



National Inuit Strategy on Research

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

About Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami

Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK) is the national representational organization for the 65,000 Inuit in Canada, the majority of whom live in Inuit Nunangat, specifically, the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (Northwest Territories), Nunavut, Nunavik (Northern Québec), and Nunatsiavut (Northern Labrador). Collectively, these four regions make up Inuit Nunangat, our homeland in Canada. It includes 53 communities and encompasses roughly 35 percent of Canada's landmass and 50 percent of its coastline. Consistent with its founding purpose, ITK represents the rights and interests of Inuit at the national level through a democratic governance structure that represents all Inuit regions.

The comprehensive land claim agreements that have been settled in Inuit Nunangat form a core component of our organization's mandate. These land claims have the status of protected treaties under section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*, and we remain committed to fully implementing them in partnership with the Crown. ITK advocates for policies, programs, and services to address the social, cultural, political, and environmental issues facing our people.

ITK is governed by a Board of Directors composed of the following members:

- 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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List of acronyms

AINA	Arctic Institute of North America
CAUT	Canadian Association of University Teachers
CCADI	The Canadian Consortium for Arctic Data Interoperability
CFI	Canadian Foundation for Innovation
CIHR	Canadian Institute of Health Research
CIRNA	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs
CNNRO	Canadian Network of Northern Research Operators
CRCC	Canada Research Coordinating Committee
ELOKA	Exchange for Local Observations and Knowledge of the Arctic
FNIGC	First Nations Information Governance Centre
GoC	Government of Canada
HTO	Hunters and Trappers Organizations
ICC	Inuit Circumpolar Council
ICPC	Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee
ILCOGs	Inuit Land Claims Organizations and Governments
IQNC	Inuit Qaujisarvingat National Committee
IPG	Institutional Public Governments
IRC	Inuvialuit Regional Corporation
ISC	Indigenous Services Canada
ISED	Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada
ITK	Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami
LAC	Library and Archives Canada
NCIE	National Committee on Inuit Education
NCP	Northern Contaminants Program
NG	Nunatsiavut Government
NICoH	National Inuit Committee on Health
NIDMC	National Inuit Data Management Committee
NIHSWG	National Inuit Health Survey Working Group
NISR	National Inuit Strategy on Research
NISR IP	National Inuit Strategy on Research Implementation Plan
NIYC	National Inuit Youth Council
NRC	National Research Council
NRI	Nunavut Research Institute
NSERC	Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council
NTI	Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
OCAP®	Ownership, Control, Access and Possession
PHAC	Public Health Agency of Canada
POLAR	Polar Knowledge Canada
PRE	Interagency Advisory Panel on Research Ethics
SSHRC	Social Science and Humanities Research Council



Introduction

The National Inuit Strategy on Research (NISR) was released in March 2018 by Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK). The NISR Implementation Plan (NISR IP) is a companion document based on the priorities, objectives and actions identified in the NISR. The NISR IP provides the necessary details for shared action to occur and will serve to coordinate the implementation of the NISR by rights holders and the many stakeholders involved in Inuit Nunangat research. The NISR IP has been developed as a living document outlining a plan for the first phase of implementing the NISR (2018-2023) and as such will continue to be reviewed and adapted. It is dependent on the mobilization of human and capital resources by both rights holders and stakeholders. The ITK Board of Directors approved the NISR IP in August 2018.

The NISR IP is divided into three sections: section 1 provides a vision for governance and collaboration to achieve the objectives of the NISR along with proposed roles and responsibilities for rights holders and stakeholders; section 2 outlines an engagement and communication plan for the implementation of the NISR; section 3 contains a detailed table for each of the NISR priority areas itemizing deliverables and milestones required to achieve each action, target dates for completion, and organizations that will need to be involved in various capacities.

Section 1.

Roles and responsibilities of Inuit representative organizations and stakeholders in Inuit Nunangat research

Implementation of the NISR requires a coordinated approach based on partnership. The NISR IP identifies potential government and academic partners required to facilitate this process and reach the key milestones for the 5-year time frame. Current relationships must be transformed and new ones brokered by Inuit with the numerous stakeholders involved in Inuit Nunangat research to successfully implement the NISR. It is important to recognize the roles and responsibilities of rights holders and the stakeholders who will contribute to implementing the NISR.

In the NISR IP, Inuit representative organizations means the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., Makivik Corporation, Nunatsiavut Government, and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and the constituents that they represent. Stakeholders refers to governments, academics, research institutions and other non-Inuit entities that have a vested interest or role to play in implementing the NISR. Table 1 lists Inuit representative organizations and examples of stakeholders relevant to advancing Inuit self-determination in research.

Further enhancing the capacity of Inuit organizations for research, including the implementation of the NISR, will continue to be a priority. The roles and responsibilities that representatives of Inuit might cultivate during the next five years of capacity building are proposed in Appendix A. Increased funding and the development of resources, both human and infrastructure, for Inuit organizations will be essential to implementing the NISR.

ITK coordinates committees that utilize research and advance Inuit research priorities. The Inuit Qaujisarvingat National Committee (IQNC), a sub-committee of the ITK Board, focuses on improving Inuit Nunangat research practice and policy. Other sub-committees of the ITK Board actively produce, consume, and utilize research as part of their advocacy. As a mechanism for implementing the NISR, a multi-stakeholder committee or working group (the NISR Committee) will be established comprising representatives of Inuit (regional, national, and international), and key stakeholders. Each entity will have a central role to play in moving forward and achieving the milestones itemized in the NISR IP.

Many of the objectives and actions outlined in section 3 of this implementation plan will require governments, universities, research institutes and academics to take action. Through the process of engagement planned for the first year, roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders will be further developed. Partnerships and in certain cases bilateral agreements with federal departments and agencies will be established to implement the NISR.



Table 1: Inuit representative organizations and examples of stakeholders involved in Inuit Nunangat research

Inuit representative organizations	Examples of stakeholders	
	Government	Academic and Research Institutions/ Organizations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK) • Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC) • Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI) • Nunatsiavut Government (NG) • Makivik Corporation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) • Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) • Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) • Interagency Advisory Panel on Research Ethics (PRE) • Polar Knowledge Canada (POLAR) • Statistics Canada • Minister of Science • Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat • Health Canada, including the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) • Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI) • National Research Council (NRC) • Canada Research Coordinating Committee (CRCC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universities/ Colleges • Research Ethics Boards • Universities Canada • Canadian Association of Research Ethics

Section 2. Engagement and communication

Research today is a system that is embedded in many large institutions, who hold significant resources and capacity that create the culture, policies and practice that the NISR has identified as problematic for Inuit. Engagement across sectors and between representatives of Inuit and stakeholders will be a central component of implementing the NISR. Engagement activities will inform and educate rights holders and the numerous stakeholders in Inuit Nunangat research about the NISR. These activities will also identify and establish partnerships with those who are committed to advancing the NISR objectives.

In the first year, the NISR IP will be used as the basis for engagement between rights holders and stakeholders to further define specific steps required to implement the NISR. During this time key stakeholders will be identified for inclusion on the NISR Committee. In addition, an overall budget for implementing the NISR will be developed through the course of the first year based on the outcomes of this engagement. Stakeholder and rights holders named in this document will be approached to develop work plans to achieve the deliverable, or action, they commit to. Communications tools will be necessary to inform, educate, and engage rights holders and stakeholders about the NISR and its implementation.



Section 3.

Implementing and evaluating the NISR

The NISR identifies five priority areas, 19 objectives and 27 actions in which coordinated action is necessary to facilitate Inuit Nunangat research that is effective, impactful, and meaningful to Inuit. With proper capacity and resourcing these actions will be implemented over a five year period between 2018 and 2023, following the fiscal year calendar beginning April 1st and ending March 31st. Inuit representative organizations are responsible for coordinating the work and ensuring that NISR deliverables are completed on time.

A framework to evaluate the implementation of the NISR will be developed in the first year. It will outline methods and approaches to measure progress and support ongoing implementation. The NISR evaluation will occur at midterm and at the end of the five year implementation plan. Representatives of Inuit and future partners responsible for implementing the NISR will learn from successes and challenges in order to appropriately adapt the deliverables and milestones of the NISR. An external evaluator will be engaged to support the development of the evaluation framework, including measures of success, for each of the priority areas.

The following tables are organized according to the five priority areas and objectives identified in the NISR. For each priority area a table has been developed which identifies NISR actions in the first column. For each action, key deliverables or milestones are identified, as well as an end date for completion, and preliminary list of key organizations necessary to achieve the deliverables. Decision-making organizations are those that hold the power to implement or advance the deliverables. Partners are organizations and committees that must be engaged to complete deliverables.

Priority Area #1: Advance Inuit governance in research

Objectives

- Achieve greater Inuit representation and decision-making in research governance, including the Tri-Council Agencies
- Reform research-related legislative, regulatory, and policy mechanisms impacting Inuit Nunangat
- Advance Inuit research priorities through Inuit Nunangat research governance bodies
- Ensure Inuit self-determination in establishing research governance bodies, including selection processes
- Establish accountable, coordinated, and transparent approaches to Inuit Nunangat research

Action of NISR	#	Deliverables / milestones	End Date	Decision-Making Organizations	Partners
1.1	Develop and implement an Inuit Nunangat research policy for adoption by the Government of Canada (GoC)		2022	ITK; GoC	NISR Committee; IQNC; Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs (CIRNA) – Arctic Policy Framework; Minister of Science; Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee (ICPC); Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT)
	1.1.1	Establish an Inuit - Government working group to develop, advance, maintain, and evaluate policy	2019		
	1.1.2	Analysis of actions and resources required to create an Inuit Nunangat research policy	2019		
	1.1.3	Capacity building workshop for NISR Committee, IQNC members and selected regional representatives on policy writing and development	2020		
	1.1.4	Develop an engagement plan and seek funding for workshops in each Inuit region to solicit input to research policy	2020		
	1.1.5	Generate report: four regions research policy and process; review of other Arctic research policies	2021		
	1.1.6	Draft of policy for review by representatives of Inuit and GoC	2022		
	1.1.7	Adoption of research policy by GoC	2022		
1.2	Support Inuit representational organizations in articulating Inuit Nunangat research priorities		2023	ITK; Inuit Land Claims Organizations and Governments (ILCOGs); Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC)-Canada	IQNC; Governments; Institutional Public Governments (IPG); Tri-Council; Colleges/Universities; Industry; National Inuit Youth Council (NIYC); CAUT
	1.2.1	Assess regional research policies and procedures including: research governance and Inuit in-kind contribution to research	2019		
	1.2.2	Develop and propose an Inuit-specific process for developing Inuit research priorities regionally and nationally	2020		
	1.2.3	Develop accredited research training for Inuit including capacity building tools and guidelines for research methodologies, evaluation, data management, etc.	2020		
	1.2.4	Generate report: regional and national Inuit research priorities and the process to produce them (based on the results of the process that emerges from deliverable 1.2.2)	2021		



Action of NISR	#	Deliverables / milestones	End Date	Decision-Making Organizations	Partners
1.2 cont'd					
	1.2.5	Offer accredited training on research methodologies at least once in all four Inuit regions	2023	ITK; ILCOGs; Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC)-Canada	IQNC; Governments; Institutional Public Governments (IPG); Tri-Council; Colleges/Universities; Industry; National Inuit Youth Council (NIYC); CAUT
	1.2.6	Author publications on achieving Inuit self-determination in research to build support in academia and research institutions	On-going		
1.3 Secure multi-year, flexible funding for Inuit to participate in Inuit Nunangat research governance			2020	ITK; Governments; Industry; Academic Institutions	NISR Committee; Indigenous Services Canada (ISC); CIRNA; Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED); Tri-Council
	1.3.1	Policy memo identifying funding sources and opportunities to secure funding	2020		
	1.3.2	Submit federal budget proposal for Inuit Nunangat research governance and other aspects of the Implementation Plan	2018		
1.4 Work with the Government of Canada to create a deputy chief science advisor responsible for coordinating Inuit Nunangat research and reporting to the Minister of Science			2021	ITK; Minister of Science	IQNC; ICPC; ISED
	1.4.1	Jointly develop an action plan and scope of work for an Inuit Nunangat deputy chief science advisor to oversee development of an Inuit Nunangat research policy	2021		
1.5 Develop an Inuit-specific appointments process for Inuit Nunangat research governance bodies			2020	ITK; ILCOGs; GoC; Tri Council	IQNC; Governments; POLAR; ArcticNet; Northern Contaminants Program (NCP); Tri-Council; CRCC
	1.5.1	Generate report: existing and historical appointments processes and structures in Inuit Nunangat to determine best Inuit appointments practices; list of current research governance structures; and an analysis for an improved Inuit appointments process	2020		
	1.5.2	Establish regional and national research governance bodies, including terms of reference	2020		
	1.5.3	Develop and adopt an improved appointment processes that respects Inuit governance	2020		
	1.5.4	Establish dedicated positions for Inuit on Tri-Council research funding decision making bodies	2020		

Action of NISR	#	Deliverables / milestones	End Date	Decision-Making Organizations	Partners
1.6		Include research-related legislative and regulatory mechanisms impacting Inuit Nunangat in the Inuit-specific principles being developed by the Joint Law and Policy Review Working Group	2021	ITK	IQNC; Joint Law and Policy Review Working Group; ICPC
	1.6.1	Review reports/literature/policies outlining research in Canada and circumpolar countries to identify regulations and mechanisms impacting Inuit Nunangat research and provide recommendations to address them	2021		
1.7		Create avenues for Inuit representational organization input into federal Inuit Nunangat research governance bodies, such as the Canada Research Coordinating Committee (CRCC) (for specific deliverables see action 1.5)	2020	ITK; GoC; Tri Council	IQNC; Governments; POLAR; ArcticNet; NCP; Tri-Council; CRCC
1.8		ITK to develop work plans in partnership with relevant Ministers, including the Minister of Science, to strengthen Inuit governance in research	2023	ITK; GoC	IQNC; Minister of Science; Tri-Council; Statistics Canada; POLAR; Environment and Climate Change Canada; Fisheries and Oceans Canada; other relevant GoC Departments as determined
	1.8.1	Develop work plan with each relevant Minister	2023		



Priority Area #2: Enhance the ethical conduct of research

Objectives

- Hold institutions accountable for adhering to existing ethical research guidelines
- Develop Inuit-specific ethical research guidelines for all Inuit Nunangat research
- Create transparency in the review and oversight of research in Inuit Nunangat
- Broker Inuit partnerships with Research Ethics Boards

Action of NISR	#	Deliverables / milestones	End Date	Decision-Making Organizations	Partners
2.1 Establish mechanisms to regulate the ethical conduct of research in Inuit Nunangat			2022	ITK; ILCOGs	IQNC; Tri-Council; Nunavut Research Institute (NRI); Aurora College; Research Programs (i.e. ArcticNet); CIRNA; POLAR; Arctic Institute of North America (AINA); Governments; ICC-Canada
	2.1.1	Identify, develop and implement mechanisms that increase Inuit involvement in research ethics approval processes in Inuit Nunangat	2019		
	2.1.2	Ensure self-determination in research ethics approval process by establishing Inuit research policy (connected to action 1.1) and processes	2022		
2.2 Support the development and operation of Inuit-led research ethics review processes			2023	ITK; ILCOGs	IQNC; Tri-Council; NRI; Aurora College; Research Programs (i.e. ArcticNet); CIRNA; POLAR; AINA; Governments; Universities
	2.2.1	Develop and facilitate implementation of Inuit-specific ethics review policies and regulations inspired by examples of successful practices	2023		
	2.2.2	Update or create provincial/territorial, national, and international regulatory mechanisms to reflect new ethics approval process	2023	Governments	
2.3 Develop indicators in partnership with Inuit to track Inuit participation in ethics review processes			2021	ITK	NISR Committee; PRE; Canadian Association of Research Ethics Boards; Universities; Tri-Council
	2.3.1	Identify indicators (part of evaluation process) and establish a tracking mechanism for Inuit participation in ethics review	2021		

Action of NISR	#	Deliverables / milestones	End Date	Decision-Making Organizations	Partners
2.4	Develop Inuit-specific ethics guidelines for research involving humans, wildlife and the environment		2023	ITK	IQNC; Tri-Council; Universities; Research Programs
	2.4.1	Establish a working group, inclusive of youth and elders, and establish a plan to develop Inuit-specific guidelines for the ethical conduct of research	2021		
	2.4.2	Advocate for and develop communication tools to assist institutional adoption of Inuit-specific research ethics guidelines	2023		
2.5	Ensure Inuit representation on the Interagency Advisory Panel on Research Ethics (PRE)		2020	ITK; PRE	IQNC; Minister of Science
	2.5.1	Collaborate on draft amendments to terms of reference of PRE to ensure fulsome Inuit engagement and representation	2020		
2.6	Create community-level research review processes connected to regional, national, and international processes and/or agreements		2022	ITK; ILCOGs; ICC-Canada	NISR Committee; Governments; Communities; NIYC; Research centres
	2.6.1	Community engagement to inform the development of community-based research review processes that are specific to regional contexts (connected to deliverable 2.1.2)	2020		
	2.6.2	Establish mentor training program and materials for community members in ethics and review process	2021		
	2.6.3	Develop and implement community-based research review process, mechanisms and tools that link to regional, national and international levels.	2022		



Priority Area #3: Align funding with Inuit Research priorities

Objectives

- Inuit Nunangat research funding reflects Inuit research priorities
- Enable research led by Inuit
- Ensure transparency, coordination, and accountability in the resourcing of Inuit Nunangat research

Action of NISR	#	Deliverables / milestones	End Date	Decision-Making Organizations	Partners
3.1 Partner with the Inuit governance structure in setting Inuit Nunangat research priorities for funding			2021	ITK; ILCOGs	IQNC; Minister of Science; Health Canada; ISED; CIRNA; POLAR; Tri-Councils; Governments
	3.1.1	Establish funding agreements between Inuit representative organizations and funding agencies and organizations	2021		
	3.1.2	Develop a funding policy for Inuit-specific research priorities with dedicated funding allocated (connected to action 1.2)	2021		
3.2 Revise existing funding eligibility criteria to support and facilitate Inuit-led research and methodologies			2019	ITK; Funding Agencies	NISR Committee; Tri-Council; Universities; Academics; Governments
	3.2.1	Generate discussion paper that explores Inuit research methodologies and identifies information available, current state, barriers, and recommendations for improving funding for Inuit-led research	2019		
	3.2.2	Revise Tri-Council application eligibility criteria to include Inuit representative organizations	2019		
3.3 Utilize the Inuit Nunangat policy space in awarding funding for research, defined as the geographic, political, and cultural area encompassing the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, Nunavut, Nunavik, and Nunatsiavut			2023	ITK; ILCOGs; GoC; Tri-Council	NISR Committee; Governments; Tri-Council
	3.3.1	Revise Tri-Council programs and institutes to utilize the Inuit Nunangat policy space in awarding funding	2020		
	3.3.2	Establish collaborative research funding envelope for Inuit Nunangat research that cuts across the Tri-council agencies	2022		
	3.3.3	Annual compendium of Inuit Nunangat research to enable assessment of long term trends (based on database established in action 3.4)	2023		

Action of NISR	#	Deliverables / milestones	End Date	Decision-Making Organizations	Partners
3.4		Develop a database for tracking investment in Inuit Nunangat research, including allocation by all levels of governments and academic institutions	2023	ITK; Tri-Council; Funding Agencies; Governments; Colleges; Universities	NISR Committee; National Inuit Data Management Committee (NIDMC); Tri-Council; Funding Agencies; Treasury Board Secretariat; Minister of Science; Academics
	3.4.1	Develop policy memo that includes recommendations on creating transparency on investments in Inuit Nunangat research	2023		
	3.4.2	Establish mechanisms and transparency in tracking investments in Inuit Nunangat research by all levels of governments and academic institutions	2023		



Priority Area #4: Ensure Inuit access, ownership and control over data and Information

Objectives

- Advance Inuit self-determination in collecting, verifying, analyzing, and disseminating Inuit-specific data and information
- Invest in Inuit-led data and information technology and infrastructure
- Ensure ownership of Inuit data by Inuit-appointed entities
- Utilization of Inuktitut (the Inuit language) in data platforms and information management

Action of NISR	#	Deliverables / milestones	End Date	Decision-Making Organizations	Partners
4.1 Advocate for the consistent production and sharing of Inuit-specific and Inuit-relevant indicators and data, including the Inuit Health Survey			2021	ITK; ILCOGs	IQNC; NISR Committee; NIDMC; National Inuit Committee on Health (NICoH); National Inuit Health Survey Working Group (NIHSWG); ICC; Statistics Canada
	4.1.1	Establish a mechanism or process to coordinate the development of Inuit-specific indicators	2021		
	4.1.2	Create communications plan to ensure consistent messaging for advocacy	2021		
	4.1.3	Advocate for monitoring current involvement of Inuit in research (individual, community level) and track on an annual basis	2021		
4.2 Invest in culturally-relevant, community-based technology to facilitate access to and management of data and information			2022	ITK; ILCOGs	IQNC; NIDMC; Statistics Canada; Northern Colleges; Governments; CAUT
	4.2.1	Determine regional and community technological needs and aspirations through engagement with ILCO	2020		
	4.2.2	Quantify community-based technology and data management needs	2021		
	4.2.3	Develop an action plan to advance community-based technology and data management, including to build data specialist capacity in Inuit Nunangat	2021		
	4.2.4	Revise Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy to reflect Inuit priorities	2022		

Action of NISR	#	Deliverables / milestones	End Date	Decision-Making Organizations	Partners
4.3	Develop Inuit-specific guidelines on data accessibility, ownership, and control		2022	ITK; ILCOGs	IQNC; NIDMC; NiCoH; Regional Inuit Associations; Statistics Canada; National Archive; CFI; First Nations Information Governance Centre (FNIGC)
	4.3.1	Generate internal report: identify successful data storage and accessibility agreements (i.e. Ownership, Control Access and Possession (OCAP®), Australia, New Zealand) to model and implement regional processes	2020		
	4.3.2	Hold regional and national workshops to inform the development of an Inuit policy on ownership, control, access, sharing and preserving Inuit-specific data	2021		
	4.3.3	Develop Inuit guidelines on ownership, control, access, sharing and preserving Inuit-specific data	2022		
4.4	Create and invest in digital Inuit Nunangat data repositories that are inclusive of Inuit knowledge in ways that are respectful of its distinctive forms as well as the Inuit norms that govern its use and sharing		2023	ITK; ILCOGs	NIDMC; Atausiq Inuktitut Titirausiq; Statistics Canada; Library and Archives Canada(LAC); Heritage Canada; Exchange for Local Observations and Knowledge of the Arctic (ELOKA); The Canadian Consortium for Arctic Data Interoperability (CCADI); international data organizations and committees
	4.4.1	Inventory all Inuit-specific data holdings	2022		
	4.4.2	Hold Inuit-specific consultations between Inuit communities, regions, national, international levels to generate consensus on the development Inuit data centres	2022		
	4.4.3	Develop a plan to store historical and current data and resources	2022		
	4.4.4	Create Inuit data centres	2023		



Priority Area #5: Build capacity in Inuit Nunangat research

Objectives

- Build human resource capacity in Inuit regions and communities to facilitate Inuit-led research
- Establish an Inuit Nunangat university
- Enhance built Inuit Nunangat research infrastructure

Action of NISR	#	Deliverables / milestones	End Date	Decision-Making Organizations	Partners
5.1		Broaden research funding criteria to recognize Inuit research methodologies (for specific deliverables see action 3.2)	2021	ITK; Funding Agencies	NISR Committee; Tri-Council; Universities; Academics; Governments
5.2		Invest in broadband access and regional capacity to engage in Inuit Nunangat Research	2023	ITK; ILCOGs; ICC-Canada	NISR Committee; NIDMC; Governments; Industry; Canadian Internet Registration Authority
	5.2.1	Investigate and identify: community internet needs, challenges and priorities; data on studies outlining broadband needs, current capacity, and possible solutions (i.e. Arctic Fibre); as well as any costed proposals	2021		
	5.2.2	Advocate for broadband access for Inuit Nunangat at provincial/territorial, national and international discussions (i.e. Arctic Science Ministerial)	2023		
5.3		Build infrastructure in Inuit communities to lead research programs	2022	ILCOGs	ITK; NISR Committee; Infrastructure Canada; CFI; Canadian Network of Northern Research Operators (CNNRO); Governments; Research Institutes
	5.3.1	Compile list of existing infrastructure in communities that would assist in supporting research programs	2019		
	5.3.2	Co-develop funding programs to support research infrastructure construction in Inuit Nunangat	2021	ITK; ILCOGs; Infrastructure Canada	
	5.3.3	Establish a plan to build research infrastructure in the four regions to support Inuit-led research	2022	ILCOGs	
5.4		Incorporate research ethics considerations in the Inuit Nunangat university task force workplan	2022	ITK	IQNC; Inuit Nunangat University Task Force
	5.4.1	Integrate ethical guidelines established in action 2.4 into Inuit Nunangat university task force workplan	2022		

Action of NISR	#	Deliverables / milestones	End Date	Decision-Making Organizations	Partners
5.5		Partner with governments and research institutions to develop Inuit-specific training and education programs to foster future generations of Inuit researchers	2021	ITK; ILCOGs	NISR Committee; National Committee on Inuit Education (NCIE); Minister of Science; CRCC; Statistics Canada; POLAR; Governments; Universities; Colleges; School Boards; NIYC; NCIE; ICC-Canada
	5.5.1	Develop Inuit-specific plan of structured engagement on research training module for CRCC Priority 4 (connected to action 1.7)	2019		
	5.5.2	Assess existing Indigenous education and training programs to incorporate best practices into Inuit-specific training	2019		
	5.5.3	Develop and establish research training programs including for grade school with opportunities for cooperative learning between high school youth and younger children	2021		



Appendix A

Anticipated roles and responsibilities of Inuit organizations and communities

The following proposes key roles and responsibilities for Inuit organizations in implementing the NISR. Integral to these shared roles is connecting our communities across Inuit Nunangat to regional, national and international research processes. Research grounded in the communities is integral to advancing Inuit self-determination in research.

		Roles	Key Responsibilities
Communities	Community (as determined within each region)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Represent local community interests and priorities, such as Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTO) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify research and data needs, priorities and capacity development / training needs Review research proposals relevant to community Participate in regional research advisory committee (see below)
Each of the four Inuit Regions in Canada	Regional research advisory committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a community voice in research including ethics, decisions, priority and direction setting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and decide on research proposals, shape them to respond to the interests and needs of the region Apply Inuit research ethics to decisions Work with communities to identify research priorities and needs Engage relevant right holders, organizations, departments
	Land claim organizations/ Inuit governments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advance and advocate for the NISR at regional, provincial/ territorial level Contribute to and represent regional interests within IQNC, NISR committees or working groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement regional research strategies and NISR work plans (based on the NISR IP) Support communities to develop capacity and research priorities Advocate on behalf of community research needs Link to outside research stakeholders (like ArcticNet, academic institutions, etc.) Share research information, processes, mechanisms etc. with other regions Participate in IQNC and NISR Committee House and support regional research advisory committee (to be determined by each region)
Inuit Nunangat	ITK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The national voice for protecting and advancing the rights and interests of Inuit in Canada 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implements mandate from its Board of Directors Secretariat for IQNC Implements communications measures related to NISR Implements applicable components of NISR based on Board of Directors direction Secretariat for NISR Committee
Inuit youth and elders	Youth and elders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a youth or elder interests and perspective 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NIYC member on IQNC Ensure knowledge sharing and exchange Link to NIYC strategy
International	ICC- Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Link NISR to international activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek direction from national and regional Inuit organizations and governments for circumpolar advocacy Provide connections to circumpolar Inuit and other Indigenous Peoples Circumpolar and international advocacy



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