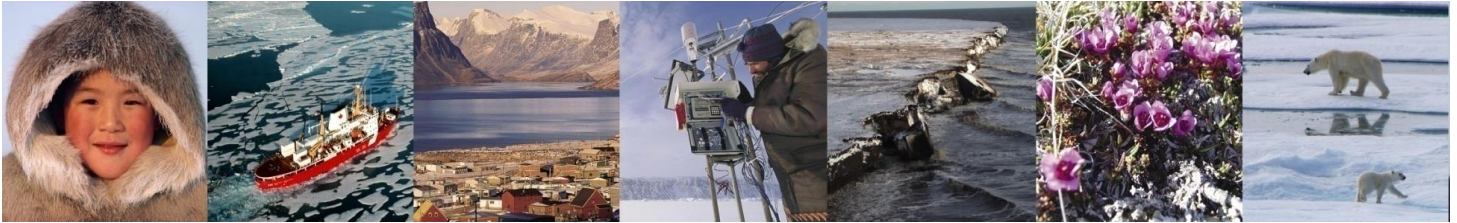


ArcticNet

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Eastern Arctic (IRIS-2) Regional Science Meeting



November 6-8, 2012, Parish Hall, Iqaluit, NU

Workshop Report

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Acknowledgements

The IRIS-2 team would like to specially thank regional representatives for participating and providing valuable contributions to the [ArcticNet](#) Eastern Arctic (IRIS-2) Regional Science Meeting. Participants provided feedback that will help make the report more effective and useful for the region. Thank you to the members of the IRIS-2 Steering Committee: Eric Loring and Kendra Tagoon (Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami), Kiah Hachey (Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.), Colleen Healey and Sara Holzman (Government of Nunavut), Jamal Shirley (Nunavut Research Institute), Martin Tremblay (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada) and James Ford (McGill University). Committee members provide ongoing support and feedback that helps guide the IRIS-2 communication and reporting process. A special thank you to Mary-Ellen Thomas who provided very useful and relevant feedback before and during the meeting.

The IRIS-2 team would also like to thank the Impact Assessment lead authors and contributors who actively engaged in the meeting. Finally we would like to thank [ArcticNet](#) for funding the Iqaluit Regional Science Meeting and for participating in the meeting.

Workshop Report

This report summarizes a Regional Science Meeting/Workshop held in Iqaluit, NU from November 6-8, 2012. The workshop was organized as part of *ArcticNet's* Regional Science Meeting (RSM) series, the main objective of which is to bring together scientists, managers, and decision/policy makers to discuss climate change impacts and adaptation in the coastal Canadian Arctic. The RSM series is a key component of *ArcticNet's* Integrated Regional Impact Studies (IRIS) research framework.

The first RSM was held in Kuujuaq, QC from November 10-12, 2009 and brought together scientists and representatives of the Nunatsiavut and Nunavik region to discuss priority issues across the two regions and to provide insight into the IRIS assessment report. The second RSM was held in Inuvik, NT from April 11-15, 2011 to communicate research results and to gather feedback from representatives of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR) and the Kitikmeot region of Nunavut.

The IRIS-2 team received much positive and constructive feedback from participants confirming the usefulness of the *ArcticNet* impact assessment in the region. More than 100 regional decision-makers and experts from 21 organizations contributed to the discussions. Their comments and feedback will help guide final chapter writing and content, thereby making the report more effective and useful for the region.

“As a resident of Nunavut for over 40 years and having worked in a number of positions both in the government and Inuit Organizations, I appreciate the opportunity to comment and provide direct feedback on the content of assessment reports”

- Glenn Williams

Wildlife Policy Advisor, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.

“The information will definitely be useful to me in my public health role at Health and Social Services. The report pulls together important information that we can use going forward”

- Dr. Maureen Baikie

Nunavut's Chief Medical Officer of Health

Background

ArcticNet's core research program comprises 36 projects grouped into four Integrated Regional Impact Studies (*IRIS*). These integrated studies or IRISes provide a framework on which complex regional issues are addressed with the most up-to-date information from the physical, social and health sciences. The boundaries of the IRISes do not represent established land claim regions but encompass unique climate and biophysical processes (see map below).

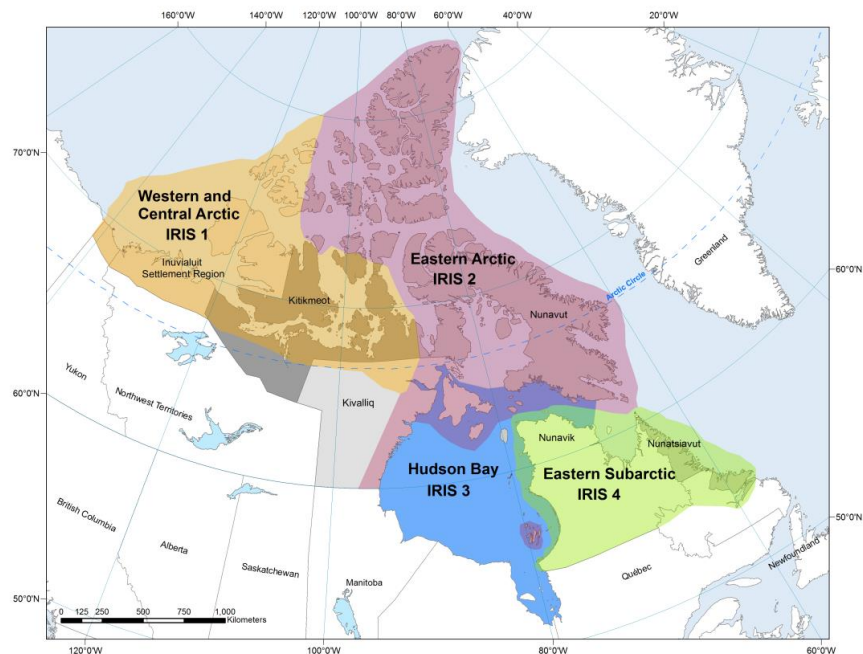


Figure 1. Map of the four ArcticNet *IRIS* regions covering the Canadian Arctic.

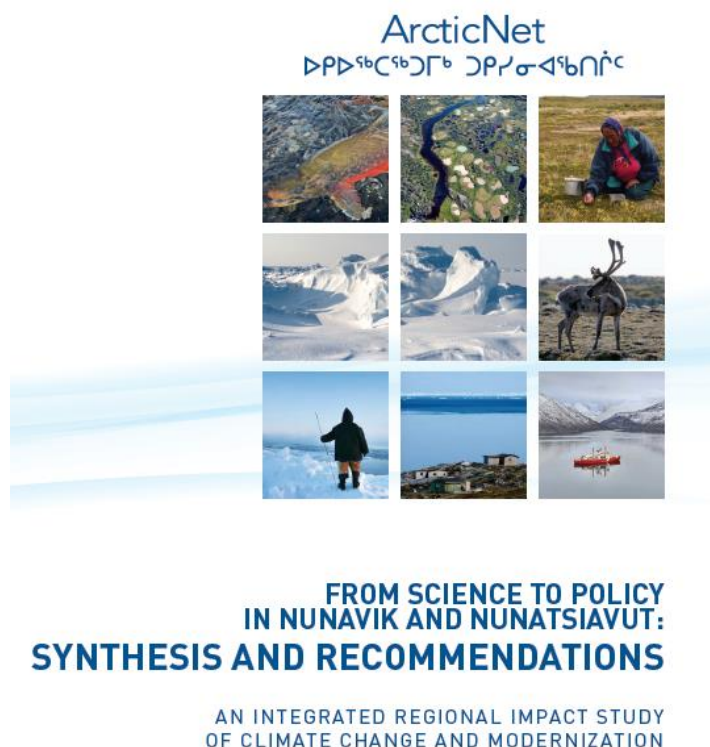
One of the goals of *ArcticNet* is to develop a volume of Regional Impact Assessments for each of the IRIS regions of the coastal Canadian Arctic. These reports will be based on science generated by *ArcticNet* and other organizations and will be designed for decision makers to inform them of available knowledge to adapt to the changing climate, environment and society in the Canadian Arctic.

The Eastern Arctic *IRIS-2* assessment will consist of a public report supported by a high level of science on key issues for the region, presented in authoritative but accessible format and style.

The **IRIS-2** report structure is composed of three parts that are made up of multiple chapters. The chapters in Part I are short pieces that will provide an overview of the approaches to, and consideration of, adaptation to climate change. The chapters in Part II will address “drivers” of change, whether environmental, political, economic, health or social, in the Eastern Canadian Arctic and will present recent records and “trends” in these changes. The chapters in Part III focus on regional issues as identified during our consultation with decision makers and ArcticNet scientists.

The goal of each chapter in part III is to demonstrate how ArcticNet generated knowledge can inform regional issues in the context of climate change and modernization, and to identify knowledge gaps that can be filled by future research. The contents, however, need not be restricted to ArcticNet generated knowledge. Each chapter will stand alone and provide a succinct overview of the regional issue in the context of the **IRIS-2** assessment.

The IRIS report for the Canadian Eastern Subarctic **IRIS-4** region was launched in Kuujuaq on 29 November.



Access the full report at www.arcticnet.ulaval.ca/media/iris_reports.php

Regional Science Meeting (RSM)

The intent of the RSM was to bring together regional decision-makers and researchers and to give participants the opportunity to comment and provide direct feedback on the content of *ArcticNet's* Eastern Arctic (IRIS-2) regional assessment report. With the help of the IRIS-2 steering committee members, we compiled a list of decision makers who deal directly with issues covered in the Eastern Arctic report. Based on their key role as a decision-maker in the region individuals were invited to participate and contribute knowledge and experience to the meeting.

105 participants were welcomed to the meeting which includes representative from 21 organizations:

- Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK)
- Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA)
- Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA)
- Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (Wildlife & Environment, Executive Services; Policy & Planning Division)
- Government of Nunavut (Health and social services, Environment, Fisheries and Sealing division, Economic Development & Transportation, Devolution, CGS)
- Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB)
- Nunavut General Monitoring Plan (NGMP)
- Nunavut Research Institute (NRI)
- Qaujigiartiit Health Research Centre
- Coalition of District Education Authorities of Nunavut
- Nunavut Arctic College
- City of Iqaluit
- Nunavut Housing Corp
- Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC)
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
- Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)
- Climate Change and Health Adaptation in the North, Health Canada
- Parks Canada (PC)
- EDI Environmental Dynamics Inc.
- Golder Associates Ltd.
- World Wildlife Fund (WWF)



The meeting was organized around daily workshops focused on key regional issues. These issues also form the structure of the IRIS-2 report: 1) Public Health and Safety, 2) Resource Management, and 3) Socio-economic Development. Each theme day was divided into two sessions composed of three 30-minute presentations on chapter contents, followed by facilitated, small-group feedback and discussion sessions on each chapter:



Day 1 - Tuesday, November 6, 2012	
PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY	
8:00 am to 8:30 am	Coffee and muffins
8:30 am to 9:00 am	Introduction to ArcticNet and the Integrated Regional Impact Studies Trevor Bell
9:00 am to 10:30 am	Human Health and Well-Being in Nunavut – Qanuippitali? Tracey Galloway
	Food Security (Access, Availability, Quality) Sara Statham
10:30 am to 12:00 am (Health break included)	Decision-makers feedback session
12:00 am to 13:30 pm	Lunch break (provided)
13:30 am to 15:00 pm	Water Security (Access, Availability, Quality) Scott Lamoureux, Trevor Bell
	Travel and Hunting on the Land and Ice in a Changing Environment Martin Tremblay
	Safe and Sustainable Communities Donald Forbes, Trevor Bell
15:00 pm to 16:30 pm (Health break included)	Decision-makers feedback session
16:30 pm to 17:00 pm	Wrap-up and next steps

Day 2 - Wednesday, November 7, 2012	
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	
8:00 am to 8:30 am	Coffee and muffins
8:30 am to 9:00 am	Introduction to ArcticNet and the Integrated Regional Impact Studies Martin Fortier / Trevor Bell
9:00 am to 10:30 am	Climate Impacts, Management Issues and Adaptability for Key Wildlife Species in NU Alastair Franke, Vicki Sahanatien Environmental Assessment in Nunavut: Challenges and Opportunities Mike Settingington
10:30 am to 12:00 am (Health break included)	Decision-makers feedback session
12:00 am to 13:30 pm	Lunch break (provided)
13:30 am to 15:00 pm	Terrestrial Ecosystems Predicted Changes Greg Henry Marine Protected Areas and Biodiversity Conservation Adeline Plot, Diane Blanchard Freshwater Resources Management Melissa Lafreniere
15:00 pm to 16:30 pm (Health break included)	Decision-makers feedback session
16:30 pm to 17:00 pm	Wrap-up and next steps
Day 3 - Thursday, November 8, 2012	
SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	
8:00 am to 8:30 am	Coffee and muffins
8:30 am to 9:00 am	Introduction to ArcticNet and the Integrated Regional Impact Studies Martin Fortier / Trevor Bell
9:00 am to 10:30 am	Commercial Fisheries in the Eastern Canadian Arctic Martin Fortier Offshore Oil and gas Exploration and Exploitation Sébastien Pelletier, Leah Fusco Mining Arn Keeling
10:30 am to 12:00 am (Health break included)	Decision-makers feedback session
12:00 am to 13:30 pm	Lunch break
13:30 am to 15:00 pm	Arctic Shipping Traffic and Cruise Tourism and Transportation Infrastructure Sébastien Pelletier Permafrost and Climate Change in Nunavut (municipal and transportation) Michel Allard Education and Transmission of Knowledge in Nunavut Francis Levesque, Fiona Walton
15:00 pm to 16:30 pm (Health break included)	Decision-makers feedback session

For each presentation session we asked participants feedback on the following questions:

1. Do we understand the full scope of the regional issue?
2. Do we fully understand your knowledge needs in addressing the issue?
3. Are the data sources that we identify useful to you in your decision-making? Are there others?
4. Tell us how we can work together to understand how the issue may be affected by changing conditions.

The meeting gave participants the opportunity to connect with researchers and discuss available information and needs. The meeting gave researchers the opportunity to present the data that is available and participants the opportunity to discuss which data is needed to inform decision-making. Participants also discussed how best the data could be presented and used to inform decision-making.





Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change in Arctic Coastal Communities

Dr. Donald L. Forbes

Wednesday, November 7th, 2012 at 7:30 pm

ALL WELCOME

In addition to the three day workshop a public lecture was organized on Wednesday, November 7 at 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall, Iqaluit. The lecture was presented by Dr. Don Forbes from the Geological Survey of Canada and Memorial University of Newfoundland. The title of the presentation was: Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change in Arctic Coastal Communities. The lecture was co-sponsored by ArcticNet and the Nunavut Research Institute.

RSM Feedback

The following recommendations summarize participant's feedback compiled during the IRIS-2 Regional Science Meeting held in Iqaluit on November 6-8, 2012. The recommendations apply to each chapter and are consistent with the overall intent of the *ArcticNet IRIS-2* report. Specific chapter feedback has been already sent to lead authors. The comments received will help guide final chapter writing and content, thereby making the report more effective and useful for the region.

"The meeting gave me the opportunity to delimit better the scope and level of information needed for the chapter. The meeting also gave me the opportunity to better understand the content of the other chapters and identify potential links between them"

- **Martin Tremblay**

Climate Change Adaptation Program,
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC)

Inuit Knowledge

- The use of the term "Inuit knowledge" is recommended as it represents both traditional and modern Inuit knowledge. Also, "Inuit", "Inuit communities", and "Inuit culture" should be used when referring to the IRIS region under study. "Indigenous" is a broader international term and used in a broader international context.

- Authors should include reference to Inuit knowledge that has been collected during their *ArcticNet* projects and research. Authors should also search for other available resources/sources of Inuit knowledge and see how it could be used in the development of their chapter: E.g. *Nunavut Coastal Resource Inventories (One NCRI for each community)*, *Inuit land use and occupancy (includes map)*, *Upagiatavut: setting the course: Climate change impacts and adaptation in Nunavut (2011)*, etc.

Report linkages

- Lead authors are responsible for integrating the results of the climate chapter to their assessment as it relates to the issue they are covering. In addition to the climate chapter the authors are encouraged to use and make reference to the observed temperature, sea ice, and precipitation trends published by Statistics Canada as context. During the RSM it was made clear that detailed projections are not as crucial as trends for decision-makers. Another source of information to consider is the soon to be published DFO Large Aquatic Basin risk assessment for the Canadian Arctic including Arctic Ocean and Archipelago.

- Where relevant, lead authors should link their chapter with the short scientific chapters of Part II and with data sources mentioned in the other chapters of part III of the report. The IRIS-2 team will be responsible for highlighting and illustrating key linkages between issues covered in various chapters once a complete first draft is produced.

- It was recommended that the authors review the IPCC4 report, more specifically the section on uncertainty.

- * The use of pathways of effects “model” was suggested in order to help illustrate the connections between parameter and impact of climate change in the region. The goal is to describe the cause and effects between climate change and its impacts on selected endpoints for each chapter.

Community specific

- Many issues covered in the chapter in Part III of the report are community specific. As an example Food Security is community specific as it depends on geographic, family, community specifics, etc. It was suggested that lead authors attempt to include this notion in the report.

Knowledge for Decision-Making Insert

- Authors in Part III should highlight the uses of the knowledge presented in the chapter; i.e. how knowledge informed or is informing decision-making in the region. Lead authors should present at least one example (250 words) and encourage collaborators to do the same: “How have your research results been used by decision-makers or how have they influenced decision-making in the North”? The degree of influence can vary from an acknowledgment by a decision-maker that results are interesting and relevant to more concrete impacts, such as informing new guidelines or influencing new practices.

Science to Policy Synthesis

- Similar to what has been produced by the IRIS-4 team (Canadian Eastern Subarctic IRIS region study) the IRIS-2 report will produce a Synthesis document which will highlight key policy-related recommendations from each chapter of Part III. The science to policy synthesis goal is to summarize the key findings and conclusions of the IRIS-2 report for 1) Public Health and Safety, 2) Resource Management, and 3) Socio-economic Development.

- The synthesis document should highlight background information from science in a way to facilitate the process of policy setting for decision-makers.