear testing and again in the 1980s to curb acid rain and ozone depletion. We must similarly take decisive action to curb greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, and to support communities that are already grappling with the adverse impacts of climate change.



Appendices

APPENDIX A

Working Better Together

Collaborating with Inuit on Climate Actions in Inuit Nunangat: A Framework for Governmental and Non-Governmental Bodies A companion to the National Inuit Climate Change Strategy

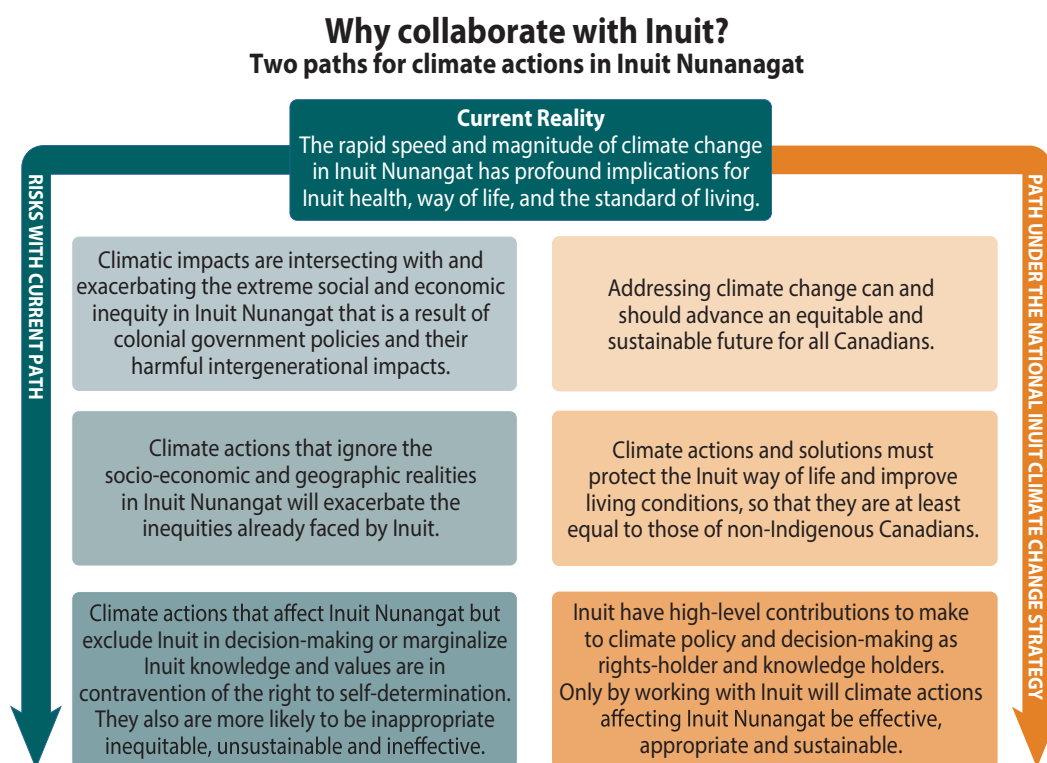
Who is this framework for?

Canadian and international bodies and institutions are showing an increased readiness to take action on climate change, including an increased willingness to work collaboratively to address climate impacts in Inuit Nunangat—the Inuit homeland in Canada. We are encouraged by the desire of governments and organizations to work with us. Successful partnerships will require a shared understanding of Inuit governance and decision-making as well as the principles and expectations that we view as foundational to meaningful collaborations.

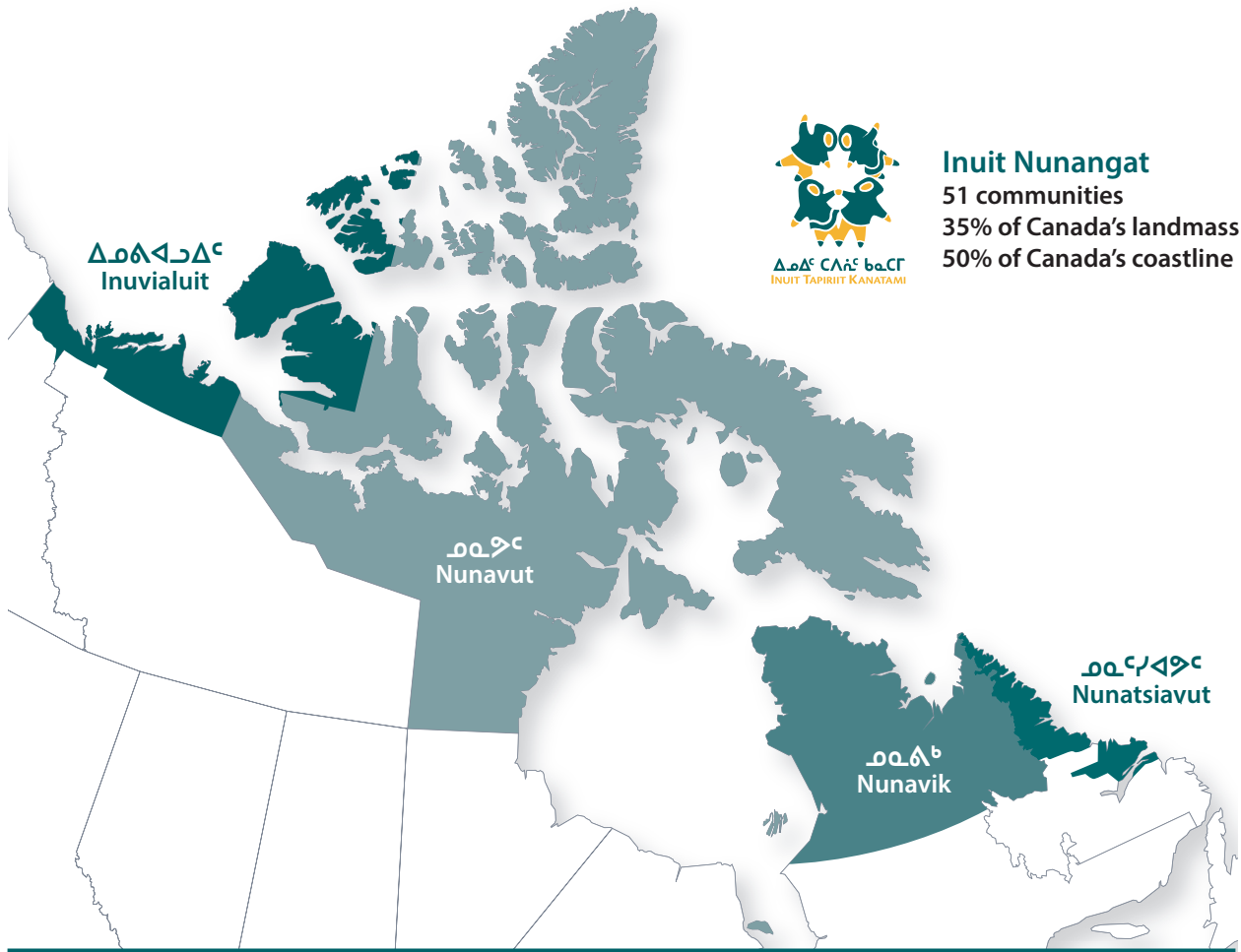
This collaboration framework, a companion to the National Inuit Climate Change Strategy (“the Strategy”), is intended as a guide for our existing and future partners including:

- Federal, provincial and territorial governments
- International bodies
- Non-governmental organizations
- Private sector

It serves as a starting point to encourage meaningful partnerships with that advance Inuit-driven climate priorities and initiatives.



Inuit Nunangat: Quick Facts



Inuit Nunangat
 51 communities
 35% of Canada's landmass
 50% of Canada's coastline



Inuvialuit Settlement Region
Rights body: Inuvialuit Regional Corporation
Land claim: 1984 Inuvialuit Final Agreement
 Inuvialuit Self-Government in final stages of negotiation
Extent: 90,650 km²



Nunavik
Rights body: Makivik Corporation
Land claim: 1977 James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement
 2008 Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement
Extent: 443,00 km²



Nunavut
Rights body: Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
Land claim: 1993 Nunavut Land Claims Agreement
Extent: 1,750,000 km²



Nunatsiavut
Rights body & self-government: Nunatsiavut Government
Land claim: 2005 Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement
Extent: 72,520 km²

Understanding Inuit governance

Regional governance regimes

Our rights and governance systems in our four regions that make up Inuit Nunangat — Nunavik (northern Québec), Nunatsiavut (northern Labrador), Nunavut and the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (the Northwest Territories) — are recognized and protected in land claims agreements. Canadian Inuit are the largest non-Crown landowners in Canada. We have extensive surface, subsurface, onshore and offshore rights in the Arctic, and with these rights we hold complex decision-making roles and responsibilities in the management of our lands and waters. Our land claims, while similar in some ways, are also distinct; they have created four different region-specific governance regimes. Despite many of our land claims being in place for over three decades, our Inuit representatives find themselves educating federal, provincial and territorial governments and the general public on a near daily basis on the specific rights that are enshrined in our claims.

Federal, provincial and territorial governments must be proactive in understanding and upholding Inuit land claims.

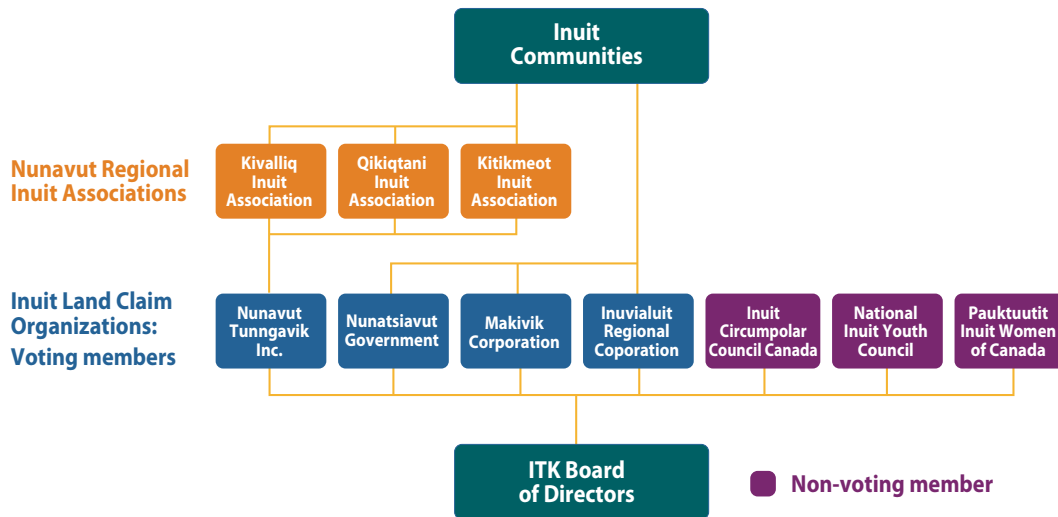
Governments at all levels must work in partnership with Inuit regional rights-holding bodies to ensure that Inuit self-determination is reflected in the programs, policies and services that are delivered in each Inuit region.

National Inuit representational organization: Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK)

ITK represents the rights and interests of Inuit at the national level. ITK is governed by a Board of Directors that includes the rights-holding bodies in the four Inuit regions. Through this structure, ITK brings forward collective Inuit positions to inform policy, legislation, and program decisions that affect Inuit. Recommendations for national positions are often developed at the technical/ policy level by ITK subcommittees, such as the National Inuit Climate Change Committee (NICCC), and go to the Board of Directors for decision. The structures of ITK subcommittees mirror the regional representation of ITK's Board of Directors. If positions are of relevance to international discussions, they are communicated within international fora by the Inuit Circumpolar Council-Canada. Realization of a renewed Inuit-Crown partnership means that the federal government must work in collaboration with ITK on high-level national policy development that affects Inuit rights, such as climate change policy and actions. ITK continues to strive to ensure that Inuit are engaged at the appropriate level in important national discussions.

The federal government must engage and work in partnership with ITK on any national policy issue that affects Inuit rights, upholding the promise of a mutual commitment to a renewed Inuit-Crown partnership.

ITK governance structure



Inuit Nunangat Policy Space

Inuit are one people with one culture, who have diverse arrangements for governance. An Inuit Nunangat policy space recognizes our unity as one people and ensures that federal policies and programs are equally available to all Inuit. Through a renewed Inuit-Crown partnership, Inuit have been striving for federal adoption of an Inuit Nunangat policy space to support self-determination and advance reconciliation.

The distinct rights and culture of Inuit, and self-determination in relation to climate change and climate policy, are best supported through an Inuit Nunangat policy space.



How to work with us to address climate change

The National Inuit Climate Change Strategy lays out the collective climate priorities and goals of Inuit.

Our vision:

Sustainable Inuit communities working together in the face of a changing climate to:

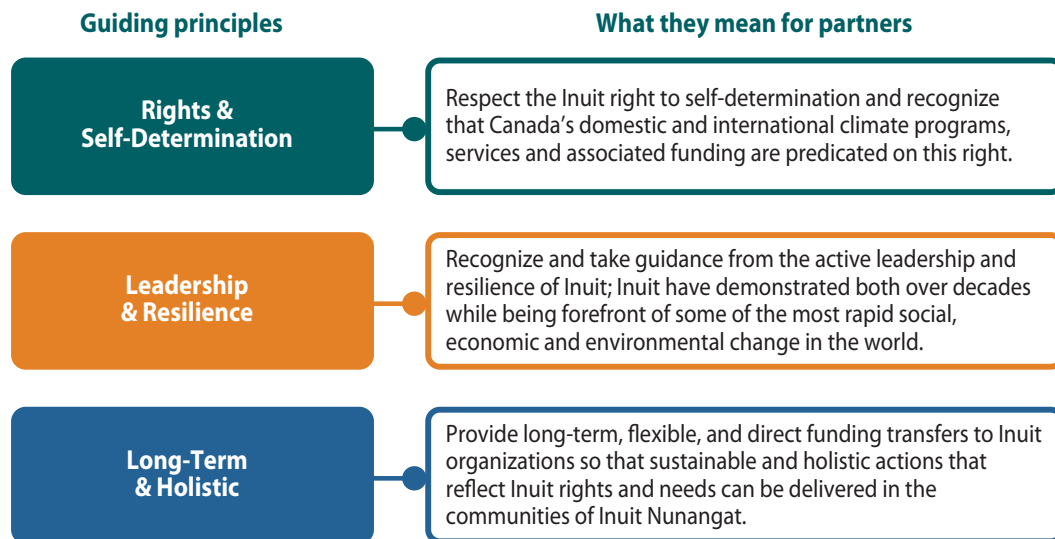
- Overcome inequities;
- Ensure long-term prosperity;
- Strengthen health and well-being; and
- Maintain the inextricable links between Inuit culture, way of life and the environment.

Our purpose:

1. To shape local, regional, national, and international climate policy.
2. To advance Inuit-driven climate research, policymaking and actions through ethical partnerships that meet the distinct, immediate, growing, and diverse needs of Inuit.

Developing ethical partnerships that advance Inuit-driven climate priorities is a key goal of the Strategy.

Our guiding principles:



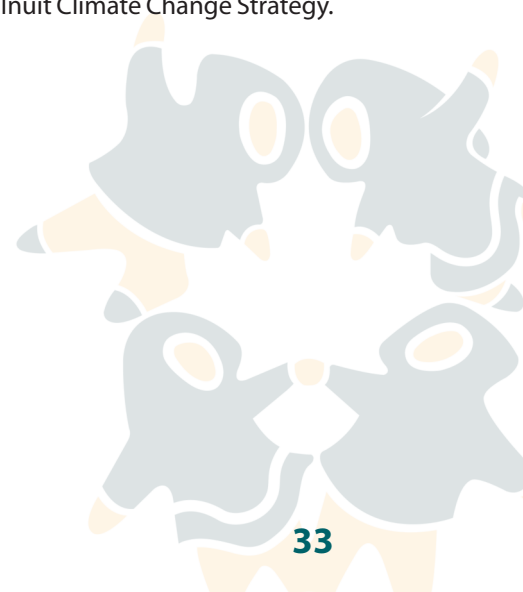
Our climate change priority areas

Inuit are determined to actively shape climate policies and actions so that they are inclusive and effective for us, and improve our standard of living. By working together, we can make significant progress within our five interconnected climate priorities:



Learn more

To learn more on the actions can be taken in partnership with Inuit, see the National Inuit Climate Change Strategy.



APPENDIX B

National Inuit Climate Change Strategy at a Glance

OUR VISION

Sustainable Inuit communities bound by the inextricable links between our culture, way of life and the environment working collaboratively in the face of a changing climate to overcome inequities, ensure our long-term prosperity, and strengthen our health and well-being

OUR PURPOSE

1. To shape local, regional, national, and international climate policy.
2. To advance Inuit-driven climate research, policy making and actions through ethical partnerships that meet our distinct, immediate, growing, and diverse needs.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Rights & Self-determination
 Leadership & Resilience
 Long-term & Holistic

PRIORITIES	OBJECTIVES
1. KNOWLEDGE & CAPACITY Advance Inuit capacity and knowledge use in climate decision-making	Advance self-determination 1.1 Strengthen Inuit self-determination in climate change decisions, policy-making and assessment processes 1.2 Facilitate and support regional Inuit climate change strategies 1.3 Promote Inuit-driven climate change research and monitoring
2. HEALTH, WELL-BEING & THE ENVIRONMENT Improve Inuit and environmental health and wellness outcomes through integrated Inuit health, education, and climate policies and initiatives	Improve policy 2.1 Ensure climate adaptation policies are informed by Inuit-specific health and wellness considerations
3. FOOD SYSTEMS Reduce the climate vulnerability of Inuit and market food systems	Address gaps 3.1 Support Inuit households facing loss and damage to harvesting infrastructure due to climate change impacts 3.2 Ensure food policies, programs, strategies and services in Inuit Nunangat are informed by Inuit-specific climate change and food systems research
4. INFRASTRUCTURE Close the infrastructure gap with climate resilient new builds, retrofits to existing builds, and Inuit-led adaptations to changing natural infrastructure	Avoid risks 4.1 Assess the climate vulnerability of built and natural infrastructure across Inuit Nunangat and ensure Inuit have the agency and the resources to mitigate and adapt 4.2 Identify climate hazard mapping and vulnerability needs and advocate for resources 4.3 Create built infrastructure incentives for climate resilient new builds and retrofits of existing infrastructure across Inuit Nunangat
5. ENERGY Support regional and community-driven energy solutions leading to Inuit energy independence	Assess needs 5.1 Advocate for Inuit Nunangat specific energy policy, programs and investments driven by Inuit sustainable energy needs and priorities 5.2 Increase Inuit ownership, governance and control of energy systems in Inuit communities 5.3 Develop and articulate a vision for an Inuit-driven transition to a secure and sustainable energy future across Inuit Nunangat 5.4 Advocate for a whole of government approach to Inuit energy security and independence

ACTIONS

Promote Inuit knowledge use

- 1.1.1 Influence policy and practice to ensure Inuit knowledge is equitably used in climate change decision-making
- 1.2.1 Foster the development of regional Inuit climate change strategies
- 1.3.1 Ensure climate information is available to all Inuit to inform evidence-based decision-making
- 1.3.2 Establish two-way climate change information sharing best practices among Inuit from the local to the international level
- 1.3.3 Build Inuit regional and circumpolar climate change exchange opportunities
- 1.3.4 Develop a mechanism allowing the effective in-house sharing of emerging Inuit climate change initiatives and corresponding data where appropriate among Inuit organizations
- 1.3.5 Promote Inuit-led and co-produced climate change research and monitoring

Support health & cultural identity

- 2.1.1 Influence policy and practice to ensure Inuit knowledge is equitably used in climate change decision-making
- 2.1.2 Support local Inuit-led climate health adaptation initiatives focused on ecosystem health and Inuit health and safety issues
- 2.1.3 Create Inuit-specific, culturally relevant, and gender-specific health and wellness indicators that incorporate climate vulnerabilities
- 2.1.4 Document climate change influences on Inuit land-based and sea ice-based cultural and harvesting activities to improve understandings of associated health outcomes, and allow evidence-based climate adaptation policy-making

Strengthen food systems

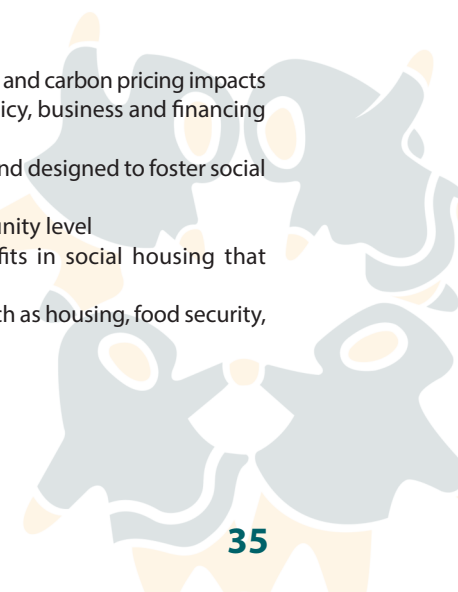
- 3.1.1 Identify opportunities to improve the sustainability of hunter support programs and their capacity to build the climate resilience of Inuit harvesters, including as one aspect, Nutrition North Canada's recently introduced (late 2018) federal harvesters support grant
- 3.2.1 Identify climate change induced needs and gaps in the food systems Inuit depend on, including Inuit and market food systems
- 3.2.2 Secure direct Inuit involvement in the design and delivery of any policies, programs, and services that affect Inuit food security
- 3.2.3 Build harvester safety supports including search and rescue and marine services infrastructure and capacity
- 3.2.4 Secure Inuit participation and inclusion in the design of climate risk communications on Inuit food systems
- 3.2.5 Advocate for strong partnerships between public health authorities and local food security initiatives for the surveillance of Inuit exposure to emerging climate influenced food and water-borne infectious diseases, contaminants, and parasites

Champion transformative infrastructure change

- 4.1.1 Share information and best practices on built infrastructure hazard mapping, vulnerability assessments and adaptation planning across Inuit Nunangat as well as with other circumpolar Inuit regions
- 4.1.2 Advocate for the incorporation of Inuit knowledge into building codes and practices
- 4.2.1 Advocate for Inuit Nunangat-wide investments in hazard mapping and vulnerability assessments
- 4.3.1 Work to eliminate the infrastructure deficit in Inuit Nunangat with climate resilient builds
- 4.3.2 Secure infrastructure investments that integrate an Inuit-driven climate lens
- 4.3.3 Develop a long-term strategy for transformative climate resilient infrastructure investments in Inuit Nunangat, including air and marine transportation, telecommunications, housing and municipal infrastructure

Foster cleaner energy options

- 5.1.1 Define national Inuit energy priorities
- 5.1.2 Strengthen Inuit-driven efforts to support interjurisdictional learning on cleaner energy options and carbon pricing impacts
- 5.2.1 Define pathways to increase Inuit ownership and governance of energy systems (energy policy, business and financing models, funding and support programs)
- 5.2.2 Advance a sustainable energy research and development program based in Inuit Nunangat and designed to foster social and technical innovations including Inuit ownership models
- 5.3.1 Support energy literacy, energy efficiency and energy conservation initiatives at the community level
- 5.3.2 Advocate for separate funding programs to finance energy audits and efficiency retrofits in social housing that supplement the funding available to address the housing shortage
- 5.4.1 Reinforce a holistic view of energy issues by fostering deeper connections to related issues such as housing, food security, cost of living, economic development and the environment



LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

PARTNERSHIP

- Inuit, including elders, women, youth and persons with disabilities, have meaningful roles at climate change decision-making tables



BEST KNOWLEDGE

- Best available knowledge used in climate



HEALTH OUTCOMES

- Effective and integrated culturally appropriate approaches developed with health authorities to ensure climate change impacts do not worsen health outcomes
- Effective, integrated, culturally appropriate and gender specific public health approaches ensure climate change impacts do not add to negative Inuit health and wellness outcomes
- Inuit-led health adaptation initiatives increase youth access to on-the-land experiences, improving mental health outcomes and building community resilience



FOOD SECURITY

- Measures are in place to ensure culturally-preferred and healthy foods are available despite climate impacts
- Climate risks to accessible and nutritious market food supplies are assessed and mitigated



SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

- Built infrastructure is climate resilient, energy efficient, sustainable and meets cultural needs and preferences
- Climate resilient infrastructure and adaptation tools allow us to adapt to changing natural infrastructure conditions



ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

- Reliable, sustainable, and affordable energy systems are available in all Inuit communities

APPENDIX C

National Inuit Climate Change Strategy – Implementation Plan

1. KNOWLEDGE & CAPACITY: Advance Inuit capacity and knowledge in climate decision-making		
OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	DELIVERABLE(S)
1.1 Strengthen Inuit self-determination in climate change decisions, policy-making and assessment processes	1.1.1 Influence policy and practice to ensure Inuit knowledge is equitably used in climate change decision-making	<p>By 2020, Inuit climate research, policy-making and decision-making are fully aligned with the National Inuit Research Strategy's (NISR) development of Inuit guidelines on ownership, control, access, sharing and preserving Inuit-specific data (NISR action 4.3)</p> <p>By 2021, Inuit-specific actions, indicators and policies are clearly addressed in federal, provincial and territorial (FPT) climate initiatives and Inuit representatives are involved in the governance of all flagship FPT climate programs and funds covering Inuit Nunangat</p> <p>By 2022, a single federal government window for Inuit climate adaptation financing is implemented</p>
	1.2 Facilitate and support regional Inuit climate change strategies	<p>1.2.1 Foster the development of regional Inuit climate change strategies</p> <p>By summer 2019, an Inuit climate change governance and process mapping tool facilitating collaborations between Inuit representational organizations and outside partners is completed</p> <p>By fall 2019, an evaluation framework for the Strategy's implementation is in place allowing an interim review of progress to be completed by the end of each fiscal year</p>
1.3 Promote Inuit-driven climate change research and monitoring	1.3.1 Ensure climate information is available to all Inuit to inform evidence-based decision-making	<p>In 2019, partnerships are established between Inuit representational organizations and the Canadian Centre for Climate Services to determine which Inuit data and climate services needs and exchanges can be met through the CCCS</p> <p>By 2020, Inuit climate data needs are documented and an assessment of data availability is completed</p> <p>By 2022, there are measureable improvements in the accessibility of climate data to Inuit decision-makers</p>
	1.3.2 Establish two-way climate change information sharing best practices among Inuit from the local to the international level	<p>By early 2020, an interactive Inuit climate change web site is in place allowing Inuit to share Inuit-driven local, regional and international climate initiatives and best practices</p> <p>By 2022, an evaluation of the Inuit climate change website is complete, and outlines how it has fostered Inuit climate change exchanges and partnerships</p>
	1.3.3 Build Inuit regional and circumpolar climate change exchange opportunities	<p>By 2020, a multi-year work plan for the creation of Inuit climate change exchange opportunities is in place</p> <p>By 2022, an Inuit climate change exchange work plan is fully implemented</p>
	1.3.4 Develop a mechanism allowing the effective in-house sharing of emerging Inuit climate change initiatives and corresponding data where appropriate among Inuit organizations	<p>By 2020, a multi-year work plan for the creation of Inuit climate change exchange opportunities is in place</p> <p>By 2022, an Inuit climate change exchange work plan is fully implemented</p>
	1.3.5 Promote Inuit-led and co-produced climate change research and monitoring	<p>By 2020, Inuit-led climate change research and monitoring projects are profiled on an ITK hosted climate change website</p> <p>By 2022, an Inuit-specific climate change research and monitoring workshop is convened allowing Inuit researchers and policy-makers across Inuit Nunangat to network and share research and monitoring challenges and opportunities</p>



2. HEALTH, WELL-BEING & THE ENVIRONMENT: Improve Inuit and environmental health and wellness outcomes through integrated Inuit health, education, and climate policies and initiatives

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	DELIVERABLE(S)
2.1 Ensure climate adaptation policies are informed by Inuit-specific health and wellness considerations	2.1.1 Influence policy and practice to ensure Inuit knowledge is equitably used in climate change decision-making	<p>In 2019, an Inuit health adaptation policy crosswalk is developed outlining linked health and climate adaptation policy issues, including the impacts of climate change on individual health and the health systems Inuit rely on</p> <p>In 2019, a systematic literature review of the influences of climate change on Inuit health and health systems is completed</p> <p>By early 2020, a partnership between Inuit representational organizations and Health Canada on the national climate change health assessment (slated for 2021 release) is in place to ensure it includes Inuit-specific risks and vulnerabilities</p>
	2.1.2 Support local Inuit-led climate health adaptation initiatives focused on ecosystem health and Inuit health and safety issues	<p>By 2020, a position paper outlining gaps and needs for local health adaptation programs in Inuit communities is developed</p> <p>By 2021, Inuit organizations are working with public health and education authorities to incorporate Inuit-led and Inuit co-produced health adaptation research and policy into public health messaging and educational curricula</p> <p>By 2022, regional Inuit-led and co-produced health adaptation initiatives inform and drive circumpolar health adaptation initiatives</p>
	2.1.3 Create Inuit-specific, culturally relevant, and gender-specific health and wellness indicators that incorporate climate vulnerabilities	<p>By 2020, the Inuit Health Survey design process identifies targeted questions that will contribute to efforts to monitor the climate vulnerabilities of Inuit health and health systems</p> <p>By 2022, Inuit organizations are working in partnership with public health authorities to monitor the climate vulnerabilities of Inuit health and health systems, and this evidence is incorporated in Inuit-specific health adaptation policies</p>
	2.1.4 Document climate change influences on Inuit land-based and sea ice-based cultural and harvesting activities to improve understandings of associated health outcomes, and allow evidence-based climate adaptation policy-making	<p>In 2019, Inuit Health Survey design discussions include the exploration of questions focused on determining the links between climate change and changes in the frequency and extent of outdoor cultural and harvesting activities</p> <p>By 2022, the Inuit Health Survey has started collecting data that allows the independent cross-referencing of the relationship between climate change impacts on Inuit land and sea ice access and health outcomes (including mental health)</p> <p>By 2022, work is complete to ensure Canadian Inuit input into international health adaptation initiatives is informed by Inuit Health Survey findings going forward</p>

3. FOOD SYSTEMS: Reduce the climate vulnerability of Inuit and market food systems

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	DELIVERABLE(S)
3.1 Support Inuit households facing loss and damage to harvesting infrastructure due to climate change impacts	3.1.1 Identify opportunities to improve the sustainability of hunter support programs and their capacity to build the climate resilience of Inuit harvesters, including as one aspect, Nutrition North Canada's recently introduced (late 2018) federal harvesters support grant	<p>In 2019, develop a background paper on the climate change vulnerabilities and adaptation needs of Inuit harvesters and make it available to discussions centred on the November 2018 introduction of Nutrition North Canada's (NNC) harvesters support grant</p> <p>By 2020, prepare an Inuit Nunangat-wide assessment of the challenges climate change places on the capacity of hunter support programs to provide aid to Inuit harvesters experiencing climate-related losses, as well as financing options for Inuit-driven climate adaptation tools that support the resilience of Inuit harvesters and provide this assessment for NNC discussions</p> <p>By 2021, prepare a report outlining targeted recommendations for increasing the sustainability of harvester support programs and their capacity to address the climate vulnerabilities of harvesters</p> <p>By 2022, implement the recommendations of the report geared at building the sustainability of harvester support programs and actions to foster the climate resilience of harvesters</p>
3.2 Ensure food policies, programs, strategies and services in Inuit Nunangat are informed by Inuit-specific climate change and food systems research	3.2.1 Identify climate change induced needs and gaps in the food systems Inuit depend on, including Inuit and market food systems	By 2020, an overall climate change vulnerability assessment of Inuit food security is completed, includes consideration of the storage and transportation of Inuit and market foods, and informs the implementation of the (upcoming) National Inuit Food Security Strategy
	3.2.2 Secure direct Inuit involvement in the design and delivery of any policies, programs, and services that affect Inuit food security	<p>In 2019, the Inuit Health Survey design process includes discussion of potential survey questions that could contribute to efforts to monitor the impacts of climate change on Inuit food systems</p> <p>In 2022, Inuit-specific food security policies, programs and services adopt evidence-based actions aimed at increasing the resilience of Inuit food systems to climate change impacts</p>
	3.2.3 Build harvester safety supports including search and rescue and marine services infrastructure and capacity	<p>In 2019, Inuit organizations advocate for marine safety as well as search and rescue infrastructure and training that specifically benefit Inuit harvesters and Inuit food systems</p> <p>By 2020, Inuit representational organizations successfully advocate for the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the Coast Guard's newly created arctic region and the Oceans Protection Plan to include food security in Inuit Nunangat as a central priority</p>
	3.2.4 Secure Inuit participation and inclusion in the design of climate risk communications on Inuit food systems	<p>By 2020, the implementation of the National Inuit Food Security Strategy includes climate risk communications actions</p> <p>By 2022, Inuit have successfully advocated for public health authorities addressing food security issues in Inuit Nunangat to include Inuit-specific climate risk communications in their work</p>
	3.2.5 Advocate for strong partnerships between public health authorities and local food security initiatives for the surveillance of Inuit exposure to emerging climate influenced food and water-borne infectious diseases, contaminants, and parasites	<p>In 2019, Inuit representational organizations advocate for the operational outcomes of the pan-Canadian approach to wildlife health (finalized in June 2018) to increase research on the inter-connections between Inuit and wildlife health</p> <p>By 2020, complete an assessment of the policy coherence between local Inuit food security initiatives and the surveillance of Inuit exposure to food and water borne climate risks</p>



4. INFRASTRUCTURE: Close the infrastructure gap in Inuit Nunangat with climate resilient new builds, retrofits to existing builds, and Inuit adaptations to changing natural infrastructure

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	DELIVERABLE(S)
4.1 Assess the climate vulnerability of built and natural infrastructure across Inuit Nunangat and ensure Inuit have the agency and the resources to mitigate and adapt	4.1.1 Share information and best practices on built infrastructure hazard mapping, vulnerability assessments, and adaptation planning across Inuit Nunangat as well as with other circumpolar Inuit regions	<p>In 2019, Inuit organizations advocate for Inuit-specific training investments supporting the operation of arctic marine safety and resupply infrastructure</p> <p>By 2020, a partnership between Canada's Public Infrastructure Engineering Vulnerability Committee (PIEVC) and Inuit representational organizations is in place and focuses on the development of Inuit-specific training in the use of the PIEVC protocol which integrates climate risk into infrastructure development</p> <p>By 2020, Inuit organizations have successfully advocated for the National Adaptation Platform Plenary's Northern Adaptation Partnership to complete a feasibility study on the creation of a climate and infrastructure forensic analysis system focused on climate and social infrastructure failures and adaptations across Inuit Nunangat</p> <p>By 2022, an Inuit Nunangat climate and social infrastructure forensic analysis system informs investment and development decision-making across Inuit Nunangat</p>
	4.1.2 Advocate for the incorporation of Inuit knowledge into building codes and practices	<p>By 2020, Inuit organizations have established a partnership with the Standards Council of Canada to create Inuit-specific communication products and training on northern infrastructure building standards developed through the Northern Infrastructure Standards Initiative</p> <p>By 2021, Inuit successfully advocate for an Inuit Nunangat stream within the federal Climate Resilient Building and Core Infrastructure initiative, integrating Inuit knowledge of climate resiliency into northern building and infrastructure design guides and codes (the CRBCIP is led by the National Research Council and Infrastructure Canada)</p> <p>By 2022, Inuit specific training in northern infrastructure building standards is available to municipalities across Inuit Nunangat</p>
4.2 Identify climate hazard mapping and vulnerability needs and advocate for resources	4.2.1 Advocate for Inuit Nunangat-wide investments in hazard mapping and vulnerability assessments	<p>By 2020, complete a state of play report on the barriers and opportunities for the use of hazard mapping in local Inuit adaptation planning and emergency management planning</p> <p>By 2022, Inuit organizations successfully advocate for regular exchanges between Inuit practitioners to network, share best practices and collaborate on vulnerability assessments and hazard mapping exercises and emergency management planning</p>

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4. INFRASTRUCTURE: Close the infrastructure gap in Inuit Nunangat with climate resilient new builds, retrofits to existing builds, and Inuit adaptations to changing natural infrastructure (cont'd...)

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	DELIVERABLE(S)
4.3 Create built infrastructure incentives for climate resilient new builds and retrofits of existing infrastructure across Inuit Nunangat	4.3.1 Work to eliminate the infrastructure deficit in Inuit Nunangat with climate resilient builds	<p>In 2019, commission a report to identify the barriers and opportunities for transformative climate resilient infrastructure investments in Inuit Nunangat</p> <p>By 2020, use the transformative climate resilient infrastructure investment report to develop recommendations to strategically overcome barriers and capitalize on opportunities</p> <p>By 2022, FPT government policies on infrastructure investments in Inuit Nunangat include incentives for proven northern climate resilient builds and retrofits</p>
	4.3.2 Secure infrastructure investments that integrate an Inuit-driven climate lens	<p>In 2019, advocate for an Inuit Nunangat wide municipal asset management program (funds and training) facilitating informed local infrastructure investment decisions and adaptations to climate change</p> <p>By 2020, Inuit representational organizations have formed partnerships with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and associated provincial and territorial-based municipal federations to ensure Inuit-specific training and mentorship opportunities for municipal asset management are developed</p> <p>By 2022, there is an upward trend in municipal infrastructure planning throughout Inuit Nunangat that includes Inuit in climate resilient builds and investment decision-making</p>
	4.3.3 Develop a long-term strategy for transformative climate resilient infrastructure investments in Inuit Nunangat, including air and marine transportation, telecommunications, housing and municipal infrastructure	<p>In 2019, Inuit successfully advocate for the inclusion of transformative infrastructure investments to be included in the priorities of the Arctic Policy Framework</p> <p>By 2020, Inuit organizations have convened and developed a framework for a comprehensive Inuit Nunangat infrastructure strategy</p> <p>By 2022, Inuit-identified transformative, inter-regional and climate resilient infrastructure investments are guided by a comprehensive Inuit Nunangat infrastructure strategy that engages key partners including FPT governments, municipal associations and development corporations</p>



5. ENERGY: Support regional and community-driven energy solutions leading to Inuit energy independence

OBJECTIVES	ACTIONS	DELIVERABLE(S)
5.1 Advocate for Inuit Nunangat specific energy policy, programs and investments driven by Inuit sustainable energy needs and priorities	5.1.1 Define national Inuit energy priorities	<p>By 2020, resources are available to support regional level engagement in national energy policy discussions</p> <p>By 2020, an evergreen Inuit Nunangat Energy State of Play report is completed, to be updated annually</p> <p>By 2022, a national Inuit workshop to define national Inuit energy priorities takes place and is informed by a review of the state of play report, displaced cost of diesel, and pathways reports</p>
	5.1.2 Strengthen Inuit-driven efforts to support interjurisdictional learning on cleaner energy options and carbon pricing impacts	<p>By 2020, a report on the displaced cost of diesel throughout Inuit Nunangat builds on existing work to better quantify those costs</p> <p>By 2021, a Canadian Inuit energy working group tour of community renewable energy projects in Alaska and Greenland takes place</p> <p>By 2022, micro-economic assessment(s) of the impact of carbon pricing on the Inuit cost of living informs the 2020 interim review of Canada's carbon pricing system as well as the 2022 review</p>
5.2 Increase Inuit ownership, governance and control of energy systems in Inuit communities	5.2.1 Define pathways to increase Inuit ownership and governance of energy systems (energy policy, business and financing models, funding and support programs)	<p>By 2020, an Inuit energy transition pathways report is available</p> <p>By 2021, a national Inuit workshop on energy project financing and management is held</p> <p>By 2022, a single federal window for Inuit-specific energy financing is in place that allow for considerable flexibility in policy, funding and program approaches and accommodates the diversity of jurisdictional arrangements in Inuit Nunangat</p>
	5.2.2 Advance a sustainable energy research and development program based in Inuit Nunangat and designed to foster social and technical innovations including Inuit ownership models	<p>By 2020, an evergreen Inuit Nunangat energy state of play report informs the development of a zero draft of an Inuit Nunangat energy research agenda</p> <p>By 2021, energy indicators and targets are developed for Inuit Nunangat such as the proportion of Inuit ownership of generation assets, percent of renewables in energy systems, percent increase in energy efficiency, impact on cost of living, and economic development outcomes</p> <p>By 2022, finalize an Inuit Nunangat energy research agenda</p>
5.3 Develop and articulate a vision for an Inuit-driven transition to a secure and sustainable energy future across Inuit Nunangat	5.3.1 Support energy literacy, energy efficiency and energy conservation initiatives at the community level	<p>By 2020, complete a gap analysis of needed supports for the emerging priorities of Inuit regional energy leads and advocate for sustainable funding to support their work</p>
	5.3.2 Advocate for separate funding programs to finance energy audits and efficiency retrofits in social housing that supplement the funding available to address the housing shortage	<p>By 2019, ensure distinct federal funding is available for energy audits and retrofits in Inuit Nunangat</p> <p>By 2020, support innovation and energy efficiency by incorporating energy audits and efficiency retrofits, where practical, through the implementation of the Inuit Nunangat Housing Strategy</p>
5.4 Advocate for a whole of government approach to Inuit energy security and independence	5.4.1 Reinforce a holistic view of energy issues by fostering deeper connections to related issues such as housing, food security, cost of living, economic development and the environment	<p>By 2022, each Inuit representational organization has in place 'energy champions' who bridge the regular communication/ needed between multifaceted energy files</p>

Notes


- 1 United Nations, "The Paris Agreement," accessed December 20, 2018, <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>.
- 2 Core Writing Team, R.K. Pachauri and L.A. Meyer, eds., *Climate Change 2014: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* (Geneva, Switzerland: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2014), accessed December 20, 2018, <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/syr/>; Arctic Council, *Arctic Resilience Report*, eds. Marcus Carson and Garry Peterson (Stockholm, Sweden: Stockholm Environment Institute and Stockholm Resilience Centre, 2016), accessed December 20, 2018, <https://www.sei.org/mediamanager/documents/Publications/ArcticResilienceReport-2016.pdf>.
- 3 In 2016, the average age of Inuit was 27.7 years compared with 40.5 years for Canada as a whole. Between 2006 and 2016, the Inuit population increased by 29.1 percent compared with an increase of 10.9 percent in the total Canadian population; Statistics Canada, "The Aboriginal Population in Canada, 2016 Census of Population" (Ottawa, Ontario: Statistics Canada, 2017), accessed December 20, 2018, <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/11-627-m/11-627-m2017027-eng.htm>.
- 4 Gérard Duhaime and Roberson Édouard, "Monetary Poverty in Inuit Nunangat," *Arctic* 68, no. 2 (2015): 223–32, <https://doi.org/10.14430/arctic4481>; Jean Robitaille et al., *The Cost of Living in Nunavik in 2016, Research Report – Revised and Expanded Version* (Québec, Quebec: Canada Research Chair on Comparative Aboriginal Conditions, Université Laval, 2018), accessed December 20, 2018, <http://www.chaireconditionautochtone.fss.ulaval.ca/documents/pdf/THE-COST-OF-LIVING-IN-NUNAVIK-IN-2016-REVISED-AND-EXPANDED.pdf>.
- 5 Ashlee Cunsolo Willox et al., "Examining Relationships between Climate Change and Mental Health in the Circumpolar North," *Regional Environmental Change* 15 (2015): 169–82, accessed December 20, 2018, http://www.lamentfortheland.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/CC-Circumpolar-MH_Cunsolo-Willox-et-al.-Online.pdf.
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- 7 P. Carlsson et al., *Influence of Climate Change on Transport, Levels, and Effects of Contaminants in Northern Areas – Part 2* (Oslo, Norway: AMAP, 2016), accessed December 20, 2018, <https://www.amap.no/documents/doc/influence-of-climate-change-on-transport-levels-and-effects-of-contaminants-in-northern-areas-part-2/1561>.
- 8 Vladimir Romanovsky et al., "Changing permafrost and its impacts," in *Snow, Water, Ice and Permafrost in the Arctic (SWIPA) 2017*, Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP), (Oslo, Norway: AMAP, 2017), 65–102, accessed December 20, 2018, <https://www.amap.no/documents/doc/snow-water-ice-and-permafrost-in-the-arctic-swipa-2017/1610>.
- 9 Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP), *Snow, Water, Ice and Permafrost. Summary for Policy-makers* (Oslo, Norway: AMAP, 2017), accessed December 20, 2018, <https://www.amap.no/documents/doc/Snow-Water-Ice-and-Permafrost.-Summary-for-Policy-makers/1532>.
- 10 SWIPA 2017 compared the outcomes of two different greenhouse gas concentration scenarios, RCP-4.5 and RCP-8.5. In the Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP)-4.5 scenario, reductions in emissions lead to stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere by 2100 and a stabilized end-of-century global average temperature rise of 1.7°–3.1°C above pre-industrial levels. Whereas RCP-8.5 is a high-emission business-as usual scenario, leading to a global non-stabilized temperature rise of 3.8°–6°C by 2100.
- 11 Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada, *The Sea Ice Never Stops: Circumpolar Inuit Reflections on Sea Ice Use and Shipping in Inuit Nunaat* (Ottawa, Canada: ICC-Canada, 2014), accessed December 20, 2018, <https://www.sdwg.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Inuit-Response-to-AMSA-Final-Report.pdf>.

- 12 Consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: "Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities." (Articles 21 & 22), United Nations, "United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples," accessed December 20, 2018, http://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocities-crimes/Doc.18_declaration%20rights%20indigenous%20peoples.pdf.
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