# **CLIMATE CHANGE**

ADAPTATION RESOURCE GUIDE

Nunavut's Health and Culture







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## 1 INTRODUCTION

Climate change is happening, as is evident from increases in global average air and ocean temperatures, widespread melting of snow and ice, and rising global sea levels.<sup>1</sup> In Nunavut the annual average temperature is rising twice as fast as the rest of the world.<sup>2</sup> Meanwhile, there is considerable evidence that climate change affects the social determinants of health, including clean air, safe drinking water, sufficient food, and secure shelter.<sup>3</sup> Climate change also affects the populations and distribution of both disease vectors and animals for consumption, which can have impacts on both health and culture. Culture can be vulnerable to climate change; the Inuit in particular have a centuries-long relationship with ice, sea, land, and the unique climate of the Arctic. Environmental change will continue to affect the culture and well-being of all Nunavummiut.<sup>4</sup>

Climate change adaptation is about taking action and changing behaviour to reduce the negative impacts of climate change and take advantage of new opportunities. In the context of a changing climate and health and culture, climate change adaptation also acts as a risk-reduction mechanism to reduce the negative effect of climate change on health outcomes and aspects of culture.

This resource guide provides an easy-to-use reference base for policymakers and practitioners within health and culture sectors in Nunavut. The goal of this resource guide is to provide an overview of the information and resources that are available to assist in incorporating adaptation-based activities and policies, recognizing climate-related vulnerabilities, and reducing risk.

# 2 CURRENT CONTEXT

#### 2.1 Health and Culture in Nunavut

With remote communities and limited resources compared to other areas of Canada, wellness in Nunavut has challenges including access to healthcare, housing concerns, and food security. The strength of the Inuit culture and language continue to contribute to wellness in Nunavut. The current focus of programs and research on food security, social inclusion and adequate housing aims to address some of the challenges Nunavut is facing in regards to health and culture.

## 2.2 Climate Change Impacts and Projected Changes in Nunavut<sup>5</sup>

Climate change impacts are already being witnessed by hunters, elders, and others in Nunavut. Over the past 100 years the Arctic has experienced an average warming of 1.5°C, with regional increases between 1 and 3°C. Over the next 100 years, average temperatures are expected to increase by 5 to 7°C in Nunavut, with shorter winters, longer summers, and more extreme weather events. Many of the changes which have already been witnessed are projected to increase over time, and still more changes are projected to occur in the future. The changes which have been witnessed in Nunavut thus far, or are projected to occur in the future, include changes in sea ice, the loss of species, and the introduction of new species. As well there have already been and are expected to be more impacts to food security and traditional activities, and reductions in overall wellness.

#### **FOOD SECURITY**

- Many Nunavummiut depend on hunting, fishing, and gathering to support the nutritional needs
  of themselves and their families. Changes to weather and climate have meant that local hunting
  practices and timing of activities has been modified, and use of some traditional sites may be
  prevented altogether. Many elders and others note that their weather- and climate-related
  knowledge does not seem to fit with the climatic patterns that are now being witnessed.
- Warming climates can increase the possibility for growing food locally.
- The introduction of new diseases and contaminants in wildlife could have a negative impact on people who hunt and eat these species.
- Extreme weather events can have a negative impact on flights, which is the only way to supply fresh foods to Nunavut's communities.
- Storage of food is affected by warmer temperatures and thawing permafrost. Interviews with elders suggest that outdoor meat caches spoil now, whereas formerly they remained fresh and preserved in the cold environment.

#### CHANGING SEA ICE AND TRADITIONAL ACTIVITIES

- The extent of Arctic sea ice has decreased every decade for which we have available satellite imagery; decreased ice thickness and coverage is attributed to loss of multi-year sea ice that is being replaced by younger and less-stable ice.
- Many community members note the increasing uncertainty and unpredictability surrounding the safety of ice travel. Some people have noticed that areas that were previously safe to visit are no longer.
- Previously navigable areas are becoming less navigable in all seasons, especially with decreases in snow and water level, permafrost thaw, and earlier ice melt. This has become a hindrance to the traditional harvesting practices of many hunters

#### PHYSICAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

- Inuit possess a survival skillset finely attuned to the unique climate and weather of the Canadian Arctic. Rapid environmental change will thus impact Inuit culture, physical and mental health, and overall well-being.
- Climate change can affect the mental health of Inuit who are having increased difficulty accessing traditional activities<sup>6</sup>
- Warmer temperatures can result in more cases of heat-related illnesses
- Nunavummiut who spend time on the land are more vulnerable to injury or death due to extreme weather events or unforeseen accidents related to thinner ice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> International Panel on Climate Change [IPCC], 2007

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Centre for Climate and Energy Solutions [C2ES], 2014

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> World Health Organization (WHO), 2013

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Government of Nunavut, 2011

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Information on climate change impacts comes from Government of Nunavut 2003, 2005 a,b,c,d, 2011 and 2014.

<sup>6</sup> CBC, 2014

## 3 ONLINE RESOURCES

The list of resources in this section is not comprehensive; however it does include those which were identified as the most applicable for the health and culture sectors in Nunavut. The resources listed are all available online and include publications, websites, online tools, and case studies.

#### 3.1 Publications and Websites

#### 3.1.1 Nunavut-specific Publications and Websites

This section includes a list of resources specific to Nunavut or produced in Nunavut that provide information on climate change, health and culture.

Title: Nunavut Climate Change Centre

Agency: Government of Nunavut, Climate Change Section

Summary: The Nunavut Climate Change Centre (NC3) is a web-based climate change resource centre

intended to provide current climate change information relevant to Nunavummiut. It was

developed with the Government of Nunavut (GN) Department of Environment.

Link: http://www.climatechangenunavut.ca/

Title: The Dynamics of Human-Sea Ice Relationships: Comparing Changing Environments in Alaska,

Nunavut, and Greenland

Agency: National Snow & Ice Data Center

**Summary:** From 2006-2010, a community-based sea-ice monitoring project was carried out, called

Siku-Inuit-Hila (Sea Ice – People – Weather) in three Arctic communities, including Clyde River, Nunavut. This project was part of a larger investigation of the relationship between humans and sea ice. Among other topics, it examined the characteristics of sea ice, changes in human ice use patterns over time, changes to sea ice and its features critical to human use, human responses to changes in sea ice, societal impacts of sea ice changes, and implications for future

change, impacts, and adaptation.

Link: http://nsidc.org/research/projects/Gearheard\_Human\_Sea\_Ice\_Relationships.html



Title: Climate Change, Health, and Vulnerability in Canadian Northern Aboriginal Communities

**Agency:** Furgal, C. and Seguin, J.

Summary: An article entitled Climate Change, Health, and Vulnerability in Canadian Northern Aboriginal

Communities was published, reviewing experiences from two projects which took a community-based dialogue approach to identifying and assessing the effects of – and vulnerability to –

climate change and its impacts on health in two Inuit regions of the Canadian Arctic.

**Link:** http://www.jstor.org/discover/10.2307/4119614?uid=309413801&uid=3739488&uid=2&uid=

3737720&uid=3&uid=16732968&uid=67&uid=62&sid=21104330988977

Title: Selected Bibliography of Inuit Food Security

Agency: National Aboriginal Health Organization (NAHO)

Summary: Inuit Tuttavingat of the National Aboriginal Health Organization (NAHO) has produced a

Selected Bibliography of Inuit Food Security, which covers a broad range of food security work in Inuit communities, including several works which pay explicit attention to the impacts of

climate change.

Link: http://www.naho.ca/documents/it/2011\_Inuit\_Food\_Security\_Selected\_Bibliography.pdf

Title: Food Insecurity among Inuit Women in Igloolik, Nunavut: The Role of Climate Change and

Multiple Stressors

Agency: Climate Change Adaptation Research Group, McGill University

Summary: A research project entitled Food Insecurity among Inuit Women in Igloolik, Nunavut: The Role

of Climate Change and Multiple Stressors, was carried out to investigate how climate change might affect Inuit women's food security using a case study from the community of Igloolik, NU. The results of this work showed a high prevalence of food insecurity, including behaviors such as

meal skipping, reduced size of meals, and not eating enough when food has run out.

Link: http://soa.arcus.org/abstracts/food-insecurity-among-inuit-women-igloolik-nunavut-role-climate-

change-and-multiple-stress

Title: Climate Change and Health Community Research Photovoice Project

**Agency:** Quajigiartiit/Arctic Health Research Network

Summary: A research report entitled Climate Change and Health Community Research Photovoice

Project was carried out alongside a workshop to provide an experiential learning opportunity to community participants. Among other outcomes, this work contributes to a larger body of literature on the perceived health effects of climate change on communities in Nunavut. The

final report was also published in Inuktitut.

Link: http://www.ghrc.ca/sites/default/files/Climate%20Change%20and%20Health%20Research%20

Report%20-%20FEB%202010.pdf

http://www.qhrc.ca/sites/default/files/Climate%20Change%20and%20Health%20Research%20

Report%20-%20FEB%202010%20Inuktitut.pdf

Title: Canadian Inuit subsistence and ecological sustainability: if the climate changes, must the Inuit?

Agency: Wenzel, G.

Summary: An article entitled Canadian Inuit subsistence and ecological sustainability: if the climate

changes, must the Inuit?, was published in 2009. It examines the impact of climate change on the customary institutional mechanisms by which the Inuit share and distribute hunting

products, and other cultural practices.

Link: http://www.polarresearch.net/index.php/polar/article/viewFile/6103/6782

**Title:** Climate Change and Food Security in Regional Inuit Centres

**Agency:** ArcticNet

Summary: A multi-year project entitled Climate Change and Food Security in Regional Inuit Centres

identified and characterized the vulnerability of food systems in four regional Inuit centre (Iqaluit, Arviat, Inuvik, and Kuujuuak) to climate change, as a basis for identifying adaptation entry points. A list of more than 30 publications associated with this project may be found at the

following link.

**Link:** http://www.arcticnet.ulaval.ca/research/publications.php?project\_id=70

Title: Community Perspectives on the Impact of Climate Change on Health in Nunavut, Canada

**Agency:** Arctic Institute of North America

**Summary:** An article entitled Community Perspectives on the Impact of Climate Change on Health in

Nunavut, Canada explored community perspectives on the most important ways in which climate change is affecting the health of northern people. Participants in this work identified five key themes on this topic, including the direct impacts of climate change on the health of individuals and communities, the transition from past climates to future climates, necessary adaptation to the changing climate in the North, a call to action, and reflection on the past and

changing knowledge systems.

Link: http://pubs.aina.ucalgary.ca/arctic/Arctic64-1-89.pdf

Title: Community Climate Change Adaptation Action Plans

Agency: Government of Nunavut and Canadian Institute of Planners

**Summary:** Community Climate Change Adaptation Action Plans were developed for Arviat, Cambridge

Bay, Clyde River, Hall Beach, Iqaluit, Kugluktuk, and Whale Cove. These plans contain many useful tools and resources, including hazard maps and recommendations for adaptations with respect to extreme weather events. In conjunction with these adaptation plans, a Nunavut Toolkit for Climate Change Adaptation Planning was developed for use in other communities

for the development of their own community climate change adaptation plans.

**Link:** http://www.climatechangenunavut.ca/en/resources/publications

http://www.planningforclimatechange.ca/wwwroot/Docs/Library/CIPReports/NUNAVUT%20

TOOLKIT%20F



#### 3.1.2 Northern Publications and Websites

This section includes a list of resources specific to the Circumpolar North or produced in the Circumpolar North that provide information on climate change, health and culture.

Title: Health Impacts of Climate Change in Canada's North

Agency: Health Canada

Summary: A larger resource document entitled Human Health in a Changing Climate: A Canadian

Assessment of Vulnerabilities and Adaptive Capacity contains a chapter entitled Health Impacts of Climate Change in Canada's North, which contains an extensive bibliography of information related to specific impacts and exposure to climate change in the north, as well as options for adaptation and adaptive capacity. An example of some of the indirect impacts listed included climate warming and ice safety, increased exposure to UV radiation, new and emerging

diseases, and impacts on food security.

Link: http://ptaff.ca/blogue/wp-content/uploads/human\_healt\_in\_a\_changing\_climate-chapter\_7.pdf

Title: Impacts of climate change on zoonotic disease and on food and water safety

Agency: Public Health Agency of Canada

Summary: An overview of the studied impacts of climate change on zoonotic disease and on food and

water safety is compiled in a presentation entitled Climate Change and Infectious Disease Research and Surveillance Activities in Arctic Canada: Zoonotic Diseases and Food and Water

Safety and Security.

Link: http://www.arcticinfdis.com/documents/2011/PHAC\_ICSmeeting19Sept\_final.pdf

Title: Climate Change and Mental Health: Uncertainty and Vulnerability for Alaska Natives

Agency: Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Summary: A paper presented by the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium entitled Climate Change

and Mental Health: Uncertainty and Vulnerability for Alaska Natives provides a general review of the impact pathways through which climate change affects Alaska Native mental health, and

potential responses to mental health effects.

Link: http://www.anthc.org/chs/ces/climate/upload/CCH-Bulletin-No-3-Mental-Health.PDF

**Title:** Managing the Risks: A Guide for Arctic and Northern Communities

**Agency:** Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources (CIER)

Summary: The Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources (CIER) provides a guide entitled Managing

the Risks: A Guide for Arctic and Northern Communities, intended to assist these communities in applying a step-by-step risk management framework to identify impacts and vulnerabilities to climate change in a local context. Included is an interactive map of summer and winter risks,

several reports, and worksheets, as well as the Guide itself.

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**Title:** Climate Telling **Agency:** Health Canada

Summary: The website Climate Telling is produced as part of Health Canada's Climate Change and Health

Adaptation Program. It is intended to provide a central communication hub for climate change and health-related issues in the Arctic, and intends to facilitate knowledge dissemination by accommodating multimedia research outputs and stimulating dialogue through social media

platforms used universally among youth.

Link: http://ccrm-cier.redrockconsulting.com/

Link: http://climatetelling.ca/

#### 3.1.3 External Publications and Websites

This section includes a list of relevant resources from other areas of Canada or other non-circumpolar countries that provide information on climate change, health and culture.

Title: Factsheets about the impacts of climate change on human health

**Agency:** Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)

Summary: The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) provides a number of factsheets about the impacts

of climate change on human health, including ones specific to air contaminants, forest fires, and

floods

Link: http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/hp-ps/eph-esp/fs-fi-a-eng.php

Title: Climate Adaptation Knowledge Exchange

**Agency:** EcoAdapt

Summary: The Climate Adaptation Knowledge Exchange (CAKE) provides a shared knowledge base

and community of practice related to climate change adaptation. The CAKE website offers a number of resources, including a wide variety of case studies, a virtual library, planning tools, and a directory of people and organizations involved in climate change adaptation work.

**Link:** http://www.cakex.org/directory

Title: Climate Change and Human Health

Agency: Health Canada

Summary: Health Canada provides a web page, entitled Climate Change and Human Health, which

provides a number of resources and tools related to climate change impacts on health,

including videos, bulletins, fact sheets, and guidelines for health care workers.

Link: http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/climat/index-eng.php

**Title:** A Survey of Climate Change Adaptation Planning

Agency: H. John Heintz III Centre for Science, Economics, and the Environment

Summary: A resource entitled A Survey of Climate Change Adaptation Planning has been produced by the

H. John Heintz III Centre for Science, Economics, and the Environment. It provides an introductory survey of worldwide climate change adaptation efforts and a number of case

studies of adaptations within Canada.

Link: http://www.tribesandclimatechange.org/docs/tribes\_89.pdf

Title: Adapting to Climate Change: A Risk-Based Guide for Local Governments

**Agency:** Federation of Canadian Municipalities

**Summary:** A report entitled Adapting to Climate Change: A Risk-Based Guide for Local Governments

presents a risk-based approach to adapting to climate change for planning and responses, and illustrates how the risk management process can help users determine optimum solutions to complex issues. It is intended to help local officials to identify and manage climate-related risks.

Link: https://www.fcm.ca/Documents/tools/PCP/Adapting\_to\_Climate\_Change\_a\_Risk\_Based\_

Guide\_for\_Local\_Governments\_EN.pdf

**Title:** Adapting to Climate Change: An Introduction to Canadian Municipalities

**Agency:** Natural Resources Canada

Summary: Natural Resources Canada has produced a guide entitled Adapting to Climate Change: An

Introduction to Canadian Municipalities, which provides a brief overview of climate change adaptation for municipal officials and staff. It familiarizes readers with climate change terminology, types of adaptation, and vulnerability assessment. It also includes several adaptation guides available to be utilized by communities, and provides examples of frameworks adopted and actions taken by local governments across Canada. The guide includes eleven case studies of communities in which adaptation projects have been carried out, including storm water management plans, planning for sea-level rise, water conservation,

fire management, and more.

Link: http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/environment/resources/publications/impacts-adaptation/reports/

municipalities/10079

Title: Canadian Communities' Guidebook for Adaptation to Climate Change

Agency: Environment Canada and the University of British Columbia

Summary: Environment Canada and the University of British Columbia have published a resource entitled

Canadian Communities' Guidebook for Adaptation to Climate Change. This guidebook is especially intended for local governments and others looking for 'win-win' solutions which both reduce greenhouse gas emissions and manage risks related to climate change (e.g. more frequent boot wayes, water shortages, and sea lovel rise)

frequent heat waves, water shortages, and sea-level rise).

Link: http://www.fcm.ca/Documents/tools/PCP/canadian\_communities\_guidebook\_for\_adaptation\_

to\_climate\_change\_EN.pdf

Title: Changing Climate, Changing Communities: Guide and Workbook for Municipal Climate Action

Agency: ICLEI Canada

Summary: ICLEI Canada has produced a toolkit called Changing Climate, Changing Communities: Guide

and Workbook for Municipal Climate Action. This describes in-depth a six-step adaptation process, and a companion volume which presents and explains 14 tools geared for adaptation planning, including a stakeholder identification worksheet, barriers document, and a risk

assessment scenario worksheet.

Link: http://www.fcm.ca/Documents/tools/PCP/changing\_climate\_changing\_communities\_guide\_for\_

municipal\_climate\_adaptation\_EN.pdf

Title: Adaptation 101

**Agency:** Natural Resources Canada

Summary: The Natural Resources Canada Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Directorate provides

an Adaptation 101 website with information about climate change impacts, adaptation,

adaptive capacity, resources, adaptation initiatives in Canada, and more.

Link: http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/environment/impacts-adaptation/adaptation-101/10019

Title: Retooling for Climate Change

**Agency:** Fraser Basin Council

Summary: A website entitled Retooling for Climate Change provides a number of useful tools,

resources, and case studies of climate change adaptation. Specific sections with resources are

included for infrastructure, hazards management, water, management, and more.

Link: http://www.retooling.ca/retooling\_essentials.html

#### 3.2 Case Studies & Best Practices

#### 3.2.1 Nunavut-specific Case Studies & Best Practices

This section includes a list of case studies and best practices specific to Nunavut or produced in Nunavut that provide information on climate change, health and culture.

Title: Tracking Local Research Messages on Climate Change and Health in Nunavut: A Pilot Project

Agency: Qaujigiartiit Health Research Centre

Summary: A project was carried out in partnership with the Qaujigiartiit Health Research Centre entitled

Tracking Local Research Messages on Climate Change and Health in Nunavut: A Pilot Project. This project tested a knowledge tracking procedure showing how knowledge from community-

based research projects disseminates into policy and practice.

Link: http://www.arcticcollege.ca/science-research/item/4575-tracking-local-research-messages-on-

climate-change-and-health-in-nunavut-a-pilot-project

Title: Qapirangajuq: Inuit Knowledge and Climate Change

Agency: Kunuk, Z. and Mauro, I.

Summary: The first-ever Inuktitut-language film on climate change, entitled Qapirangajuq: Inuit

Knowledge and Climate Change was produced in 2010 as a record of the traditional knowledge

and experience of Inuit elders and hunters from across Nunavut.

**Link:** http://www.isuma.tv/inuit-knowledge-and-climate-change

http://www.capefarewellfoundation.com/carbon14/qapirangajuq-inuit-knowledge-and-climate-

change/

Title: Elder's Conference on Climate Change

**Agency:** Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.

Summary: An Elder's Conference on Climate Change was held in March 2001 with the objective of

gathering Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and experiences of Elders concerning climate change and its

effects in Nunavut.

Link: http://www.polarnet.ca/ntilands/pdfdoc/elders.pdf

Title: Reducing Vulnerability to Climate Change in the Arctic: The Case of Nunavut, Canada

**Agency:** Arctic Institute of North America

Summary: An article entitled Reducing Vulnerability to Climate Change in the Arctic: The Case of Nunavut,

Canada identified key areas where policy could help Inuit communities reduce their vulnerability to climate change, with special focus on the renewable resources harvesting sector. Policies relating to cultural preservation, wildlife co-management, and harvester support were noted as

important entry points for influencing processes that shape vulnerability.

Link: http://pubs.aina.ucalgary.ca/arctic/Arctic60-2-150.pdf

Agency: Pan-Territorial Adaptation Partnership

Summary: The Pan-Territorial Adaptation Partnership held a Pan-Territorial Permafrost Workshop in

November 2013. This workshop brought together front-line decision makers and permafrost researchers from Nunavut, NWT, and Yukon to share knowledge, form connections and look at possibilities for adaptation in the future. Presentations and materials from the workshop are

available online.

Link: http://www.northernadaptation.ca/node/59

#### 3.2.2 Northern Case Studies & Best Practices

This section includes a list of case studies and best practices specific to the Circumpolar North or produced in the Circumpolar North that provide information on climate change, health and culture.

Title: Weather, water quality and infectious gastrointestinal illness in two inuit communities in

Nunatsiavut, Canada: Potential implications for climate change

Agency: Harper, S.L., Edge, V.L., Schuster-Wallace, C.J., Berke, O., and McEwan, S.A.

Summary: A case study was conducted in Nuntsiavut, Canada, to assess the role of climate change in

impacting water quality and related gastrointestinal illness in two communities. Among other outcomes, it illustrates the need for temporal baseline information to allow for detection of

future impacts of climate change on regional Inuit human and environmental health.

**Link:** http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10393-011-0690-1#page-1

Title: Inuit Traditional Knowledge for Adapting to the Health Effects of Climate Change

**Agency:** Institute for Circumpolar Health Research

Summary: The Inuit Traditional Knowledge for Adapting to the Health Effects of Climate Change project

(IK-ADAPT) is a trans-disciplinary project that combines scientific research and traditional knowledge to inform policy and programming needed to assist Inuit communities adapt to the health effects of climate change. Working closely with communities across Arctic Canada and knowledge users at multiple levels, the project examines ways to document, conserve, and promote Inuit traditional knowledge to help prevent, prepare for, and manage the impacts of

climate change on health.

Link: http://www.ichr.ca/#!health-effects-of-climate-change-and-tra/c1e4h

Title: Climate Change and Health in Aklavik was carried out in Aklavik, Northwest Territories

Agency: Institute for Circumpolar Health Research

Summary: A project entitled Climate Change and Health in Aklavik was carried out in Aklavik, Northwest

Territories as a youth-driven, community-based climate change project. This project

encompassed the collection of information related to climate change and health determinants, and an on-the-land retreat, synthesis of the information with video methodologies, and

dissemination of findings.

Link: http://www.ichr.ca/#!climate-change-and-health-in-aklavik/cukc



Title: Weather, Water Quality and Infectious Gastrointestinal Illness in Two Inuit Communities in

Nunatsiavut, Canada: Potential Implications for Climate Change

Agency: Harper, S.L., Edge, V.L., Schuster-Wallace, C.J., Berke, O., and McEwen, S.A.

Summary: A case study was conducted in Nunatsiavut, Canada, to assess the role of climate change in

impacting water quality and related gastrointestinal illness in two communities. Among other outcomes, it illustrates the need for temporal baseline information to allow for detection of

future impacts of climate change on regional Inuit human and environmental health.

Link: http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10393-011-0690-1#page-1

Title: Traditional Knowledge Research for Increased Unpredictable Severe Weather and Travel Safety

Impacts on Community Health: Tools for the Development of Adaptation Plans

**Agency:** Institute for Circumpolar Health Research

Summary: A community-based project entitled Traditional Knowledge Research for Increased

Unpredictable Severe Weather and Travel Safety Impacts on Community Health: Tools for the Development of Adaptation Plans was carried out by the Dene Nation in NWT in cooperation with the Institute for Circumpolar Health Research. The intent of this project was to amplify the voices of the Elders, traditional harvesters, and youth so they can have a chance to elaborate their own adaptation plans. Youth developed their research skills and produced a documentary

entitled "The Land of Our Future".

Link: http://www.ichr.ca/#!the-land-of-our-future/ci6w

**Title:** Adapting to the Effects of Climate Change on Inuit Health

Agency: Climate Change Adaptation Research Group, McGill University

**Summary:** An article entitled Adapting to the Effects of Climate Change on Inuit Health addresses a lack of an evidence base on adaptation options and processes for Inuit regions. It draws upon

understanding of the determinants of health and vulnerability to climate change in Canada to

propose key considerations for adaptation decision-making in an Inuit context.

Link: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24754615

#### 3.2.3 External Case Studies & Best Practices

This section includes a list of relevant case studies and best practices from other areas of Canada or other non-circumpolar countries that provide information on climate change, health and culture.

Title: Preventative Public Health Systems and Adaptation to a Changing Climate

**Agency:** Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)

Summary: The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) has a program entitled Preventative Public Health

Systems and Adaptation to a Changing Climate. This program includes the development of enhanced surveillance methods, which will help practitioners and stakeholders meet unique regional needs and help guide Canadians to adapt and reduce their potential health risks

associated with climate change.

Link: http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/hp-ps/eph-esp/pph-psp-eng.php

Title: Adaptation: Linking Research and Practice

Agency: Natural Resources Canada

**Summary:** This chapter of the Natural Resources Canada report Canada in a Changing Climate: Sector

Perspectives on Impacts and Adaptation, examines the current status of adaptation in Canada with respect to both research and practice, based on scientific and grey literature. It includes a discussion of how we have progressed and overcome barriers, as well as changes in research,

engagement, and action. It also includes case studies focused on a range of issues.

Link: http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/sites/www.nrcan.gc.ca/files/earthsciences/pdf/assess/2014/pdf/

Chapter9-Adaptation\_Eng.pdf

Title: Human Health

**Agency:** Natural Resources Canada

**Summary:** This chapter of the Natural Resources Canada report Canada in a Changing Climate:

Sector Perspectives on Impacts and Adaptation, reports on the finding of recent research focusing on health outcomes related to climate change. It discusses how risks to health could increase as the climate continues to change, and what adaptation options and tools are

available to public health and emergency management officials.

Link: http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/sites/www.nrcan.gc.ca/files/earthsciences/pdf/assess/2014/pdf/

Chapter7-Human-Health\_Eng.pdf



## 4 COURSES & TRAINING

### 4.1 Health and Culture Courses & Training

Title: Climate Change and Human Health

**Agency:** University of Toronto

Summary: The University of Toronto offers and online distance education course entitled Climate Change

and Human Health. The objective of this course is to provide students with an overview of the impacts of climate change on human health, with the understanding that humans are a part of

ecosystems.

Link: http://www.learn.environment.utoronto.ca/home/distance-education/courses/cem-406-climate-

change-and-human-health.aspx

Title: Climate Change: Public Health Preparedness and Response

Title: The Nurse's Role and Climate Change

Agency: Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health

**Summary:** The Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health offers two courses designed

specifically for healthcare professionals related to climate change and climate change adaptation. These courses are entitled Climate Change: Public Health Preparedness and

Response and The Nurse's Role and Climate Change, respectively.

**Link:** http://ncdp.crlctraining.org/catalog/course.asp?id=6

http://ncdp.crlctraining.org/catalog/course.asp?id=47&cid=3

Title: Training course for public health professionals on protecting our health from climate change

**Agency:** World Health Organization

Summary: The World Health Organization (WHO) provides a free online training course entitled Training

course for public health professionals on protecting our health from climate change. While this course is designed for public health professionals who are actively involved in management and decision-making related to health programs, it also provides a good background for non-medical professionals who are involved in addressing the health challenges posed by global

climate change.

Link: http://www.who.int/globalchange/training/health\_professionals/en/

Title: Human Health and Global Environmental Change

Agency:

**Summary:** Harvard Extension School offers an online course entitled Human Health and Global

Environmental Change. This course is intended to provide participants with an overview of the relationship between climate change and human health in the context of public health practice.

It is also available on edX.

Link: http://www.extension.harvard.edu/courses/human-health-global-environmental-change

https://www.edx.org/course/harvardx/harvardx-ph278x-human-health-global-573#.VEAinfnF98E

### 4.2 Climate Change and Adaptation Courses & Training

Title: Climate Insights 101

**Agency:** Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS)

Summary: The Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS) offers a Climate Insights 101 online short

course, intended to provide users with an in-depth understanding of climate science and related issues. Two modules on the science of climate change and mitigation have been produced, and

two modules on adaptation and regional climate change impacts are upcoming.

Link: http://pics.uvic.ca/education/climate-insights-101

Title: Introductory e-Course on Climate Change

Agency: United Nations Climate Change Learning Partnership

Summary: The United Nations Climate Change Learning Partnership offers an online Introductory e-Course

on Climate Change with six modules, including one focused specifically on climate change adaptation. Those who complete the guizzes accompanying each module receive a certificate.

Link: http://unccelearn.org/

Title: Various: Climate Change and Climate Literacy

**Agency:** Coursera

Summary: The online e-Learning platform Coursera presently offers four courses in climate change and

climate literacy. These courses are entitled Global Warming: The Science of Climate Change, Climate Literacy: Navigating Climate Conversations, Climate Change, and Climate Change in Four Dimensions, and are offered by the University of Chicago, University of British Columbia,

the University of Melbourne, and University of California San Diego, respectively.

**Link:** https://www.coursera.org/course/globalwarming

https://www.coursera.org/course/climateliteracy https://www.coursera.org/course/climatechange https://www.coursera.org/course/4dimensions

Title: University of Chicago

**Agency:** Global Warming: Understanding the Forecast

Summary: The University of Chicago offers free online access to course materials to their Global Warming:

Understanding the Forecast course.

Link: http://forecast.uchicago.edu/lectures.html

**Title:** Climate Change

**Agency:** Open2Study

Summary: Open2Study offers a free open study course in climate change offered through Macquarie

University, which provides information about climate change impacts on food security, the

economy, society, and more.

Link: https://www.open2study.com/courses/climate-change

Title: Leading Change and Action on Climate Change

**Agency:** Oxford University

Summary: Oxford University offers an online course entitled Leading Change and Action on Climate

Change. This course examines climate change issues, current approaches to leadership at the local, national and global level and supports students in developing their own approach to leading change and innovation on climate change in a personal, local or professional context.

Link: https://www.conted.ox.ac.uk/courses/details.php?id=L100-11&search=climate%20

change&submitbutton=Search&multisearch=single

Title: Certificate in Decision Making for Climate Change

**Agency:** Northwestern University

**Summary:** Northwestern University offers a Certificate in Decision Making for Climate Change in a 100%

online format. This course teaches student to understand the impact of climate change and to make educated decisions about adapting to and minimizing its effects. It is intended for municipal, regional, and federal officials, environmental planners and managers, corporate and utility managers, and consultants. The course is offered in partnership with the University of

Washington, University of California – Irvine, and the University of British Columbia.

Link: http://sps.northwestern.edu/program-areas/professional-development/climate-change/

## 5 CONTACTS

#### 5.1 Nunavut Contacts

**Agency:** Government of Nunavut, Climate Change Section

**Summary:** The Climate Change Section of the Government of Nunavut Department of Environment

coordinates the online Nunavut Climate Change Centre, and provides information about climate change adaptation programs and initiatives occurring in Nunavut. The Nunavut Climate Change Centre is a web-based climate change resource centre intended to provide current climate change information relevant to Nunavummiut. It shares and distributes climate change

knowledge in Nunavut and makes information more accessible to the public.

Address: PO Box 1000 Stn 1360

Igaluit, NU X0A 0H0

**Phone:** 867-975-7700

**Email:** climatechange@gov.nu.ca **Website:** www.climatechangenunavut.ca/

www.env.gov.nu.ca/node/93

Agency: Government of Nunavut, Department of Culture and Heritage

Summary: The Government of Nunavut Department of Culture and Heritage provides leadership within

the Government of Nunavut in the development and implementation of policies, programs, and

services aimed at strengthening the culture, language, and heritage of all Nunavummiut.

Address: Box 1000, Stn 800

Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Phone: 867-975-5500 Website: www.ch.gov.nu.ca **Agency:** Government of Nunavut, Department of Health

Summary: The Government of Nunavut Department of Health is responsible for health and social

programming within Nunavut.

**Address:** Box 1000, Stn 1000 **Phone:** 867-975-5700

Website: www.gov.nu.ca/health

**Agency:** Nunavut Research Institute (NRI)

Summary: The Nunavut Research Institute, a part of Nunavut Arctic College, acts as a gateway to research

and technology development initiatives in Nunavut. NRI develops and promotes traditional knowledge, science, and technology as key local resources. It also shares information on research projects, provides advice on research funding programs, and assists in the

development of proposals to research funding agencies.

Address: PO Box 1720 Building 959

Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Phone: 867-979-7280 Website: www.nri.nu.ca

Agency: Qaujigiartiit Health Research Centre (QHRC)

Summary: The Qaujigiartiit Health Research Centre (QHRC) is a community-led health research centre

with a goal of enabling health research to be conducted locally, by northerners, and with communities in a supportive, safe, and culturally-relevant manner, and to promote the inclusion of both Inuit and Western epistemologies in addressing health concerns, creating healthy

environments, and improving the health of Nunavummiut.

Address: PO Box 11372 764 Fred Coman Drive

Igaluit, NU X0A 0H0

**Email:** titiggag@ghrc.ca (Administrative Coordinator)

Website: http://qhrc.ca/





### 5.2 Government Agencies

**Agency:** Health Canada

Summary: Health Canada is the federal department responsible for helping Canadians maintain and

improve their health. The Health Canada website provides a number of information pages related to the impacts of climate change on individual's health. Health Canada offers a Climate Change and Health Adaptation Program for Northern First Nation and Inuit Communities, which provides between \$500 and \$200,000 in funding for community-driven research projects on the

impacts of climate change and health.

Address: Address Locator 0900C2 Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9

**Phone:** 613-957-2991 or 1-866-225-0709

Email: info@hc-sc.gc.ca

Website: http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/

https://www.itk.ca/front-page-story/climate-change-and-health-adaptation-program

**Agency:** Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)

**Summary:** The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) is an agency of the federal government of

Canada that is mandated to promote and protect the health of Canadians through leadership, partnership, innovation, and action in public health. This mandate is inclusive of climate-change-

related effects on population health.

Address: 180 Queen Street West, 11th floor

Toronto, ON M5V 3L7

**Phone:** 416-973-0003

Website: http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/

Agency: Department of Canadian Heritage

Summary: The Department of Canadian Heritage is a department of the Federal Government of Canada

which is mandated to promote and environment in which all Canadians take full advantage of dynamic cultural experiences, celebrating Canadian history and heritage, and participate in

building creative communities.

**Address:** 15 Eddy Street

Gatineau, QC K1A 0M5

**Phone:** 819-997-0055 or 1-866-811-0055

Email: info@pch.gc.ca
Website: http://www.pch.gc.ca/

Agency: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC)

Summary: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) support Aboriginal and

northern communities to address risks and challenges associated with climate change and to become more resilient through its Climate Change Adaptation Program (CCAP). In its first three

years, this program funded more than 90 projects in 80 communities.

Address: Climate Change Adaptation Program

25 Eddy Street, 10th floor Gatineau, QC K1A 0H4

**Phone:** 819-953-2590

Email: adaptation@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca

Website: www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1329158189051/1329158264671

**Agency:** Natural Resources Canada

Summary: Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) is the federal department responsible for natural resources,

energy, minerals and metals, forests, earth sciences, mapping, and remote sensing. It works to ensure the responsible development of Canada's natural resources and builds and maintains an up-to-date knowledge base of the Canadian land mass and resources. The Impacts and Adaptation program at Natural Resources Canada includes programs such as the Adaptation Platform and the Regional Adaptation Collaboratives (RACs) program. Within the RACs, areas of focus for the individual collaboratives include flood protection (British Columbia), drought and flood planning (Prairies), extreme weather risk management (Ontario), and many more. The role of the collaborative is to develop knowledge, tools and networks to support practitioners and decision-makers in addressing climate change issues now and in the future.

Email: adaptation@nrcan.gc.ca

Website: www.nrcan.gc.ca/environment/impacts-adaptation

www.nrcan.gc.ca/environment/impacts-adaptation/regional-initiatives/collaboratives/10633

**Agency:** Government of the Northwest Territories, Climate Change Unit

Summary: The Climate Change Unit of the Government of the Northwest Territories Department of the

Environment and Natural Resources provides information and coordinates action on climate change. They provide the Northwest Territories Climate Change Network, a web-based tool that provides a resource for members to share information, make contacts, and promote action

on climate change in the Northwest Territories.

Address: PO Box 1320

Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

**Phone:** 867-873-7654

Email: climatechange@gov.nt.ca

Website: www.nwtclimatechange.ca/nwt-climate-change-network

Agency: Government of Yukon, Climate Change Secretariat

Summary: The Climate Change Secretariat is a branch of Environment Yukon, Government of Yukon.

They coordinate the Yukon's government-wide response to climate change, form partnerships,

coordinate activities and develop climate change policies and strategies.

**Address:** PO Box 2703 (V-205)

Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6

**Phone:** 867-456-5543 or 1-800-661-0408 ext. 5544

Email: climatechange@gov.yk.ca

Website: http://www.env.gov.yk.ca/air-water-waste/climatechange.php



## 5.3 Climate Change Organizations

Agency: Adaptation to Climate Change Team (ACT), Simon Fraser University

Summary: The Adaptation to Climate Change Team (ACT) is the only think tank initiative on the topic of

climate change adaption in Canada. Among other roles, it publishes research reports identifying

policy and resource opportunities to bridge theory and action in support of sustainable

adaptation.

**Address:** Simon Fraser University

#3551, 515 West Hastings Street

Vancouver, BC V6B 5K3

**Phone:** 604-671-2449 **Email:** adapt@sfu.ca

Website: http://act-adapt.org/about/

Agency: Arctic Institute of Community-Based Research

Summary: The Arctic Institute of Community-Based Research (AICBR) facilitates and promotes community-

based, northern-led health research activities aimed at improving the health of indigenous and

non-indigenous Northerners.

Address: 308 Hanson Street

Whitehorse, YT Y1A 1Y6

Phone: 867-668-3393 Email: info@aicbr.ca Website: www.aicbr.ca

**Agency:** Arctic Institute of North America, University of Calgary

Summary: The Arctic Institute of North America works to advance the study of the North American and

circumpolar Arctic through the natural and social sciences, the arts and humanities. They also acquire, preserve and disseminate information on physical, environmental and social conditions in the North. Their website is home to the Arctic Science and Technology Information System (ASTIS) database, which contains records describing publications and research projects about

northern Canada and the circumpolar Arctic.

Address: 2500 University Drive NW, ES-1040

Calgary, AB T2N 1N4

Phone: 403-220-7515
Email: arctic@ucalgary.ca
Website: www.arctic.ucalgary.ca

Agency: ArcticNet

Summary: ArcticNet is a Network of Centers of Excellence of Canada that brings together scientists and

managers in the natural, human health, and social sciences with their partners from Inuit organizations, northern communities, federal and provincial agencies, and the private sector. The central objective of ArcticNet is to contribute to the development and dissemination of the knowledge needed to formulate adaptation strategies and national policies to help Canadians

face the impacts and opportunities of climate change and modernization in the Arctic.

Address: Pavillon Alexandre-Vachon, Room 4081

1045, avenue de la Médecine, Université Laval

Québec, QC G1V 0A6

**Phone:** 418-656-5830

Email: arcticnet@arcticnet.ulaval.ca

Website: http://www.arcticnet.ulaval.ca/aboutus/rationale.php

**Agency:** Canadian High Arctic Research Station

Summary: The Canadian High Arctic Research Station (CHARS) will be a research station in Canada's Arctic

with the goal of advancing Canada's knowledge of the Arctic in order to improve economic

opportunities, environmental stewardship, and quality of life.

**Phone:** 819-953-1160

Email: chars-srcea@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca

Website: www.science.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=74E65368-1

Agency: Canadian Polar Commission

Summary: The Canadian Polar Commission is Canada's primary knowledge agency. It is a point of contact

with the Canadian and international polar scientific communities. It encourages and facilitates cooperation and collaboration in polar knowledge and works with partners to determine

scientific and other priorities.

Address: 2464 Sheffield Road

Ottawa, ON K1B 4E5

**Phone:** 613-998-8127

Email: mail@polarcom.gc.ca
Website: www.polarcom.gc.ca

Agency: Climate Change Adaptation Research Group, McGill University

Summary: The Climate Change Adaptation Research Group is based in the Department of Geography at

McGill University. Most of the research activities carried out by the group focus on climate change vulnerability and adaptation among Indigenous populations and stakeholder engagement in adaptation planning, with several past and present research projects taking

place across Nunavut. **Website:** http://www.jamesford.ca/

**Agency:** ICLEI Canada – Local Governments for Sustainability

Summary: ICLEI Canada - Local Governments for Sustainability is an international organization of local

governments and local government organizations that are committed to sustainable development. They provide a variety of services, including technical consulting, training and information services. They have worked with many Canadian communities to develop

adaptation plans.

Address: 401 Richmond Street W., Studio 204

Toronto, ON M5V 3A8

**Phone:** 647-728-4308

Email: iclei-canada@iclei.org
Website: http://www.iclei.org

Agency: International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

Summary: The International Institute for Sustainable Development is an international public policy research

institute for sustainable development. The IISD focuses on adaptation, risk reduction, climate change and energy, economics, amongst other diverse topics. They host a number of initiatives,

including the Community-based Risk Screening Tool – Adaptation and Livelihoods.

Address: 161 Portage Ave. East, 6th floor

Winnipeg, MN R3B 0Y4

Phone: 204-958-7700 Email: info@iisd.org Website: www.iisd.org

### REFERENCES

**Agency:** Nasivvik Centre for Inuit Health and Changing Environments

Summary: The Nasivvik Centre for Inuit Health and Changing Environments is a multidisciplinary research

and training centre focused on building capacity in Inuit health research through trainee

support and strategic funding initiatives in key environmental health areas of importance to Inuit

communities.

Address: Indigenous Studies Department, Trent University

1600 West Bank Dr.

Peterborough, ON K9J 7B8 **Phone:** 705-748-1011 ext. 7242 **Website:** http://www.nasivvik.ca/

Agency: Northern Climate ExChange, Yukon Research Centre, Yukon College

Summary: The Northern Climate ExChange (NCE) is a part of the Yukon Research Centre at Yukon College

which provides a credible source of information, develops shared understanding, promotes action, and coordinates research on climate change in Yukon and across Northern Canada.

Address: PO Box 2799 500 College Drive

Whitehorse, YT Y1A 5K4

**Phone:** 867-668-8862

Website: http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/research/programs/northern\_climate\_exchange

Agency: Ontario Centre for Climate Impacts and Adaptation Resources, Climate Change Adaptation

Community of Practice

Summary: Ontario Centre for Climate Impacts and Adaptation Resources (OCCIAR) has a number of

climate change resources available at their website. They maintain and host the Climate Change Adaptation Community of Practice, which is an interactive online community that provides a space for policymakers, researcher, and practitioners from across the country to share

information and communicate with others in the field of climate change adaptation.

**Address:** 935 Ramsey Lake Road Sudbury, ON P3E 2C6

Email: amorand@mirarco.org (Climate Change Adapation Community of Practice)

Website: http://www.climateontario.ca

https://www.ccadaptation.ca/en/landing

Agency: Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS)

Summary: The Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS) is a knowledge network hosted and led by

the University of Victoria that integrates multi-disciplinary approaches to climate change. Its mandate is to develop innovative climate solutions, seek new opportunities for positive

adaptation, and lead the way to a vibrant, low-carbon economy.

Address: PO Box 1700 Stn CSC

Victoria, C V8W 2Y2

Phone: 250-853-3595
Email: pics@uvic.ca
Website: www.pics.uvic.ca

CBC, 2014. Climate change rattles mental health of Inuit in Labrador. CBC News, January 10, 2014, http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/climate-change-rattles-mental-health-of-inuit-in-labrador-1.2492180 [accessed October 15, 2014].

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World Health Organization, 2013. Climate Change and Health. World Health Organization, http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs266/en/ [accessed September 2, 2014].



For more information on climate change in Nunavut, please visit

# www.climatechangenunavut.ca





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