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# **Climate Change Secretariat Strategic Plan 2017-2021**

**Government of Nunavut**

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**MARCH 2017**

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## Introduction

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This document outlines the Strategic Plan for the Government of Nunavut (GN) Climate Change Secretariat (CCS) over a 5-year period (2017-2021). It has been built on the foundations of *Upagiaqtavut* and *Ikummatiit*, the Government of Nunavut's strategic documents addressing climate change adaptation and mitigation priorities for Nunavut and other related policies.

The intent of this Strategic Plan is to provide direction and goals for the CCS over the next five years. This Strategic Plan will be followed by annual work plans that will be adjusted to reflect ongoing changes and aligned with the Department of Environment's annual Business Plans. Together these documents will be used to assist the CCS to more efficiently and effectively focus its limited available resources to support and deliver climate change programs and policies for the GN.

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## Background and Context

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### ***The Climate Change Secretariat***

The Climate Change Secretariat (CCS) is housed within the Department of Environment (DOE). Its mandate is to address climate change impacts in Nunavut through adaptation and mitigation initiatives for the Government of Nunavut (GN).

*Climate Change Adaptation – changing the way we do things or build things in a way that reduces the impacts of climate change.*

Established in November 2016, the CCS was created to develop programs, policies, and partnerships that assist Nunavut in adapting to and mitigating the projected impacts of climate change. This includes working closely with Federal agencies, NGOs, research organizations, and all of the GN departments and relevant agencies. The CCS also participates in scientific research and coordinates the GN's national and international response to climate change issues.

*Climate Change Mitigation – actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Usually through increased energy efficiency, energy conservation, or transitioning from fossil fuels to renewable energy.*

Prior to the establishment of the CCS, climate change was previously addressed within two separate GN departments - the Department of Environment Climate Change Section (adaptation) and the Department of EDT Energy Secretariat (mitigation & energy). Although there are other related areas such as oil and gas, carbon pricing, and offshore drilling that are related to energy issues, these particular areas are not the responsibility of the CCS. The CCS looks forward to partnering with other GN departments leading these initiatives as appropriate.

### ***Why is the CCS Important?***

The CCS provides a critical service to the GN through:

- *Preparing* Nunavut for the adverse consequences of climate change
- *Leading* inter-agency development of GHG mitigation strategies to reduce our reliance on imported diesel, which is the single largest source of carbon emissions in Nunavut
- *Coordinating* climate change actions for government departments, agencies and communities
- *Representing* the GN's voice in National and International climate change negotiations and policy making, thus reflecting Nunavut's priorities and issues
- *Reducing* financial liabilities for government and communities linked to climate change

Our success can be measured against the above 5 guiding principles.

### ***Who We Work With***

The CCS has long standing partnerships and relationships with GN departments, agencies, and other stakeholders with overlapping interests in both climate change adaptation and mitigation. The numerous agencies, departments, and organizations involved illustrate the far reaching impacts of climate change in the territory and the need for actions to adapt to these changes and help to reduce emissions across a wide range of partners. These are illustrated in the following figure.

## **Our Foundation**

The GN has several foundational guidance documents that contribute to the vision and direction of the CCS in addressing both climate change adaptation and mitigation. This Strategic Plan builds upon these foundational documents to provide the CCS with goals, objectives, and measureable outcomes to guide actions. These include:

### **SIVUMUT ABLUQTA (2014)**

This is the Government of Nunavut's mandate document from and its vision for the term of the Fourth Assembly (2014-17). It is based on four pillars: 1) Self-reliance, 2) Resilient communities, 3) Economic growth, and 4) Wise use of resources.

### **UPAGIAQTAVUT (2011)**

The Government of Nunavut approved Upagiaqtavut – Setting the Course: Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation in Nunavut in 2011 as an updated strategic plan for addressing climate change. This document has a more detailed approach than the 2003 strategy and sets priorities for government based on four pillars (napuit): 1) Partnership Building, 2) Research & Monitoring, 3) Education & Outreach, and 4) Government Policy & Planning.

### **THE PAN-TERRITORIAL ADAPTATION STRATEGY (2011)**

On April 28th, 2011, the three territorial Premiers announced the release of the *Pan-Territorial Adaptation Strategy*. The purpose of the strategy was to help the territories create a collaborative approach to climate change adaptation in the Canadian Arctic. Within this strategy is a commitment from the territories to co-host adaptation workshops every two years.

### **IKUMMATIIT (2007)**

Released in 2007, *Ikummatiit* is the Government of Nunavut's Energy Strategy. It outlines a vision for a secure, environmentally responsible, and prosperous energy system for the Territory. The strategy encourages Nunavut to reduce its dependence on fossil fuels, while also encouraging an affordable energy future for Nunavummiut.

### **THE NUNAVUT CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY (2003)**

The Government released the Nunavut Climate Change Strategy in 2003. This Strategy outlines the early goals, objectives and principles for the Government of Nunavut as it considered actions to reduce its greenhouse gases emissions and address the impacts of climate change.

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## Our Mandate

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***Our Mission:***

Mobilizing resources that enable Nunavummiut to take leadership on climate change issues

***Our Vision:***

A Nunavut that can overcome and benefit from climate change

***Our Values:***

Open communication

Work in partnership

Celebrate creativity

Share knowledge

Value Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and Science equally

Engage communities

Respectful engagement

Make a difference

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## Our Strategy

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The CCS 2017-2021 Strategic Plan outlines four overarching and interconnected goals, each with enabling objectives, and roles and responsibilities to help achieve the CCS Mandate. This strategic plan represents a strategic road map to guide and direct the CCS and its efforts and to ensure that measurable and meaningful progress is made.



There are four interconnected goals that serve as a guide for what the CCS would like to achieve in the next 5 years. Each of these goals have associated enabling objectives. Roles and responsibilities for each objective are provided. Specific tasks, activities, and performance metrics are documented in a separate CCS Work Plan.

The purpose of this document is not to discuss the various goals and objectives in isolation of one another but to set a clear path ahead for the CCS and its partners to focus activities and provide meaningful and measurable outcomes for the GN.

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## Our Overarching Goals

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There are four main goals that will guide the CCS over the next 5 years. Achieving these goals will help the GN to be adaptive, proactive and resilient to climate change and to also position the GN to be active participants and leaders among its peers, at the Federal and International level in all climate change policy and goal setting discussions. The goals are overlapping and supportive of each other as shown below in Figure 1 forming the pillars of the CCS strategy.

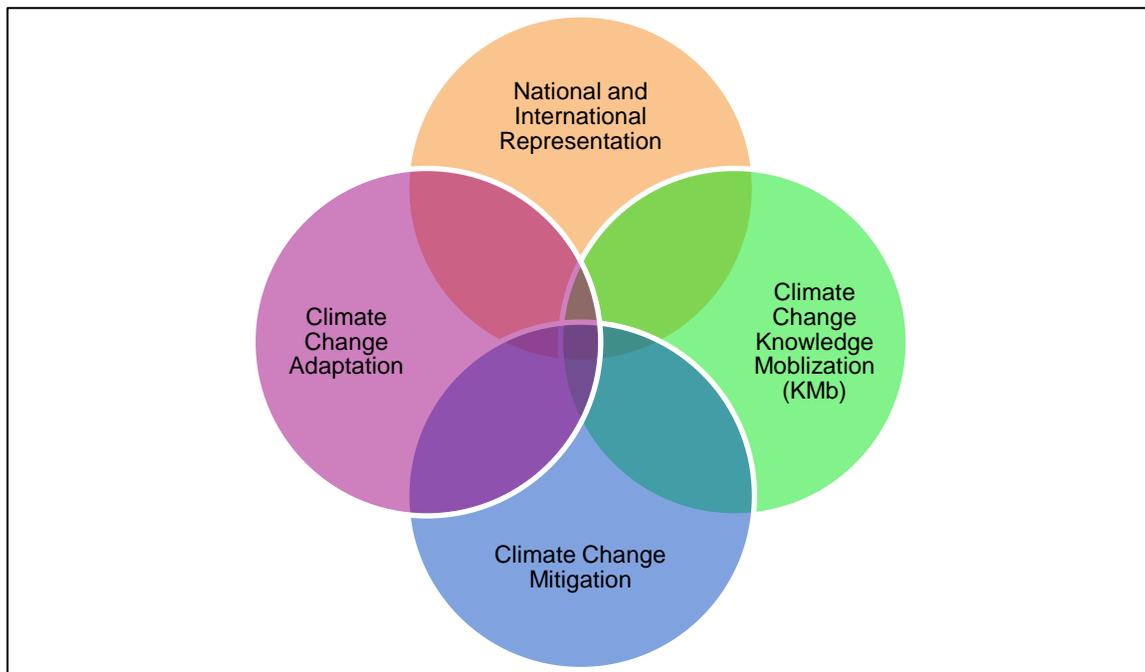
**Goal 1** - To ensure that the GN's climate change perspective and priorities are represented globally and its considerations are incorporated into National and International policies.

**Goal 2** - To demonstrate measureable progress towards climate change knowledge mobilization

**Goal 3** - To demonstrate measureable progress towards climate change adaptation

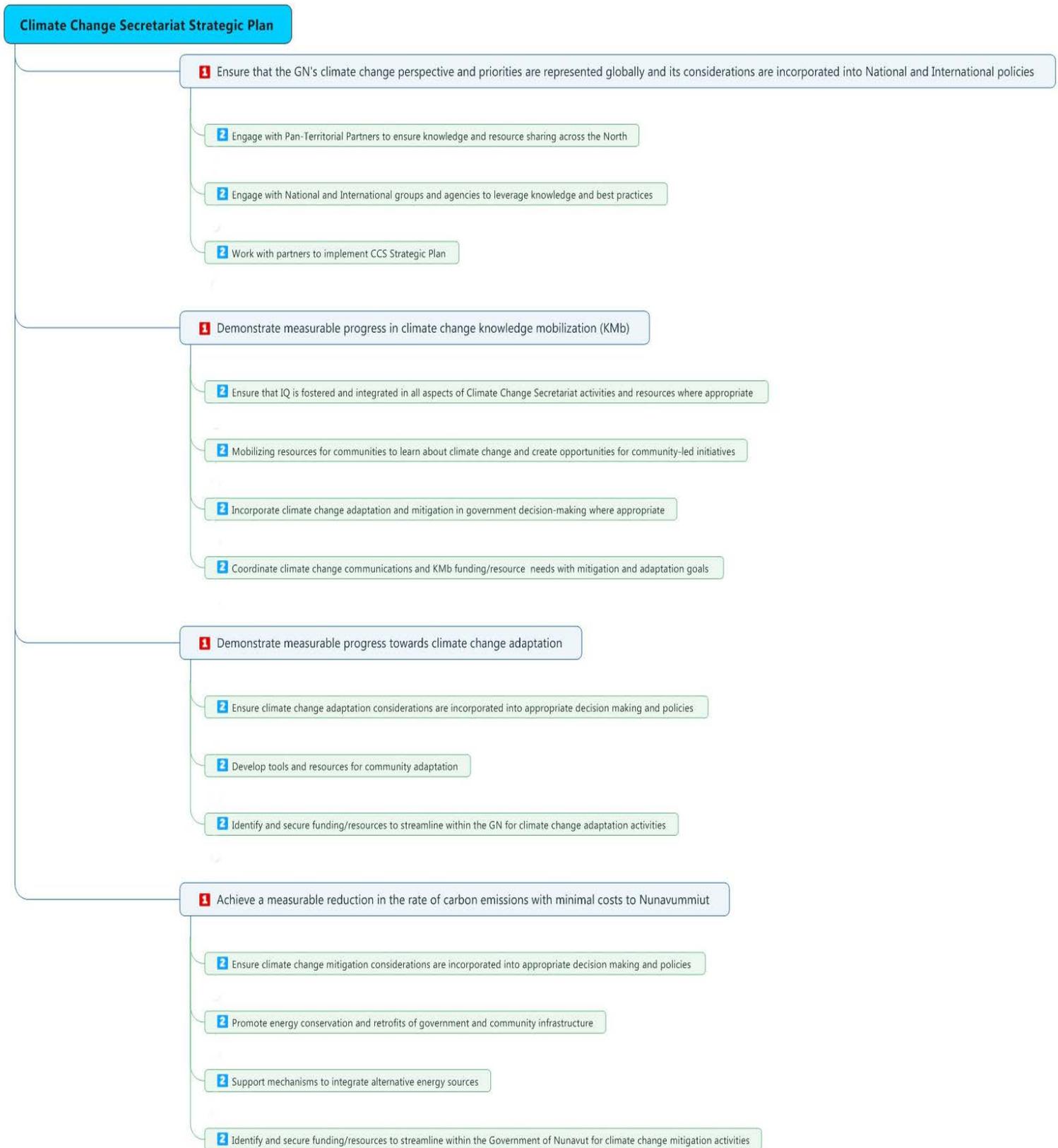
**Goal 4** - To achieve a measurable reduction in the rate of carbon emissions with minimal costs to Nunavummiut

**Figure 1 Pillars of the Climate Change Secretariat Strategic Goals**



These each have strategic objectives which support the achievement these overarching goals. These objectives and goals together provide the roadmap for the CCS over the next five years. This is shown in Figure 2 and described in the following sections.

Figure 2 - CCS Goals and Objectives 2017-2021



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## 1. Strategic Goal 1 – *Ensure that the GN’s climate change perspective and priorities are represented globally and its considerations are incorporated into National and International policies.*

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Canada has committed to reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate change through national policy and funding. Nunavut has unique economic opportunities and challenges and it is currently facing some of the most rapid and severe impacts and consequences linked to climate change. It is vital for the CCS to participate in national and international discussions, voice priorities, and negotiate funding in order to reflect Nunavut’s interests.

In order to achieve this goal, the following supporting objectives will guide the actions and tasks of the CCS and its partners.

### 1.1 Engage with Pan-Territorial Partners to ensure knowledge and resource sharing across the North

The CCS will continue to work closely with its Pan-Territorial partners over the next 5 years. Its counterparts in the Yukon and Northwest Territories face similar challenges and opportunities. Organizational structure, funding, and relationships have changed in recent years. Moving forward, it will be important to renew Nunavut’s working relationship with the other Territories to continue to share knowledge, best practices and to also leverage resources where possible. This pan-territorial dialogue will focus on both climate adaptation and mitigation.

Departments/Agencies	Roles and responsibilities
<b>CCS</b>	Active role in knowledge sharing and goal setting with Pan-Territorial partners
<b>Government of GNWT, Yukon Government</b>	Active role in knowledge sharing and goal setting with Pan-Territorial partners

### 1.2 Engage with National and International groups and agencies to leverage knowledge and best practices

The CCS will participate in appropriate national and international working groups and meetings so that information is shared and that best practices are brought back to the GN and shared internally. The CCS will also support Ministers and the Premier in national and international discussions, negotiations, and policy setting directives so that the GN’s perspectives and positions are represented.

Departments/Agencies	Roles and responsibilities
<b>CCS</b>	Leadership role in all matters regarding national and international climate change discussions and policy making  Briefing senior GN officials
<b>EIA</b>	Leadership role in intergovernmental discussions related to

Departments/Agencies	Roles and responsibilities
	climate change at national and international level  Liaise with and seek input from CCS on national and international climate change issues
<b>Senior GN Officials</b>	Leadership role at national and international meetings on climate change related issues  Consult with CCS on climate change issues when appropriate

### 1.3 Work with Partners to Implement the CCS Strategic Plan

A number of important partners are identified in this strategic plan. Part of the mandate of the CCS is to mobilize resources that enable Nunavummiut to take leadership on climate change issues. This is not to be driven solely by the CCS but will require partnership from all GN departments as well as some key external agencies. A major strategic objective will be to develop and maintain partnerships with these groups to implement this strategic plan, share information, facilitate discussions, and mobilize knowledge.

Departments/Agencies	Roles and responsibilities
<b>CCS</b>	Leadership role to work with partners in strategic plan implementation
<b>All GN Departments, Organizations, NGOs, and Research Institutions</b>	Participate in CCS Strategic Plan initiatives, where relevant

## 2. Strategic Goal 2 – Demonstrate measureable progress towards climate change knowledge mobilization (KMb).

Climate change knowledge mobilization (KMb) refers to the two-way exchange of knowledge and information about climate change science, Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit (IQ), impacts, mitigation, and adaptation in a way that builds capacity for action. Climate change KBm is foundational to the CCS so that communities and decision makers have the information that they need to be informed about climate change and to make decisions and actions accordingly. Without effective climate change KBm, meaningful progress (internal and external) will not be possible. Climate change KBm will also help to increase the capacity of Nunavummiut to manage and address climate change issues with increased independence. This will increase the capabilities and opportunities for Nunavummiut. This goal will help to achieve the other overarching goals of the CCS and is a fundamental pillar of the Secretariat.

In order to achieve this goal, the following supporting objectives will help to guide the actions and tasks of the CCS and its partners.

### 2.1 Ensure that Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit (IQ) is fostered and integrated in all aspects of CCS activities and resources

IQ is a fundamental part of the GN's guiding legislation, principles and values. A key strategic objective for the CCS will be to ensure that IQ, its guiding principles and values are integrated across CCS projects, resources, activities and operations. These will include adaptation and mitigation projects, policies and activities, education and outreach activities as well as the internal operations of the CCS itself.

Departments/Agencies	Roles and responsibilities
<b>CCS</b>	Incorporate IQ into everyday government climate change activities, project delivery, and standards where appropriate
<b>Culture and Heritage</b>	Provide resources and guidance as coordinators and developers of IQ initiatives within the GN through interdepartmental Tuttarvik Committee and Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit Katimajit.
<b>Department of Environment Elder's Committee</b>	Provide support and advice to program development and execution

### 2.2 Mobilize resources and share information for communities to learn about climate change and create community-led initiatives

A key element of the CCS' KBm activities will strive to communicate climate change information to communities in a way that initiates actions and further learning so that communities can take on and lead climate change related projects and programs and become more self-reliant. This will focus on youth and elders as well as other community members.

Departments/Agencies	Roles and responsibilities
<b>CCS</b>	<p>Leadership role in climate change KMb resource development and program delivery</p> <p>Coordinate climate change related media responses and public service announcements</p> <p>Conduct evaluations of climate change activities and resources where appropriate</p>
<b>Other GN Departments, Organizations, NGOs, Research Institutions, and Nunavut Education Associations and Groups</b>	<p>Identify needs and opportunities for partnership with CCS</p> <p>Communicate climate change related media requests to CCS</p>

### 2.3 Incorporate climate change adaptation and mitigation considerations in government-decision making

Internal communications about climate change will be important for the CCS to monitor and contribute to over the next five years. Climate change adaptation and mitigation has quickly become a national and international focus and Nunavut decision makers will need to be informed to participate in these discussions. Furthermore, all GN departments will have to continue to be informed and remain active in climate change activities where applicable to their operations and mandates. The CCS will work to mainstream climate change into government activities where appropriate.

Departments/Agencies	Roles and responsibilities
<b>CCS</b>	Provide climate change education and training opportunities to GN staff and Nunavut decision makers
<b>Other GN Departments</b>	Participate in climate change education and training initiatives

### 2.4 Coordinate climate change communications and KMb funding needs with mitigation and adaptation activities

As climate change KMb will be a GN wide initiative, with leadership from the CCS, an important objective will be to coordinate funding needs with other CCS activities and secure funding resources for these programs and initiatives.

Departments/Agencies	Roles and responsibilities
<b>CCS</b>	Coordinate funding needs for Communications & Knowledge Mobilization programs with CCS Mitigation and Adaptation Sections
<b>Other GN Departments</b>	Provide input to CCS on climate change Communication and KMb funding needs

### 3. Strategic Goal 3 – Demonstrate measureable progress towards climate change adaptation

Nunavut is and will continue to experience some of the most extreme impacts and consequences of global climate change. Although efforts to reduce GHG emissions will continue, the consequences of climate change will be felt in Nunavut for decades to come. It is essential for Nunavut to adapt to climate change and the GN has already taken great strides in many areas of adaptation and resiliency. Climate change adaptation is applicable to all aspects of individual and community well-being including: people, environment, culture, economy, and infrastructure. The GN is committed to implementing actions that help lessen impacts to Nunavummiut and in some cases benefit from climate change.

In order to achieve this goal, the following supporting objectives will help to guide the actions and tasks of the CCS and its partners.

#### 3.1 Ensure climate change adaptation considerations are incorporated into appropriate decision making and policies

CCS will focus on developing climate change adaptation policies and will work with other departments and agencies to encourage the incorporation of climate change adaptation considerations across the GN. In order to achieve this, the CCS will work closely with its partners to establish a shared understanding and shared commitment to climate change adaptation actions.

Departments/Agencies	Roles and responsibilities
<b>CCS</b>	<p>Lead development of appropriate adaptation policy documents by leveraging existing policy frameworks</p> <p>Advise and promote adoption of climate change adaptation considerations into policies and programs of other GN departments and agencies, community governments, and other Nunavut organizations</p> <p>Lead the establishment of shared commitments to climate change adaptation across Nunavut</p>
<b>Other GN Departments and Agencies</b>	<p>Incorporate climate change adaptation considerations into their departmental policies where appropriate</p> <p>Communicate climate change adaptation policy and program needs to the CCS where appropriate</p>

#### 3.2 Develop tools and resources for community adaptation

The CCS develops climate change adaptation programs, resources and tools to ensure policy commitments are achieved. This work will continue and will serve to give Nunavummiut the tools and resources they need to enhance individual and community health and well-being.

Departments/Agencies	Roles and responsibilities
<b>CCS</b>	<p>Lead and encourage the development of appropriate Nunavut climate change adaptation tools and resources</p> <p>Work with pan-territorial and other partners to leverage and share best practices in climate change adaptation programs and tools</p> <p>Conduct evaluations of tools and resources where appropriate</p>
<b>Other GN Departments and Agencies</b>	<p>Incorporate climate change adaptation considerations into their departmental activities where appropriate</p> <p>Communicate climate change adaptation resource needs to the CCS where appropriate</p> <p>Lead the development of climate change adaptation tools and resources specific to their departments and agencies</p> <p>Collaborate with CCS on development and implementation of climate change adaptation tools and resources</p>

### 3.3 Identify and secure funding to streamline within the GN for climate change adaptation activities

The CCS will find and secure funding from external (federal and other) sources for programs and activities that enhance climate change adaptation initiatives. In addition to existing funding sources, the CCS will work to find new funding opportunities that support the CCS mandate.

Departments/Agencies	Roles and responsibilities
<b>CCS</b>	<p>Coordinate with GN departments and agencies to assess adaptation funding and project needs</p> <p>Lead outreach to federal and other agencies to identify funding opportunities</p> <p>Lead and support funding applications and administer funds where appropriate</p>
<b>Other GN Departments</b>	<p>Provide input to CCS on climate change adaptation funding needs</p> <p>Lead and support funding applications for climate change adaptation initiatives where appropriate</p>

## 4. Strategic Goal 4 – Achieve a measurable reduction in the rate of carbon emissions with minimal costs to Nunavummiut

Nunavut communities and industries are heavily reliant on imported fossil fuels, which are burdened with relatively high costs for living and operations. A goal for the CCS is to facilitate a meaningful reduction in the territory’s rate of GHG emissions (where feasible) through strategic partnerships and policies in a way that minimizes the financial cost to communities and industries.

In order to achieve this goal, the following supporting objectives will help to guide the actions and tasks of the CCS and its partners.

### 4.1 Ensure climate change mitigation considerations are incorporated into appropriate decision making and policies

CCS will focus on developing climate change mitigation policies and will work with other departments and agencies to encourage the incorporation of climate change mitigation considerations across the GN in a way that is financially beneficial to communities and industries. In order to achieve this, the CCS will work closely with its partners to establish a shared understanding and shared commitment to climate change mitigation actions.

Departments/Agencies	Roles and responsibilities
<b>CCS</b>	<p>Lead development of appropriate mitigation policy documents by leveraging existing policy frameworks</p> <p>Advise and promote climate change mitigation considerations into other GN departments and agencies, community governments, and other organizations</p> <p>Lead the establishment of shared commitments to climate change mitigation across Nunavut</p> <p>Support Finance in delivering public awareness and outreach related to carbon pricing</p>
<b>QEC</b>	Lead development of Net Metering policy and guidelines
<b>Finance</b>	Lead GN’s approach establishing Carbon Pricing in Nunavut to meet national priorities
<b>Other GN Departments and Agencies</b>	<p>Incorporate climate change mitigation considerations into their departmental policies where appropriate</p> <p>Communicate climate change mitigation needs to the CCS where appropriate</p>

### 4.2 Promote energy conservation and retrofits of government and community infrastructure

A major part of reducing GHG emissions for Nunavut will focus on reducing energy consumption and increasing energy efficiency. To achieve this objective, research will need to be conducted, tools and resources will need to be developed, funding and fiscal incentives developed and administered and knowledge mobilized. This is a

major objective of the CCS and it is likely that the greatest reductions in GHG emissions will be achieved here. This objective will require innovative thinking and partnerships in and outside of the GN.

Departments/Agencies	Roles and responsibilities
<b>CCS</b>	<p>Leadership role of knowledge mobilization and outreach to communities</p> <p>Support energy initiatives in partnership with other departments and organizations where appropriate</p> <p>Lead framework to monitor, track, document, and communicate social and economic costs, benefits, and risks of energy conservation and retrofit initiatives within the GN</p>
<b>CGS</b>	<p>Provide resources and leadership on public infrastructure management</p> <p>Leadership role on implementing energy conservation and retrofit initiatives for GN infrastructure</p> <p>Track and document social and economic costs, benefits, and risks of energy conservation and retrofit initiatives.</p>
<b>NHC</b>	<p>Create, coordinate and administer energy efficient housing programs and incentives</p> <p>Track and document social and economic costs, benefits, and risks of energy conservation and retrofit initiatives.</p>
<b>QEC</b>	<p>Implement energy initiatives that seek to increase efficiency and reduce reliance on imported diesel across Nunavut</p> <p>Track and document social and economic costs, benefits, and risks of energy conservation and retrofit initiatives.</p>
<b>Other GN Departments and Agencies</b>	<p>Where relevant, implement energy initiatives</p> <p>Track and document social and economic costs, benefits, and risks of energy conservation and retrofit initiatives.</p>

### 4.3 Support mechanisms to integrate alternative energy solutions

In addition to increasing energy efficiency and promoting energy conservation, integrating some alternative energy solutions will help the GN to meet the goal of reducing GHG emissions. Facilitate dialogue on the identification of appropriate alternative energy solutions and strategies that explore the technical, social, environmental and financial aspects of various alternative projects and funding models.

Departments/Agencies	Roles and responsibilities
<b>CCS</b>	<p>Support research, policy development, and communication of alternative energy solutions in Nunavut where applicable</p> <p>Lead development of decision support frameworks and tools regarding applicability of various alternative energy solutions for communities</p> <p>Lead framework to monitor, track, document, and communicate social and economic costs, benefits, and risks of various alternative energy solutions</p>
<b>QEC</b>	<p>Lead research, policy development, communication and implementation of alternative energy in Nunavut</p> <p>Track and document social and economic costs, benefits, and risks of various alternative energy solutions</p>
<b>NHC</b>	<p>Lead research and lead policy development and implementation of alternative energy in Nunavut for public housing infrastructure.</p> <p>Track and document social and economic costs, benefits, and risks of various alternative energy solutions</p>
<b>Other GN Departments and Agencies</b>	<p>Where relevant, lead research, policy development, and implementation of alternative energy for their respective Departments where applicable</p> <p>Track and document social and economic costs, benefits, and risks of various alternative energy solutions</p>

#### 4.4 Identify and secure funding to streamline within the GN for climate change mitigation activities

The CCS will find and secure funding from external (federal and other) sources for programs and activities that enhance climate change mitigation initiatives. In addition to existing funding sources, the CCS will work to find new funding opportunities that support the CCS mandate.

Departments/Agencies	Roles and responsibilities
<b>CCS</b>	<p>Coordinate with GN departments and agencies to assess mitigation funding and project needs</p> <p>Lead outreach to federal and other agencies to assess funding opportunities</p> <p>Lead and support funding applications and administer funds where appropriate</p>
<b>Other GN Departments</b>	<p>Provide input to CCS on climate change mitigation funding needs</p> <p>Lead and support funding applications for climate change mitigation initiatives where appropriate</p>

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## 5. Future Planning

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The CCS will use this Strategic Plan to develop and update their more detailed annual Work Plan. The Work Plan outlines specific tasks, timeframes, and measures to help achieve these overarching goals and strategic objectives. Progress will be internally reported on annually, and partnerships with internal and external organizations will continue to be developed.