



News Release



For Immediate Release

NTI and GN joining together on climate change

IQALUIT, Nunavut (November 7, 2016) – Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI) and the Government of Nunavut (GN) are working together to address the many climate change impacts felt by Nunavummiut. Together, the organizations will represent the official Nunavut delegation at the 2016 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP22) in Morocco.

The GN-NTI partnership provides opportunities to raise awareness around climate change in Nunavut. Global greenhouse gas emissions from industrial activities have a much greater effect on Inuit and Arctic communities, compared to other parts of the world. Since climate change impacts are significant in Nunavut, it is crucial that the territory is represented at international climate change discussions.

This collaboration builds on the active participation of the GN and NTI at the 2015 climate change conference (COP21) in Paris with Premier Taptuna. Since COP21, NTI and the GN have continued to build on their meaningful partnership around climate change activities. Both recognize the importance of working together for Inuit and Nunavummiut.

“Climate change disproportionately affects Nunavut, and Nunavummiut are especially vulnerable to its impacts,” said Nunavut Minister of Environment Joe Savikataaq. “Working with NTI to address this issue and present a united voice on this issue can only strengthen our cause. I look forward to promoting an understanding of Nunavut’s unique circumstances and the need for flexible options for the North.”

“Our climate is changing. Our home is changing. NTI is looking forward to working with the GN in representing Inuit on this global initiative to mitigate the impacts of climate change in our communities. Our partnership is guided by the Inuit rights set out in the *Nunavut Agreement*, and is based on our respect and care for the land, animals and the environment,” said NTI Acting President James Eetoolook.

In January 2017, in Iqaluit, NTI and the GN will co-host the largest climate change adaptation initiative in Nunavut’s history, and involve participation and input from Inuit from across the territory.

In celebration of International Circumpolar Inuit Day on November 7, NTI and the GN reaffirm their commitment to build on and strengthen their partnership. A shared commitment to joint activities and a strong voice will make sure that Nunavummiut understand the impacts of climate change, and that the voice of Inuit is represented at national and international discussions. Building this partnership will show how government and Indigenous organizations can work together and value one another's input on issues that matter to Inuit and Nunavummiut.

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