ᐃᓄᕕᐊᓗᐃᑦ INUVIALUIT

The Inuvialuit region comprises the northwestern part of the Northwest Territories.

In 1984 the Inuvialuit, federal and Northwest Territories governments settled their comprehensive land claims agreement. The Inuvialuit Final Agreement states that Inuvialuit own surface and subsurface (mining) rights to most of the region. The Agreement ensures environmental protection, harvesting rights and Inuvialuit participation and support in many economic development initiatives.

Inuvik is the largest community in the region and is also the regional administrative center.

Ulukhaktok and Sachs Harbour are located on islands and are therefore only accessible by air and sea. The other communities have limited road access. For example, one can drive from Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk and Aklavik on an ice road during winter. The famous Dempster Highway ends just outside the Inuvik town limits.

Economic conditions in the Inuvialuit region focus on oil and gas development, particularly with the imminent construction of a major natural gas pipeline. Mineral exploration, transportation and tourism are also prominent in the region.

ᓄᓇᕗᑦ NUNAVUT

On April 1, 1999, Nunavut became Canada's third and newest territory. The area, once part of the Northwest Territories, is one-fifth of Canada's landmass. Some 25,000 Inuit reside in 26 communities, with Iqaluit as its capital. Nunavut is divided into three regions, Qikiqtaaluk (Baffin) in the east, Kivalliq (Keewatin) in the central Arctic along the western coast of Hudson's Bay, and the Kitikmeot in the west.

The territorial government of Nunavut incorporates traditional values and beliefs into a contemporary governing system. The official language of the government is Inuktitut, although French, English and Inuinnaqtun are also recognized and widely used.

Nunavut's economy, like the other regions is based on renewable resources, arts and crafts, both on and offshore fisheries and tourism. Government is the largest employer in the territory followed closely by the private sector and service industries.

Plans for limited road access between Manitoba and Kivalliq communities are currently being studied by the respective governments, but there is currently no road access linking the communities to the rest of Canada. Although travel by boat and snowmobile is possible between some communities, most rely on air and sea transportation.

ᓄᓇᕕᒃ NUNAVIK

The region in northern Quebec inhabited by Inuit is known as Nunavik.

In 1971 the Quebec government announced its intention to develop a massive hydroelectric project flowing into James Bay. The project was developed without consultation with Inuit and Cree who lived in the region for thousands of years. It had the potential to irrevocably damage the land and wildlife, resources upon which Inuit depended.

The Inuit and Cree responded with court action to stop development. In 1973 they won an interlocutory injunction, effectively halting construction. Quebec responded by announcing it would negotiate a land claims agreement. A week later the injunction was overturned, however the land claim negotiations went ahead.

The result for the Inuit of Nunavik was the first modern comprehensive land claims agreement in Canada, called the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement, signed in Quebec City on November 11, 1975. The Agreement is administered by Makivik Corporation. Subsequently the Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement, which covers the offshore region of Nunavik, was signed on December 1, 2006.

9,750 Inuit live in 14 communities along the coasts of Ungava Bay, Hudson Strait, and Hudson's Bay. The largest community in the region is Kuujjuaq, with a population of 2,200. The Nunavik territory is 660,000 square kilometers making up one third of the province of Quebec.

The Kativik Regional Government is responsible for the delivery of municipal services and infrastructure in the communities. The Kativik School Board administers the education system. Health services are managed by the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services. Nunavik Inuit are working with Quebec for the creation of a new regional government.

Traditional hunting and fishing is a crucial food source for the Inuit of Nunavik. The transportation and service industries, tourism and mining are important components of the local economy.

ᓄᓇᑦᓯᐊᕗᑦ NUNATSIAVUT

The Labrador Inuit Association negotiated a comprehensive land claim agreement with the government of Canada and Newfoundland between 1977 - 2006. The Labrador Final Agreement was signed in Nain, Labrador on January 23, 2005. Subsequently the Nunatsiavut Government came into being on December 1, 2005.

Approximately 4,500 Inuit live along the Labrador coast in five communities. Nain is the biggest Inuit community in Labrador, and is also the administrative center, with a population of 1,200.

Land and sea wildlife harvesting continue to be the main diet and often the mainstay of Labrador's economy. The government and service industries are the region's biggest employer, but the Voisey's Bay nickel mine provides a large boost the local economy by employing Inuit from nearby areas.

The Labrador Final Agreement sets out details of land ownership, resource sharing, and self-government. The Labrador Inuit Settlement Area covers about 72,500 square kilometers of land and 48,690 square kilometers of sea. Within this area Labrador Inuit own 15,800 square kilometers. The Final Agreement also establishes the Torngat Mountains National Park.

ᓯᑯ | SIKU | POLAR ICE | LES GLACES POLAIRES

Taanna nunannguaq nalunaiqsisimajuq nunaup, sikuup inuillu katinnganinginnik. tamanna siku nunamut atajuq. Imait sikuvangittut ukiulimaaq sikusuittuuniraqtaujut qallunaatut taijaullutik palinianik tukiqaqłunilu ulaasiamiutitut "sikumi imaqarniujuq". ammalu, tamatuma sikuup ungataani, imavingmi sikuqarilluni "ingirrajunnaqtunik". Taakkua sikuit imaup ingirraninganut ingirravalliajunnaqtut. Taakkuaglu sikuit kiglingit inungnut taijauvakłutik "sinaanik" ammalu atuqtauniqaqtummarialuullutik piqqusinginnut. Inuit sikumi angunasukpangmata. ukiuqtaqtumi unuqtummariit arraagulimaami sikuqaqpaktut, qimuksikkut qamutaujakkullu ingirrajunnaqpakłutik nattirasukłutik aglutigut.

Tamanna siku isumagilugu nunamut ataningannik. Inuit sikumi igluliuqpaktut, nunamiunngittuq, uqquuniqsauningannut natinga sikumiinninganut. Siku inuit unikkausinginnut ilinniaqtittijjutinginnullu atajuq. Imaullu tungujurninga piujummarialuulluni. takuksauninga, atuqtauninga qaumaningalu kisiani takulugit piuninganik tukisinnaqłuni. Inuit iggaksimavalauqtut illuliqtailillutik sikumi qaumaninga sanngijummarialuuninganut.

Silarjuaq uqquusivallianinganut ammalu asijjiqpallianinganut ukiuqtaqtumi sikunga aktuqtauniqarsimangmat. Ukiaksaakkut sikunasaarniqsauvaliqłuni, ammalu upirngaakkut auksaaliniqsauvaliqłuni. Tamanna inungnut attarnaqtumiijjutaulirmat sikukkut ingirravaktunut, sikuup ijjuninga nalunaqsivalliatuinnarmat. Uumajunut attarnaqtumiijjutaugilluni nunagijangannik suraivalliangmat, piluaqtumik nanurnut.

Siku nunamut atajuq nunataarutitigut nalunaiqtausimangmijuq. Nunataarutitigullu tuksirautaujunnaqłuni nunamut ataninganut.

This map illustrates the relationship between land, ice and Inuit. Landfast ice is stable ice attached to the mainland. Areas of open water all year round are called *"polynyas"*, a Russian word meaning "an area of open water in sea ice". Finally, beyond the fast ice, on the offshore side, is ice called "marginal ice". This ice moves with the ocean currents. The ice edge between fast ice and marginal ice zones are often termed the "floe edge" by Inuit and are very important culturally. Inuit depend on ice for hunting. In many places in the Arctic fast ice is present most of the year, allowing Inuit to travel over it using dog teams or snowmobiles to hunt seal through breathing holes.

Think of the ice as an extension of the land. Inuit build iglus on the ice, not the land, because of the warmth radiated through the floor from the warm water below. The ice is part of Inuit stories and teachings. The aqua blue of the sea ice has a surreal beauty all its own. It shimmers, radiates, and glows a brightness that must be seen to fully comprehend. Inuit wear snow goggles to prevent from snowblindness because the light reflected from the ice is so intense.

Global warming and climate change are affecting the extent of ice coverage in the Arctic. The ice forms later in the fall, and melts earlier in the spring. This presents danger for Inuit travelling over the ice, as ice thickness is becoming unpredictable. For wildlife it means a depletion of the natural environment and threatens certain species, notably the polar bear.

Landfast ice is also a term used in the development of comprehensive land claims. It is possible to state a claim in offshore areas based on the concept of Landfast ice.

Cette carte illustre la relation existant entre la terre, les glaces et l'Inuit. La glace de rive est une glace fixée au continent. Les zones navigables à longueur d'année sont appelées *« polynyas »*, mot issu du vocabulaire russe et qui signifie « zone d'eau libre dans une mer encombrée de glace ». Enfin, la zone située au-delà de la glace fixée, au large des côtes, est souvent appelée par les Inuits « glace de banc » et revêt une importance considérable dans la culture inuite. Les chasseurs inuits sont tributaires des glaces polaires. En plusieurs endroits de l'Arctique, la glace fixée est présente toute l'année, ce qui permet aux Inuits de voyager en traîneau à chiens ou en motoneige pour chasser le phoque dans les trous d'air.

Imaginez les glaces comme un prolongement de la terre ferme. Les Inuits construisent leurs igloos non pas sur la terre ferme, mais sur les glaces, dans le but d'utiliser l'énergie thermique de l'eau circulant sous les glaces. Les glaces sont partie intégrante des légendes et de l'enseignement des Inuits. Le bleu des glaciers possède une beauté surréelle à nulle autre pareille. Son chatoiement, son rayonnement et sa luminescence sont d'une puissance lumineuse telle que seuls ceux qui en ont été témoins peuvent saisir. Les Inuits doivent porter des lunettes teintées pour se protéger contre l'ophtalmie — ou cécité — des neiges causée par les reflets de la lumière sur les glaces.

Le réchauffement de la planète et les changements climatiques affectent l'étendue glaciaire de l'Arctique. À l'automne, la formation des glaces est plus tardive, tandis que le dégel est plus hâtif au printemps. L'épaisseur des glaces est devenue imprévisible, ce qui représente un danger certain pour les Inuits qui voyagent sur les glaciers. Pour les espèces sauvages, ces phénomènes signifient un appauvrissement de leur habitat naturel et mettent en péril la survie de certaines espèces, notamment celle de l'ours polaire.

La glace de rive est aussi le terme utilisé dans l'élaboration de revendications territoriales complètes. Il est possible de revendiquer des zones au large des côtes si l'on fait ressortir l'importance de la glace de rive dans la culture inuite.