

INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR COUNCIL CANADA



INUIT

2022.2023

ANNUAL REPORT



Nearly half a century ago, our founder, Eben Hobson, spoke eloquently about language, culture, sustainable development, Indigenous Knowledge, and our right to be directly involved in Arctic issues.



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Cover Photo: Holly Andersen photographed her sister Megan, and her dad Tony on Ben’s Hill, just outside Makkovik, in the Nunatsiavut region. She says it was a beautiful fall day and they were out goose hunting, and also picked some bakeapples along the way.

Uniting Inuit across imposed national borders remains the core of our work at the Inuit Circumpolar Council and though we are not a nation-state, we are a nation. One of our key imperatives is to ensure that our legal rights — our human rights — as Inuit are uniformly respected.

ICC Canada President Lisa Qiluqqi Koperqualuk (left), and ICC Chair Sara Olsvig at COP27 in Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt.



I am pleased to report that for the first time, Indigenous Knowledge was defined at the IMO, and included as a consideration for vessel voyage planning in Inuit Nunaat. Our Inuit voice was heard, and our knowledge will be part of ensuring safe, clean, and low impact shipping occurs in our homeland.



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Lisa Qiluqqi Koperqualuk meeting with Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mélanie Joly.

In the Arctic, everything is connected. The last few months of 2022 saw continued efforts to address the dual crisis of climate and biodiversity loss at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) COP27 in Egypt and the Convention on Biological Diversity COP15 in Montreal.

In Egypt, we characterized the conference for Inuit as “two steps forward, one step backward.” We found the gains made in Glasgow at COP26 were eroded. Meanwhile, an important advance was achieved in the form of a global “Loss and Damage Fund” to assist developing regions of the planet deal with climate change. We hope Inuit regions will be able to benefit from this fund.



© ICC CANADA
ICC Canada staff, and consultants, in February, 2022.

The implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework, achieved at COP15 in Montreal, will be challenging. Government, private sector, NGOs, the public — and importantly Indigenous Peoples — will have to work together, share knowledge and ensure significant human and financial resources are available. Inuit and other Indigenous Peoples have a unique and important role in these discussions and activities. We must be at these tables — because our collective community voices can help find solutions.

Early in 2023 I was in London, UK, working within the International Maritime Organization (IMO), a regulatory body where nations make the rules around shipping. ICC is pushing for reductions in underwater noise, black carbon, greywater discharge in our waters and safer fuels to prevent damage from possible ship-based spills and accidents.

I am pleased to report that for the first time, Indigenous Knowledge was defined at the IMO, and included as a consideration for vessel voyage planning in Inuit Nunaat. Our Inuit voice was heard, and our knowledge will be part of ensuring safe, clean, and low impact shipping occurs in our homeland.

It was great to see Inuit out in force at the Northern Lights Business and Cultural Showcase in Ottawa in February 2023. I moderated a panel on international shipping and how we bring our voice to the IMO. I was also a keynote speaker at the conference during a luncheon. My speech was called “Why Inuit Matter Globally — Inuit Voices and Priorities”. The audience was filled with Inuit from our regional organizations, Inuit governments, non-governmental organizations, Inuit businesses, and many supporters who have observed our achievements over the decades. It was an honour to speak in front of my colleagues and peers at this event.

A key message in that speech was that I believe our Inuit voice, our Inuit knowledge, and the power of our language are and should be central to all governance in the Arctic. In fact, I suggested our voice is central and important in all global dialogues that impact the Arctic and our homelands.

I am very proud to be able to report on the Qanittaq Clean Arctic Shipping initiative — a joint project with Memorial University thanks to \$91.6-million in funding from the federal Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF) program. We worked together for several months during this fiscal year to



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ICC Canada Board of Directors and delegates in Kuujuaq following 14th ICC virtual General Assembly, July, 2022.

prepare for the April 2023 announcement of a seven-year collaboration with Memorial University to develop research on Arctic shipping. This initiative will bolster the messages I bring to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London. When I speak on issues such as underwater noise, Black Carbon, or Heavy Fuel Oils, I will now be able to include references on how Canadian researchers are working to find solutions to these problems.

The Audited Financial Statement Summary is included in this report, reflecting the 2022-2023 budget, Operational Plan and funding strategies presented to the ICC Canada Board of

Directors, and approved by the Board through an e-mail resolution on July 5, 2022. ICC Canada held its Annual General Meeting, on July 18, 2022 in person in Kuujuaq, Nunavik, where we also participated virtually in the 14th General Assembly. We thank Makivvik Corporation for hosting us.

In closing may I note that we held a successful three-day staff retreat at the Royal Canadian Geographical Society (RCGS) facilities in February 2023. If a photo is worth a thousand words I hope you will see a group that is energized and committed to help bring the Inuit voice to the international arena. During that retreat I urged our team to ensure that we always develop a positive message, even when we must be critical, when carrying out our mission.

Thank you to our funders, who believe in the work that we do, and to our growing list of donors. Your support helps us raise our Inuit voice in an increasingly complex global community.

Lisa Qiluqqi Koperqualuk
President



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ICC Canada President speaking at Security Defense Conference in Ottawa, March, 2023.

Activities of the Arctic Council ceased in March 2022 when Senior Arctic Officials from Canada, the US, Denmark, Norway, Iceland, Sweden and Finland released a statement condemning the Russian invasion of Ukraine.



Maximizing Permanent Participant Status at the Arctic Council

The fallout from the Russian invasion of Ukraine reached the circumpolar region last year and led to a “pause” in the work of the Arctic Council less than a year after that body celebrated its 25th anniversary. The Inuit Circumpolar Council helped found the Arctic Council. Her Excellency Mary Simon, ICC’s former Chair, now Governor General of Canada, was instrumental in making the organization’s long-standing call for the Arctic to be a region of peaceful cooperation a reality.

Activities of the Arctic Council ceased in March 2022 when Senior Arctic Officials from Canada, the US, Denmark, Norway, Iceland, Sweden and Finland released a statement condemning the Russian invasion of Ukraine. In June, these countries released another statement indicating that while the reasons for not engaging with the Russian Federation still hold, they had been looking at how to restart some of the Council’s work.

This decision was made without consultation with ICC or any of the other Indigenous Peoples Organizations (IPO), known as Permanent Participants. It occurred despite the fact that ICC and others took part in occasional briefing calls with government representatives to repeat the message that IPOs must be included in any discussion about the future of the Arctic Council and its work.

As the year progressed, attention began to turn towards the May 2023 transition of the Council Chair from Russia to Norway. ICC and other IPO representatives held several informal conversations with the incoming Norwegian chair and other Arctic country representatives and helped develop ad hoc decision-making procedures to allow the transition to take place. The Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North was not invited to these conversations because it supports the illegal invasion and echoes the Russian government’s position on the “Special Military Operation” in Ukraine.

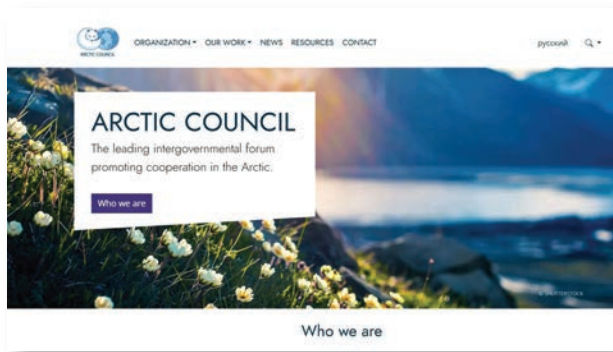
The Council’s working groups were asked to identify which projects could be “green lit” meaning they do not have Russian leads or participants. Much of the list is marked red indicating

Russian involvement. The remaining projects continue, outside the ambit of the Council for the moment. Details on which projects ICC continues to be involved in can be found later in this report.

Finally, Norway developed a programme for its two-year period as Chair but it is unlikely to be implemented as long as the invasion of Ukraine continues. The shadow cast over peaceful Arctic cooperation is deeply concerning to ICC, not least since there are Inuit in Russia. ICC continues to focus its efforts to ensure that the Arctic Council survives the current crisis.



ICC continues to seek opportunities to enable capacity sharing between Inuit regions and communities and allow for more involvement of Inuit expertise and Inuit knowledge holders in the international work.



Arctic Council Working Groups Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP)

As noted above, due to the war in Ukraine and the pause in the Arctic Council’s work, only some activities took place. This included the publication of the AMAP 2021 assessments on Human Health and Mercury. ICC was leading and co-leading chapters on risk communication (Human Health), and Indigenous perspectives and activities on mercury research in the Arctic (Mercury Assessment), respectively. Both assessments are available on the AMAP website. A peer-reviewed publication from the AMAP mercury assessment was also published in the journal *Science of the Total Environment*. The paper titled, “Contributions and perspectives of Indigenous Peoples to the study of mercury,” is available online.

A peer reviewed publication of the Human Health assessment is also currently in preparation, which will include the risk communication chapter.



Overall, ICC continues to seek opportunities to enable capacity sharing between Inuit regions and communities and allow for more involvement of Inuit expertise and Inuit knowledge holders in the international work. This includes participation in AMAP expert groups and general contributions to upcoming papers or assessment.

AMAP Heads of Delegations (HOD) started having informal meetings in the fall and winter of 2022, and had a face-to-face meeting during the ArcticNet Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) in Toronto in December 2022. ICC participated, and attended informal HODs teleconferences, which are again being held on a monthly basis.

Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG)

ICC Canada’s President acts as Head of Delegation (HOD) for the SDWG. This working group is the “human face” of the Arctic Council. ICC puts a lot of energy into its various initiatives and plays an active role in meetings, and expert groups as well as helping to develop and guide projects. We work to ensure the ethical and equitable engagement of Inuit and other Indigenous Peoples in the SDWG’s work is a priority.

Despite the pause in Arctic Council activities, ICC has continued working on three “green lit” projects:

- Local2Global (L2G) engages Arctic youth and frontline workers in circumpolar suicide prevention and mental wellbeing. ICC co-leads L2G with Canada, Finland, Sweden, Kingdom of Denmark, and the Saami Council. A youth



digital storytelling workshop was held October 16-18, 2022, in Akureyri, Iceland, following the Arctic Circle Assembly.

- COVID-19 in the Arctic Assessment Report – ICC will contribute a paper called “*Community Responses to the COVID19 Pandemic in Inuit Nunaat*” to the *Arctic Yearbook*. The project began as a report to the SDWG but will now be produced independently.
- ICC Canada staff attended a workshop on permafrost and community resilience held at the Harvard University Belfer Centre for Science and International Affairs. This project is based on an approved SDWG project but is being redesigned and co-developed based on needs identified by community representatives who attended.

Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME)

The activities of this working group have also been affected by the Arctic Council pause. ICC’s Head of Delegation (HOD) on PAME is Nicole Kanayurak from the North Slope Borough in Alaska and is supported by ICC Canada staff. Nicole attended the PAME working group informal gathering of the HODs in Stockholm, Sweden. Co-leads of greenlit projects updated HODs on progress within the limits of work that is approved.

The HODs also discussed potential new project ideas and continuing work for the Norwegian Chairship. The Marine Protected Area (MPA) expert group is seeking Indigenous input on new work they could be doing related to conservation. The shipping expert group is waiting to continue shipping status reports and working on upgrades to the Arctic Ship Traffic Data (ASTD) system.

The PAME work plan approved at the 2021 Reykjavik Ministerial meeting includes several projects for which Canada is providing a leadership role and ICC Canada has an active interest in. These include:

- Synthesis Report on Ecosystem Status, Human Impact and Management Measures in the Central Arctic Ocean (CAO)
- Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECM) in the Arctic
- The Arctic Shipping Best Practice Information Forum
- Different Ways of Knowing: Applying Indigenous Local and Scientific Knowledge to Arctic Conservation Planning
- Underwater Noise in the Arctic: Understanding Impacts and Defining Management Solutions – Phase II
- Existing Waste Management Practices and Pollution Control for Marine and Coastal Mining

ICC also participates in the PAME Arctic Shipping Expert Group (SEG) which provides a valuable forum for Inuit shipping issues. Regional engagement would be welcome in all PAME forums.

Emergency Preparedness Prevention and Response (EPPR)

On March 22, 2023 the ICC convened an Indigenous Knowledge mobilization workshop as part of the EPPR informal gathering in Ottawa, Canada.

This session’s objective was to provide EPPR experts with an introduction and a common understanding of what Indigenous Knowledge (IK) is through guidance from the *Ethical and Equitable Engagement Protocols*. We discussed Indigenous management approaches, understanding co-production of knowledge, and engagement with knowledge holders.

The second objective was to assess areas where EPPR activities from pollution prevention, the radiation advisory committee, and search and rescue, should be informed through IK. These can include: using traditional place names; Inuit Survival techniques and knowledge; Inuit knowledge of ice safety, ice movements, weather and wind/water currents and marine hazards.

ICC worked across platforms and borders to bring the Inuit voice to climate change discussions in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) process.



Maximizing ICC's International Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Status



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Members of the ICC Delegation at COP27 inside a Bedouin tent. (L-R): Caroline Martel, Janice Parsons, Elisapie Lamoureux, Lisa Koperqualuk, Piita Irniq, Adamie Delisle-Alaku, John Crump.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

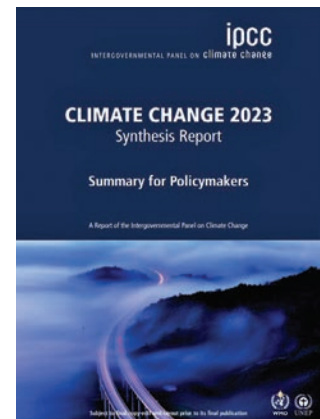
Throughout 2022-2023, ICC worked across platforms and borders to bring the Inuit voice to climate change discussions in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) process. As an official Observer, ICC Canada's current President participated in the Subsidiary Body meeting in Bonn Germany. These meetings set the stage for the priorities going into the Conference of the Parties, or COP27, in Sharm El-Sheikh Egypt, in November 2022. For COP27, Inuit produced a strong position paper with five clear recommendations that highlighted Inuit requests to international leaders, the science community, private industry and others.

A number of high-level meetings took place with Ministers from both Canada and abroad. ICC delegates participated in numerous side events and co-organized events together with the Saami Council on Arctic Governance and Climate Change.

Inuit worked with the Arctic Caucus as well as with the larger Indigenous Peoples Caucus and were involved in the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform Facilitative Working Group knowledge sharing events with elders and youth. ICC is now working to strengthen these messages to bring into the next year as the UNFCCC conducts its Global Stocktake.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

ICC attended the IPCC meetings which took place in Switzerland, March 13-19, 2023. The main decision item for these meetings was the line-by-line approval (consensus-based) of the *Summary for Policy Makers (SPM)*. The SPM itself pulls from the three previous working group reports. ICC contributed comments on the report as an expert reviewer.



As in other IPCC meetings, ICC's key priorities and messages focused on advocating for appropriate language and framing of content concerning Indigenous Knowledge, Indigenous Peoples, Inuit, and the Arctic. ICC used its position as an observer as well as by working in partnership with the Canadian delegation to advance these interests.

Communication and collaboration continued with ITK and the four regional Inuit organizations regarding the UNFCCC, IPCC, and other international climate change activities and opportunities via the National Inuit Climate Change Committee.



ICC has been calling for Inuit Nunaat community concerns on the impact of black carbon on melting snow and ice along with human health impacts to be incorporated into prioritizing how quickly to manage black carbon air pollution from ships.

ICC has been involved in other projects such as the Indigenous Peoples Partnering for Climate program with Global Affairs Canada and other National Indigenous Peoples Organizations. ICC also took part in various national discussions to make connections to international climate issues and opportunities throughout the year.

United Nations Permanent Forum on the Rights of Indigenous Issues (UNPFII)

The 21st Session of the UNPFII took place April 25 – May 6, 2022. The theme was, “Indigenous Peoples, business, autonomy and the human rights principles of due diligence including free, prior and informed consent.”

It was good to return in person. The Inuit Delegation included ICC Chair Dalee Sambo Dorough, ICC Greenland President Hjalmar Dahl, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI) President Aluki Kotierk, and Ivaluarjuk Merritt (NTI), Joshua Vo (ICC Alaska Emerging Leader), Lucassie Joamie (NTI), and Seqininnguaq Egede Poulsen (ICC Greenland Youth).

Collectively, the delegation made five interventions. Joshua Vo intervened on the session theme, emphasizing the fishing industry in Alaska, mining in Canada, and oil and gas development and rare earth elements in Greenland.

Aluki Kotierk delivered a written statement on the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (IDIL), focussing on the need to protect diverse Inuit dialects and the need for formal protection of the language.

Kotierk also intervened on the issue of pandemic recovery and the chronic infrastructure deficit across Inuit Nunaat. There

was a concrete outcome from this intervention. Canada is to make an official invitation to the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation to conduct a country visit.

Ivaluarjuk Merritt addressed the future work of the Permanent Forum, highlighting the issue of “local communities”. This was picked up as a recommendation included in the PFII Report.

Lucassie Joamie presented a joint statement between ICC and the Saami Council and Saami Parliaments focused on peace and security in the Arctic. The statement concluded by noting, “it is our desire to see that this harrowing situation end soon and for it to be resolved in the least painful way. It is our hope that international cooperation within the Arctic will one day resume in favor of Inuit and Sami as the original inhabitants.”

In honor of his last UN session as an ICC representative, a Saturday brunch was held to recognize and thank Hjalmar Dahl for his years of work and his contributions and included the whole of the Inuit and Saami delegations.

International Maritime Organization (IMO)

In late 2021, ICC became the first Indigenous Organization to receive Provisional Consultative Status at the world’s global shipping regulatory agency – the United Nations’ International Maritime Organization (IMO). This important opportunity has allowed ICC to bring Inuit voices, values, and Indigenous Knowledge to decision making at the IMO to advance Inuit goals of ensuring increased vessel traffic in the Arctic is managed in a way to lower risks and increase benefits to the economy, environment, and culture in Inuit Nunaat.



Members of the Inuit Delegation, lead by NTI President, and ICC Canada Board Member Aluki Kotierk, at the United Nations in New York City, April, 2022.



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ICC Canada President Lisa Qiluqqi Koperqualuk with officials at the IMO in London.

ICC has been participating at the IMO in two ongoing and important Correspondence Groups on shipping, air pollution (Black Carbon), and vessel Underwater Radiated Noise (URN) throughout 2022 and 2023. The IMO’s Ship Design and Construction committee met in January 2023 to primarily complete the revision of the current voluntary guidelines on URN reduction. ICC went into the meeting with an ambitious recommendation to include a stand-alone ‘Arctic Annex’ which provided specific guidelines for vessels transiting Inuit Nunaat. ICC was successful with including text in the guidelines which summarized the Annex, including the need for Indigenous Knowledge.

Black Carbon has been on the agenda at the IMO for over a decade. ICC has been calling for Inuit Nunaat community concerns on the impact of black carbon on melting snow and ice along with human health impacts to be incorporated into prioritizing how quickly to manage black carbon air pollution from ships. ICC submitted a paper which outlined the urgency of the issue and possible solutions.

Slowing vessels down, developing mandatory measures, and implementing an Emission Control Area in the Arctic are all key ways to begin to reduce Black Carbon from ships. ICC also stressed the importance of an Equitable Transition for Inuit communities when it comes to using cleaner marine shipping fuels, to ensure no economic hardship is put on communities already burdened by the impacts of climate change.

During the pause of the Arctic Council, states, Permanent Participants like ICC and observers such as the IMO have been finding creative ways to further discussions that would normally occur within the context of Arctic Council working groups such as Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME). As a relatively new observer to the Arctic Council, the IMO hosted a Polar Seminar in late October at its headquarters in London to discuss Polar Code implementation and other related Arctic shipping issues. Lisa Koperqualuk was invited to present an Inuit perspective on Arctic shipping. She focused her presentation on building partnerships at the IMO, the need for Black Carbon emission reduction measures, and an overview of the Pikialasorsuaq and potential management measures.

In December 2022, pivotal meetings were held at the IMO in London to revise the IMO’s Greenhouse Gas emissions reduction strategy. ICC organized two high profile events with small island pacific states. They included launching “Many Strong Voices for Climate Action on Shipping,” and hosting a ‘Coral and Ice’ event, increasing awareness about the impacts climate change is having on livelihoods and economies in Inuit communities and in the Pacific.

In addition, ICC intervened multiple times in the IMO plenary negotiations to call for more ambitious climate targets, inclusion of Indigenous Knowledge and Inuit perspectives, and the urgency to deal with Black Carbon emissions in the Arctic.

Major strides were made this year with the launch of the Inuit Nunangat Policy in April, 2022. This policy recognizes Inuit Nunangat as a distinct geographic, cultural, and political region.

The Inuit Crown Partnership Committee (ICPC) travelled to Inuvik, Northwest Territories, in June 2022 to hold meetings. Top left, ICC Canada Board Member Duane Smith, Chair and CEO of Inuvialuit Regional Corporation. Top right, ICC Canada Vice-President (National) Natan Obed, President of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami. Centre and next page: Inuvik Drummers and Dancers at the Midnight Sun Complex.



Inuit Crown Partnership Committee (ICPC)



The Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee (ICPC) was established in 2017 with a mandate to transform the relationship between Inuit and the federal government. Its agenda covers the development of a unified approach to policy making in Inuit Nunangat, legislative priorities, reconciliation measures, education, Inuktitut revitalization, health and wellness, housing, infrastructure, economic development, sovereignty, defense and security, international issues, land claims implementation, and monitoring, evaluation, and learning. Work plans are co-developed between Inuit and government departments for discussion and approval by the Prime Minister, Cabinet Ministers and Inuit Leaders.

Major strides were made this year with the launch of the Inuit Nunangat Policy in April, 2022. This policy recognizes Inuit Nunangat as a distinct geographic, cultural, and political region. The policy will help guide the design, development, and delivery of new or renewed federal policies, programs, services, and initiatives that apply in Inuit Nunangat or benefit Inuit. The Inuit-Crown Co-Development Principles were also endorsed in 2022. These principles are meant to be implemented by federal

and Inuit partners in relationships that are identified as “co-developed”.

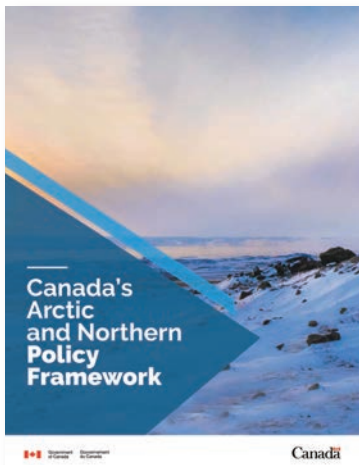
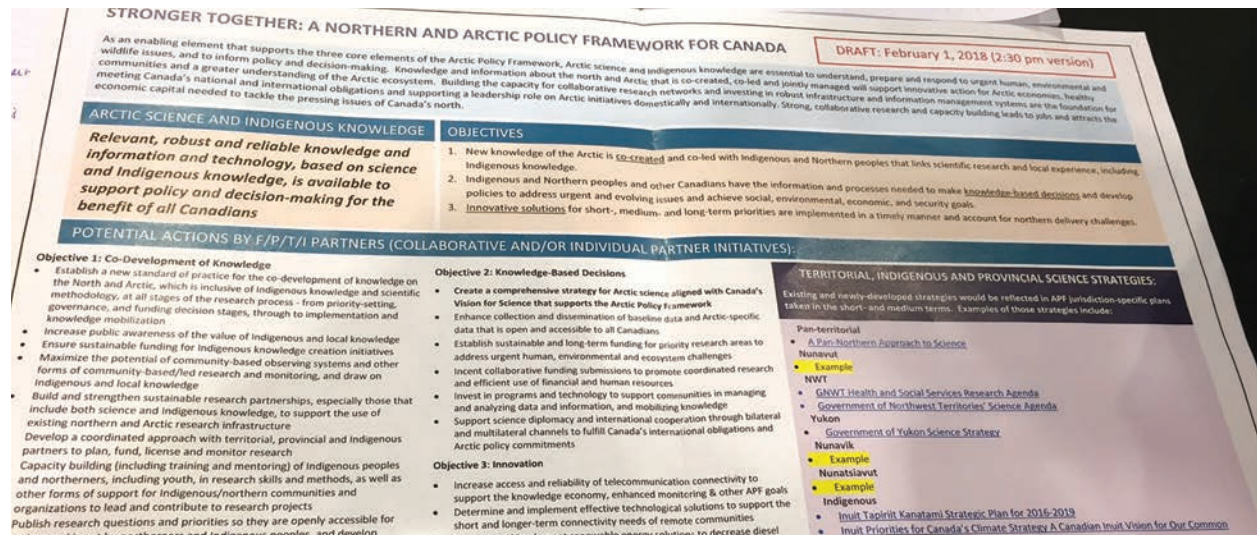
ICC continues to participate in the ICPC tables relevant to our international mandate. Of particular note is our work co-leading the International Priorities table with Transport Canada. This table was created in April, 2022, and is focused on international shipping and engagement at the International Maritime Organization (IMO). The work plan guiding this international shipping work was endorsed in December, 2022, at an ICPC Leaders Meeting.

The vision for this new ICPC priority area will be focussed on Inuit-Crown policy issues that are being discussed within Inuit Nunangat. They include: reducing greenhouse gas and black carbon emissions; managing ballast water; underwater noise from shipping; pollution discharge prevention; low impact corridors and routing measures to reduce disturbance on marine ecosystems; cruise vessel impacts; implementation and updating of the Polar Code; women in the maritime sector; managing seafarer wellbeing and fatigue; and, marine security.

ANPF priorities are advanced in many different forums, including the Arctic Council Advisory Committee and the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee.



Arctic and Northern Policy Framework (ANPF)



ICC Canada played an important role in drafting the International chapter of Canada's Arctic and Northern Policy Framework (ANPF), released in October 2019. Inuit matter globally and have an impressive international reputation. Advancing the international commitments in the ANPF helps inform decisions that impact the Arctic.

The goals outlined in the international chapter reflect ICC priorities outlined in the Utqiagvik Declaration, including ensuring Inuit communities are resilient and healthy, supporting a sustainable, diversified and inclusive economy, using sound knowledge to guide decision making, and making sure Arctic ecosystems are healthy and resilient, among other things.

ANPF priorities are advanced in many different forums, including the Arctic Council Advisory Committee and the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee.

The gradual lifting of restrictions related to COVID-19 and progress in the management of the illness marked major shifts in the health sector in the past year.



Advancing and Promoting Inuit Knowledge in Environment and Health

ICC Canada's activities in Arctic research are wide ranging. We have an influential position as a Permanent Participant to the Arctic Council, within the Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON), and through our engagement in the Arctic Science Ministerial (ASM) process. ICC contributes to work to increase Indigenous involvement at the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC), in partnerships with various science based federal departments, and through our affiliation with Polar Knowledge Canada (POLAR).

Using our connection with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami's (ITK) Inuit Qaujisarvingat National Committee (IQNC), ICC supports and promotes the National Inuit Strategy on Research in all international engagements related to research.

ICC also works to disseminate and coordinate international research activity while using and promoting our partnership in the Northern Contaminants Program (NCP) and ArcticNet as a current best practice in carrying out research and findings in the Arctic.

The following Arctic Council working groups, which ICC is active in, have overlapping interests in ArcticNet and NCP research: Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program (AMAP), Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF), Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG), Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response (EPPR), and Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME).

ICC also participates in many international bodies and brings forward Inuit priorities, including promoting Inuit self-determination and Inuit Knowledge in research activities. These include the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), Minamata Convention on Mercury, and UN negotiations to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, European Union, and other fora.



Demonstrating pride in the health work we do at Arctic Circle in Reykjavik, Iceland (left-right) Ryan Winters, Natasha Allakariallak, Selma Ford, Lisa Koperqualuk.

Circumpolar Health

The gradual lifting of restrictions related to COVID-19 and progress in the management of the illness marked major shifts in the health sector in the past year.

ICC supported early efforts to extract lessons from Inuit communities' response to the COVID-19 pandemic and made these accessible to the public, policymakers and practitioners by contributing an article to the *Arctic Yearbook's* special volume titled, *Arctic Pandemics: COVID-19 and Other Pandemic Experiences and Lessons Learned*. This paper, based on significant engagement with ICC partners, concluded that Inuit were indeed vulnerable to the virus due to widespread infrastructure deficits alongside social and economic inequities.

There is growing international and national interest in Indigenous-led conservation and the potential role it can play in reconciliation, self-determination, conservation economies and the protection of biodiversity.

Based on experience from past pandemics, Inuit adapted quickly to the uncertain and emerging situation that COVID19 presented. Throughout the pandemic, Inuit communities and institutions called attention to the importance of locally driven solutions. There were tangible successes, including protective measures to limit virus outbreaks, effective vaccine campaigns, and holistic approaches to food insecurity and mental well-being.

These achievements demonstrate that self-determination is the foundation for preparing for future pandemics and ICC thus called for commitments to supporting Inuit self-determination, meaning that federal governments must act on longstanding inequities through partnerships that are guided by Inuit leadership. Such strategies are critical to reducing future pandemic vulnerabilities and can also create opportunities to immediately and effectively promote Inuit health and mental well-being.

Given the overrepresentation of youth in suicide rates in Inuit Nunaat, ICC continued emphasizing youth wellness in its health activities. Although the Local 2 Global (L2G) project under the auspices of the Arctic Council's Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG) has been slowed down by the war in Ukraine, it was possible for ICC partners to host a youth digital storytelling workshop from October 16-18, 2022, in Akureyri, Iceland, following the Arctic Circle Assembly.

ICC also took numerous steps to take the vision of Inuit youth on connection to culture for mental wellness to the policy making level. Indeed, the health team successfully submitted an abstract for the 2023 Healing our Spirits Worldwide conference, presented at the Inuit Studies conference and took their work to the Arctic Circle assembly in Iceland. ICC empowered youth to join for these events and act as spokesperson for the people involved in the Inuit Health Summit, thereby providing them with significant national and international exposure.

ICC put great emphasis on capacity building in the health sector. ICC concluded the second segment of the Inuit Facilitation Lab Series, which graduated 11 Inuit students from Selawik (Alaska), Inuvik, Cambridge Bay, Rankin Inlet, Arviat, Ottawa and Nuuk (Greenland). Through this training, participants left with sharpened facilitation skills that are Inuit-specific and, above all,

increased self-confidence in their ability to facilitate important community conversations on health and wellness.

Internally, ICC Canada was able to secure a second full-time position to work on the health file, which will greatly expand its capacity to support communities in this sector.

In 2022-2023, ICC continued coordinating actions with strong networks focused on advancing Inuit health. In Canada, this included the National Inuit Committee on Health (NICoH), and the Inuit Food Security Working Group. Internationally, ICC staff coordinated regular meetings of the Circumpolar Inuit Health Steering Committee (CIHSC). Towards the end of the fiscal year, ICC initiated the development of a strategic health work plan to guide its expanding team's efforts over the years, ensuring that the expertise of the above networks will be leveraged in establishing priorities.

Marine Conservation

There is growing international and national interest in Indigenous-led conservation and the potential role it can play in reconciliation, self-determination, conservation economies and the protection of biodiversity. ICC is continuing work on implementing the recommendations of the Pikialasorsuaq Commission. Advances to date include approval of a Joint Canada – Government of Greenland Letter of Intent (LOI) on cooperation. This understanding of the multinational nature of Inuit Nunaat and the value of reconnecting Inuit families and sharing knowledge is a foundation for this work. ICC and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association are working to sign the LOI and begin implementation of the Pikialasorsuaq Commission's recommendations.

The Government of Canada has made national and international commitments in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework of working towards the domestic goal of conserving 25% of Canada's land and waters by 2025, and towards 30% by 2030. Given the national and international focus of these ambitious goals, transformative Inuit-led conservation has been and will continue to play a role in helping meet these targets, while also advancing the socio-economic goals of local communities. The Pikialasorsuaq is a prime example of this.

The approaches to marine conservation are varied and fall within a concept the International Union for the Conservation of nature (IUCN) calls “Other Effective Conservation Measures” (OECMs). Since many of the criteria do not necessarily meet Inuit visions, nor align well with Inuit worldviews, ICC is developing a chapter on circumpolar Inuit issues and visions for marine conservation drawing on case studies across Inuit Nunaat for a PAME report, *Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECM) in the Arctic*.

Finally, ICC supported regions and other delegates from Alaska at the International Marine Protected Areas Conference (IMPAC 5). ICC participated on the planning committee and helped develop the conference themes. IMPAC 5 ended with commitments that addressed the importance of global cooperation in achieving marine conservation targets and focused on the essential role of Indigenous-led conservation efforts.

Qanittaq Shipping Initiative

Memorial University and ICC Canada are co-leading a global partnership to address and respond to the increase in Arctic shipping, related environmental impacts affecting Arctic communities and support Inuit communities’ needs for safe and cost-efficient resupply.

ICC and Memorial were successful through the Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF) to support the creation of the Qanittaq Clean Arctic Shipping Initiative. This investment of \$91.6-million over seven years is the largest research grant ever awarded to either Memorial or ICC Canada. The initiative has the shared objective of creating an inclusive and internationally-relevant Inuit-driven research project.

The Qanittaq Clean Arctic Shipping Initiative will see Inuit communities and leaders partner with national and international academic institutions, governments and industry to develop robust and innovative ship design and operation technologies, surrounding policy and governance, and capacity in communities to participate and lead in the future of Arctic shipping.

The Qanittaq Clean Arctic Shipping Initiative is co-developed with Inuit organizations and input from Inuit knowledge holders in the Arctic, and will support research involving various

academic experts and teams based at Canadian post-secondary institutions in addition to Memorial including the University of Ottawa, Dalhousie University, Université de Montréal and the University of British Columbia. Inuit partners include the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, Nunatsiavut Government, Makivik Corporation, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI), Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, and the National Inuit Youth Council.

The Qanittaq Clean Arctic Shipping Initiative will be based at the St. John’s Campus of Memorial University and ICC Canada in Ottawa, Ontario. Additional information is available at the qanittaq.ca website.

Central Arctic Ocean Fisheries Agreement (CAOFA)

The *Agreement to Prevent Unregulated High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean* was signed and ratified June 2021 by ten Parties: Canada, China, The Kingdom of Denmark (in respect of Greenland and the Faroe Islands), the European Union, Iceland, Japan, Norway, Russia, South Korea, the United States of America. This agreement created a moratorium for 16 years to allow Parties to work together to study and understand the complex Arctic ecosystems of the Central Arctic Ocean before potentially establishing any commercial fisheries.



Inuit contribute a holistic and balanced approach to understanding Arctic ecosystems that considers the entire food chain, potential impacts to Inuit food security, and recognizes that Inuit are a part of Arctic ecosystems.

The precautionary approach is embodied in this landmark treaty. It is the first of its kind as a multilateral legally binding international agreement that recognizes both Indigenous Knowledge and the importance of Arctic Indigenous Peoples who use and occupy the surrounding area.

Through its offices in Canada, Alaska, and Greenland, ICC has been actively participating in each meeting of the CAOFA with their national delegations. ICC Canada has been working with Fisheries and Oceans Canada. ICC continues to be involved in the planning stages in order to ensure that Inuit knowledge and expertise are helping the preservation and management of the Central Arctic Ocean area. Inuit contribute a holistic and balanced approach to understanding Arctic ecosystems that considers the entire food chain, potential impacts to Inuit food security, and recognizes that Inuit are a part of Arctic ecosystems.

This year, that meant participating in the inaugural Conference of the Parties in Incheon, South Korea in November, 2022. One day before the conference, ICC, along with Inuit knowledge holders, delivered a presentation on the role of Indigenous Knowledge in the Arctic Ocean, for delegates. ICC also participated in the Scientific Coordinating Group meetings in Utqiagvik, Alaska in March, 2023, to discuss the CAO scientific program. Many Parties are open to better understanding Indigenous Knowledge, and working together to have multiple knowledge systems that will benefit the collective management work.

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity had its Fifteenth Conference of the Parties in Montreal, Canada, December 7–19, 2022. ICC Canada attended, through our United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) status and with our Saami partners in the UN Arctic region. Present were Lisa Koperqualuk, ICC Canada President; Herb Nakimayak, ICC Canada Vice-President; Jeremy Ellsworth, Environment and Research Coordinator; and Stephanie Meakin, Senior Scientific Advisor. ICC also participated alongside other Indigenous peoples through the CBD Indigenous Peoples and Local Community group.

The Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) was adopted at the Biodiversity COP15 in Montreal, including the plan to protect 30% of lands and seas by 2030. ICC Canada held two events on December 10th at the Canadian Pavilion at the conference center, and participated in the Nature and Culture Summit December 11–12, 2022. Herb Nakimayak participated in the Summit and contributed to the final text of the GBF.

The first panel was titled, *“Inuit Governance in Conservation and the Protection of Inuit Nunaat.”* Richard Paton, Natan Obed, Herb Nakimayak, and Jim Goudie spoke at the panel, which discussed the regional approaches and how they are unique and varied across Inuit Nunangat, and Inuit Nunaat.



© ICC CANADA
ICC Canada President Lisa Qiluqqi Koperqualuk speaking at COP15 in Montreal with panelists (left-right) Qikiqtani Inuit Association Marine and Wildlife Director Richard Paton, Nunatsiavut Government Deputy Minister of Land and Natural Resources Jim Goudie, ITK President Natan Obed, ICC Canada Vice-President (International) Herb Nakimayak.

ICC Canada Vice-President (International) Herb Nakimayak (left) speaks at COP15 in Montreal beside legal scholar Q’apaj Conde Choque from Bolivia.



The second panel was titled, “*Inuit-Led Research to Understand Biodiversity Loss and Action,*” and featured Carrie Grable, Piers Krebs, Paul Ikuallaq, Bert Dean, and Herb Nakimayak. The panel session addressed most of the CBD goals by discussing the underlying causes of biodiversity loss.

Convention on Illegal Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)

The 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), was held in Panama City, Panama, from November 14–25, 2022. Representatives from over 180 countries, as well as experts and stakeholders from Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), international organizations, and the private sector, gathered to discuss and make decisions on issues related to the conservation and trade of endangered species. Inuit representatives were present at the event, with Jeremy Ellsworth (ICC Canada) attending as an observer and Gregor Gilbert (Makivvik) and Jim Goudie

(Nunatsiavut Government) on the Canadian delegation.

Although no species directly linked to Inuit were up for debate at COP18 or COP19, the ongoing discussions regarding the role of Indigenous Peoples, Rural, and Local Communities within CITES are of great importance. At CITES COP18, important discussions were held about the role that these communities play in international wildlife trade processes. These discussions



ICC Canada Environment and Research Co-ordinator Jeremy Ellsworth at COP19 in Panama.

It was encouraging to see the important role that Indigenous Peoples play in these discussions, and we are optimistic that our voice will continue to be heard in the future.

continued at the most recent COP19, with an emphasis on ensuring that Indigenous Peoples have a voice in decision-making processes. An interim working group has been established to address this issue, which is likely to become even more crucial in future CITES meetings. ICC is honoured to be part of this working group, providing important Inuit perspectives.

Overall, CITES COP19 was a productive event that brought together experts and stakeholders from all over the world to make important decisions on the conservation and trade of endangered species. It was encouraging to see the important role that Indigenous Peoples play in these discussions, and we are optimistic that our voice will continue to be heard in the future.

International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

The last IUCN World Conservation Congress took place in September, 2021, in Marseille, France. The aim of the Congress was to improve how the world will manage the global natural environment for human, social and economic development. It was acknowledged that this cannot be achieved by conservationists alone and that Indigenous Peoples will play a significant and important role.

The outcome of the Congress was the recognition of the accelerating climate and biodiversity emergencies. It was noted that Indigenous Peoples are on the front lines of this confluence of emergencies. The global response to these events must be mutually reinforcing. The next IUCN Congress will be held in 2025. The country nominations are being reviewed.

The International Marine Protected Areas Congress (IMPAC) is hosted every four years in partnership between the IUCN and the chosen host country.

IMPAC5 was held in Vancouver, Canada February 3-9, 2023, co-hosted by Canada and the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. ICC Canada was a member of the organizing committee and the Indigenous Peoples Committees and was instrumental in the planning of the Congress.

ICC Canada was able to support two individuals from Kawerak Inc. in Alaska to attend IMPAC5 as well as representatives



ICC Canada Vice-President (International) Herb Nakimayak at IMPAC5 in Vancouver.

from the Aleut International Association. A strong Inuit delegation was at the Congress participating in numerous events and panels. These included leadership and representatives from ICC Canada, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, Fisheries Joint Management Committee, Makivvik, Nunatsiavut Government, and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated.

ICC Canada participated in the Indigenous Peoples working group bringing together Indigenous Peoples from 37 countries. This group took part in many of the planning and organization processes within IMPAC5. The group gave direction on the formation of the leadership forum, Indigenous caucus, Indigenous banquet, Indigenous spaces, and Indigenous pavilion.

Dalee Sambo Dorough, former ICC Chair, gave a compelling Keynote Plenary address and spoke to the rights of Inuit and the work ICC had done through the Pikialasorsuaq Commission towards Inuit led marine conservation. Inuit delegates spoke on numerous panels covering a variety of the themes from Indigenous-led Conservation, Indigenous marine governance, community projects, marine plastics to shipping.

ICC Canada Vice-President Herb Nakimayak as well as Hilu Tagoona participated in the leadership forum. A one-day high level Leadership Forum brought officials together to chart a course for marine conservation by 2030. Discussion on three themes included financing, Indigenous led conservation, and partnerships with private industry. They also discussed the challenges in reaching the Convention on Biodiversity targets of 30% by 2030 and commitments in the Global Biodiversity Framework.

Contaminants

Northern Contaminants Program (NCP)

ICC Canada has been very active in the NCP, reviewed NCP proposals and participated in meetings of the Management Committee, and in technical review teams on Environmental Monitoring, Human Health, and Community-Based Monitoring (CBM), and provided comments for the NCP blueprints. ICC is also engaged in the federal government review of the NCP and associated programs. ICC's current three-year NCP, funding proposal is now in its final year.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

The in-person segment of the tenth meeting of the Stockholm Convention Conference of the Parties (COP-10) took place as part of the joint COP with the Basel and Rotterdam Conventions June 6-17, 2022, in Geneva, Switzerland. ICC participated in plenary discussions of the Stockholm Convention and the contact



group on listing of chemicals. ICC gave an intervention on the need to list perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), which has been found in the Arctic. Concentrations of the chemical in two Canadian polar bear populations are increasing.

The 18th meeting of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) Review Committee (POPRC-18) was held in Rome, Italy, September 26-30, 2022. ICC Canada participated in the meeting along with Lucy Grey from Nunavik, and two scientists from Laval University. Five different chemicals, which were



ICC was represented by Science Consultant Eva Krummel (far right middle row) at the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) Review Committee in Rome, Italy, in September 2022.

Indigenous Peoples organizations from the Amazon have approached ICC to work together, to be able to learn from our experiences.

The first in-person meeting of the Minamata Convention on Mercury Open-ended Scientific Group (OESG) took place in Geneva, Switzerland, in March 2023 (also following page).



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nominated by Parties to the Convention, were discussed at the meeting. They include: a group of fluorinated ‘forever chemicals’, a pesticide (chlorpyrifos), a flame retardant (dechlorane plus), industrial chemicals (medium-chain chlorinated paraffins), as well as a plastic additive (UV-328). All of these chemicals are found in the Arctic.

The Canadian nomination of long-chain Perfluorocarboxylic Acids (LC-PFCAs) was urged and highly supported by ICC. Inuit have a major stake with regards to these chemicals. LC-PFCAs

are detected at exceptionally high concentrations in Inuit populations in Nunavik compared to other populations further south and appear to be increasing over time. POPRC will review new evidence at its 19th meeting in October, 2023.

Minamata Convention on Mercury

ICC participated in a meeting of the Open-ended Science Group of the Minamata Convention on Mercury, March 27-31, 2023, in Geneva, Switzerland. ICC gave a presentation outlining how





Indigenous Peoples must be engaged in mercury monitoring efforts, and highlighted the example of the Northern Contaminants Program, and in particular the beluga monitoring in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region.

ICC is closely working with technical advisors of Indigenous Peoples Organizations in the Amazon to ensure that references to equitable and ethical engagement of Indigenous Peoples in monitoring efforts and utilization of Indigenous Knowledge are included in the documents, and that Indigenous Knowledge holders and experts are part of the process.

Indigenous Peoples organizations from the Amazon have approached ICC to work together, to be able to learn from our experiences. Indigenous Peoples in the Amazon suffer from extremely high mercury contamination. Mercury from artisanal small-scale gold mining activities also make it into the Arctic. These activities are currently the biggest source of mercury emissions globally.

Plastic Pollution

ICC continues to be actively engaged in the work of the UN negotiations of a global treaty on plastics and attended the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) meeting to prepare for the Intergovernmental Negotiation Committee (INC) to end plastics pollution. The meeting took place from May 29 – June 1, 2022, in Dakar, Senegal, and virtually. The purpose of the meeting was to agree on rules of procedure for the INC, including a timeline and participation of observers.

ICC is trying to ensure that references to human rights, equitable and ethical engagement of Indigenous Peoples in monitoring efforts, and the utilization of Indigenous Knowledge



The EEE Protocols will also help guide, advise, and inform various activities regarding scientific and academic research, policy initiatives, and other activities that deal with wildlife conservation and management, education, use of Indigenous knowledge, health, and community engagement.

Northern Contaminants Researcher for the Nunatsiavut Government Liz Pijogge makes virtual intervention at plastics treaty meeting December, 2022, in Uruguay.



© ICC CANADA

are included in the documents, and that Indigenous Knowledge holders and experts are part of the process.

The first meeting of the intergovernmental negotiation committee (INC-1) to develop a legally binding agreement on plastics pollution took place from November 28 – December 2,

2022, in Punta Del Este, Uruguay. The ICC delegation included Liz Pijogge (Nunatsiavut Government) and ICC. Liz Pijogge gave an intervention on the need for plastics monitoring, outlining Inuit activities on the topic and emphasizing the need for proper Indigenous involvement in the process.

Overall, it is anticipated that five INC meetings will take place until end of 2024, with a subsequent diplomatic conference to sign the treaty.



Sustaining Arctic Observing Networks (SAON)

SAON work currently is also officially paused due to the war in Ukraine, since the Arctic Council AMAP working group is one of the co-sponsors. Some of the activities still went ahead informally and without Russian participation.

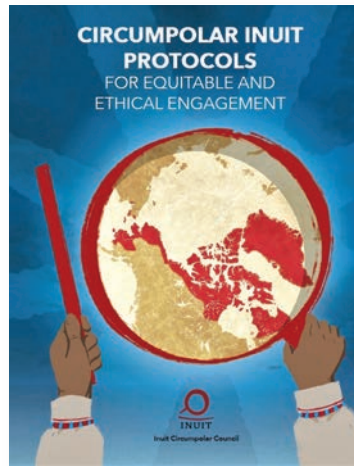
As in previous years, ICC was engaged as a member of the organizing committee for the Arctic Observing Summit (AOS). The AOS took place as a hybrid meeting virtually, and in Tromsø, Norway, March 30 – April 1, 2022. The AOS took place back-to-back with the Arctic Science Summit Week, which started March 26th.

SAON has withdrawn its official participation and co-sponsoring of the AOS, but most SAON-affiliated participants chose to attend informally. ICC attended the meeting virtually and was particularly active in the Food Security Working Group. AOS plenary discussions included a panel on community-based monitoring. Max Liboiron and Liz Pijogge explained how they work together in the community-based plastics monitoring project in Nunatsiavut. ICC Alaska submitted a statement paper for the AOS and participated in a breakout group meeting.

Equitable and Ethical Engagement of Inuit Communities and Indigenous Knowledge

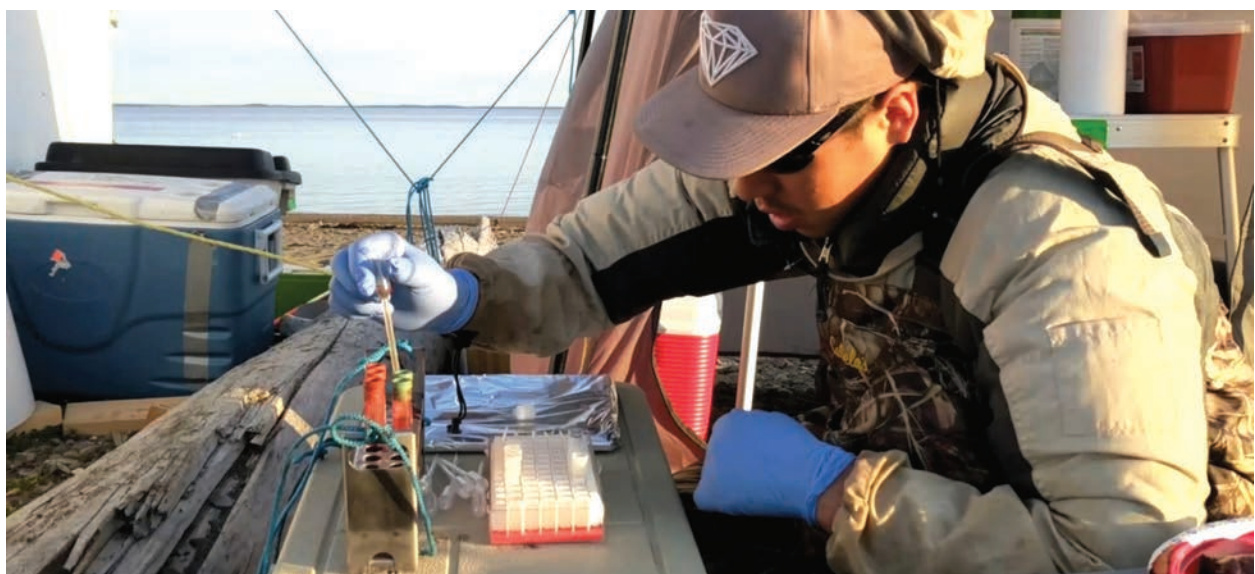
ICC published its *Circumpolar Protocols on Equitable and Ethical Engagement (EEE)* in June 2022. The protocols were developed with approximately 30 Inuit delegates from Greenland, Canada, Alaska, and Chukotka, and will be a crucial tool in advancing Inuit sovereignty, directions, and priorities at national levels and within institutions and international fora, such as the Arctic Council and United Nations.

The EEE Protocols will also help guide, advise, and inform various activities regarding scientific and academic research, policy initiatives, and other activities that deal with wildlife



conservation and management, education, use of Indigenous Knowledge, health, and community engagement.

The Protocols were developed considering background information from all Inuit Nunaat, which was summarized in a synthesis report, and guidance received from the Inuit delegates during discussions at several workshops. The draft protocols were then synthesized by ICC staff, reviewed by the delegates and Inuit from Inuit Nunaat, and revised according to the feedback. The finalized EEE Protocols are available on the ICC website.



Lionel Kikoak does field work on beluga samples at Hendrickson Island near Tuktoyaktuk, Northwest Territories.

Inuit youth are vital to the current and future work of ICC. Throughout the year, Inuit youth attended international conferences and events alongside ICC leaders and staff.



Engaging Youth in International Affairs

Inuit youth are vital to the current and future work of ICC. Throughout the year, Inuit youth attended international conferences and events alongside ICC leaders and staff.

In October 2022, two youth from Nunavut and Nunatsiavut attended the Arctic Circle Assembly in Reykjavik, Iceland, where they attended conference events. They also then attended a two-day workshop in Akureyri, Iceland to create digital stories about different topics such as connection to culture, mental wellness, and suicide.

In November 2022, there was a sizeable Inuit youth delegation at COP27 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. ICC coordinated a delegation of Inuit youth from Alaska, Greenland, and Canada.

Inuit youth, including the President of the National Inuit Youth Council, participated in many side events and met with political leaders, such as the President of Brazil and ministers from the Government of Canada to discuss their priorities and goals when it comes to climate change.

ICC looks forward to ongoing engagement with youth not only in key conferences and events, but also in a systematic way to encourage learning, building experience in international platforms, and contributing effectively to change. Youth contributions to ICC's work are highlighted throughout this report.



Inuit youth were a substantial part of the Inuit Delegation during the second week of COP27 in Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt. (Left-Right): Lars Peter Mølgaard, member of the Hunter's Council of the Greenlandic Hunters and Fishermen's Association KNAPK, ICC youth delegate; Sara Olsvig, ICC Chair; Meghan Dicker, Nunatsiavut, ICC youth delegate; Brian Pottle, NIYC President, ICC youth delegate; and Rodd Laing, Nunatsiavut Government delegate.



ICC Canada Archives contain hundreds of stories, documenting Inuit successes, challenges, knowledge, advocacy, and leadership on the international stage.



ICC Canada Archives

In 2021, ICC Canada received project funding from Heritage Canada to hire an archivist to create the ICC Canada Archives, which preserves and promotes the organization's documentary heritage. ICC Canada Archives contain hundreds of stories, documenting Inuit successes, challenges, knowledge, advocacy, and leadership on the international stage. At present, the ICC Canada Archives consists of:

- 20 linear metres of textual documents
- 2,000 photographs
- 65 large-format graphic materials including maps and posters
- over 150 videos on VHS tapes and DVDs
- 20 audio recordings
- 90 fine art works and artefacts
- 1,000 published books and magazines
- over 1 TB of digital material of various types (text documents, digital photographs, audio recordings, etc.)

The ICC Canada Archives is a work in progress. The Archives team has rehoused photographs and paper-based records in special preservation boxes and has started to convert videos and audio recordings on old technologies to digital files; many documents have also been digitized. The Archives team is creating an online catalogue of all archival and library holdings. The catalogue entries and its search features will function and be available in English and Inuktitut, both syllabics and Roman orthography.

A searchable database of archival holdings is beneficial for many reasons, the most important of which is enabling access

to original records of actions done by past and present ICC Canada and international Inuit leaders and community partners. Current and future generations will be able to read, hear, and watch Inuit leaders tell stories of their involvement with ICC in their own words. When the catalogue goes live at the end of 2023, the ICC Canada Archives' catalogue will be one of the only archival repositories to have a catalogue available in an Indigenous language.

The Archives and the Archivist benefited greatly from the help of four youth. For six months starting in October 2022, two part-time Archives Assistants (a Nunatsiavummiut youth, and a post-graduate with training in archival studies) worked on multiple projects. Projects included the digitization of photographs, historical research, and collections cataloguing and descriptions.

From January to April 2023, ICC Canada hosted two students from Algonquin College's Applied Museum Studies program for their work placement term. They photographed, catalogued, described, and did preventative conservation on all of ICC Canada's fine art works and artefacts that we have received as gifts or purchased since the 1980s.

ICC Canada Archives and the Archivist have been fortunate to receive critical help from two organization partners. The Ottawa Public Library-Beaverbrook branch has enabled the bulk of our digitization. Hundreds of physical photographs and dozens of VHS video tapes were converted to digital files in their digitization lab. Makkivik Corporation gave ICC Canada the use of their Ottawa office space (down the hall from ICC Canada's office) as an in-kind donation, solving a significant problem, namely, where the Archives was going to be physically located.

ICC Canada Archives Mandate

The Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada Archives is the keeper of official records that document the Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada (ICC Canada) and its predecessor body's work on behalf of all Inuit from Canada, Alaska, Greenland, and Chukotka on matters of international importance. The ICC Canada Archives also preserves select private records that document issues impacting Inuit and/or about Inuit in the circumpolar Arctic. The ICC Canada Archives preserves this documentary heritage for the benefit of present and future generations.



The ICC 2023 wall calendar featured archival photos from our past 14 ICC General Assemblies, stretching back to 1977 in Barrow, Alaska – now Utqiagvik.



Communications

We are proud of the communications support we were able to provide to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) COP27 meeting in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt held in November, 2022. An abundance of social media was posted to support the ICC delegation on the ground in Egypt.



© YVENS B

Fashion show held during Tamatta Gala fundraiser for ICC Canada, April 2022 in Montreal.

On the video front, we were able to send a videographer to COP27 in Egypt to capture on-the-ground footage of the Inuit delegation for the climate change video we are producing. During the year we wrote the synopsis, script, held interviews with past ICC Chairs Dalee Sambo Dorough, Siila Watt-Cloutier, and Her Excellency Governor General Mary Simon. We look forward to its completion during the summer of 2023.

We also produced a video on the issue of contaminants. We chronicle how ICC has been instrumental in fighting for the creation of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). We demonstrate how we bring the Inuit voice to forums such as the Minamata Convention on Mercury, and now we are fighting against the rampant spread of “Forever Chemicals”, and the scourge of plastic pollution. The video is on the ICC Canada YouTube page.

During 2023 we are featuring 12 Inuit Artists of the Month. With funding from the Department of Canadian Heritage we

have recorded podcasts with artists across Inuit Nunangat. They air on the first Thursday of each month, hosted by Madeleine Allakariallak. Our “Unikkaat/Circumpolar Waves” podcast is hosted on Buzzsprout and available on Apple podcasts, Google, and Spotify.

Our website now features a “Kids Page” with “Fun Facts” about ICC, Inuit, and other resources. We’ve included new content on the International Maritime Organization (IMO), and a prominent button highlighting our podcast, and videos.

The ICC 2023 wall calendar featured archival photos from our past 14 ICC General Assemblies, stretching back to 1977 in Barrow, Alaska — now Utqiagvik. It was published with funding from the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Finally, we were pleased to provide communications support for the virtual ICC General Assembly, under the theme of “Inuit — Strength and Peace”.

Canadian delegates gathered in Kuujuaq during the week of July 19-21, 2022. We are grateful to Makivvik Corporation for hosting the delegates and Makivvik’s Communications Director Carson Tagoona for his assistance during the week.



Report of the Independent Auditor on the Non-Consolidated Summary Financial Statements

To the Directors of Inuit Circumpolar Council (Canada) Inc.

Opinion

The non-consolidated summary financial statements, which comprise the non-consolidated summary statement of financial position as at March 31, 2023 and the non-consolidated summary statement of operations for the year then ended, are derived from the audited non-consolidated financial statements of Inuit Circumpolar Council (Canada) Inc. (hereafter “the Council”) for the year ended March 31, 2023.

In our opinion, the accompanying non-consolidated summary financial statements are a fair summary of the audited non-consolidated financial statements, in accordance with the Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Non-consolidated Summary Financial Statements

The non-consolidated summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the non-consolidated summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the Council's audited non-consolidated financial statements and the auditor's report thereon.

The non-consolidated summary financial statements and the audited non-consolidated financial statements do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited non-consolidated financial statements.

The Audited Non-consolidated Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited non-consolidated financial statements in our report dated July 5, 2022.

Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the non-consolidated summary financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the non-consolidated summary financial statements in accordance with the Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the non-consolidated summary financial statements are a fair summary of the audited non-consolidated financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Audited Standard (CAS) 810, Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants,

Licensed Public Accountants

Ottawa, Canada

July 5, 2022

Financial Statements

Non-consolidated Summary Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2023

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Current: | | |
| Cash | \$ 2,335,908 | \$ 1,996,121 |
| Trade and other receivables | 409,609 | 184,398 |
| Prepaid expenses | 34,228 | 10,346 |
| | 2,779,745 | 2,190,201 |
| Long-term: | | |
| Tangible capital assets | 8,832 | 10,336 |
| | \$ 2,788,577 | \$ 2,201,201 |
| Liabilities and Net Assets | | |
| Current: | | |
| Trade payables and other operating liabilities | \$ 610,063 | \$ 354,031 |
| Deferred contributions | 2,064,228 | 1,788,259 |
| | 2,674,291 | 2,142,290 |
| Net assets: | | |
| Invested in tangible capital assets | 8,832 | 10,336 |
| Unrestricted | 105,454 | 48,575 |
| | 114,286 | 58,911 |
| | \$ 2,788,577 | \$ 2,201,201 |

See accompanying notes to non-consolidated summary financial statements.

Non-consolidated Summary Statement of Operations

Year ended March 31, 2023

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Contribution revenue: | | |
| Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada | \$ 351,608 | \$ 207,822 |
| Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami | 254,807 | 411,895 |
| Global Affairs Canada | 783,225 | 286,220 |
| Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. | 211,495 | 191,000 |
| I.C.C. Foundation | 407,499 | 113,684 |
| Government of Nunavut | 75,000 | 100,000 |
| Inuvialuit Regional Corporation | 100,000 | 100,000 |
| Nunatsiavut Government | 75,000 | 75,000 |
| Laval University | 58,419 | 60,000 |
| Environment & Climate Change Canada | 87,464 | 33,444 |
| Indigenous Services Canada (FNIHB) | 188,500 | 112,550 |
| Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment | 31,218 | – |
| Fisheries & Oceans Canada | 121,095 | 12,055 |
| Miscellaneous | 74,476 | 232,997 |
| ICC Alaska | 4,706 | 52,681 |
| Canada Council for the Arts | 22,336 | – |
| Canadian Heritage | 584,080 | 240,323 |
| Nunavik Regional Board | – | 10,000 |
| AMAP Secretary | 28,664 | – |
| Makivvik Corporation | 18,746 | 100,000 |
| | 3,478,338 | 2,339,671 |
| Expenses: | | |
| Salaries and employee benefits | 1,355,251 | 1,067,935 |
| Travel | 686,168 | 61,899 |
| Professional fees | 1,053,104 | 934,425 |
| Administration fees on projects | 295,473 | 132,740 |
| Communications | 161,599 | 123,836 |
| Rent, equipment and facilities | 96,043 | 76,485 |
| Operating costs | 66,235 | 66,790 |
| Recovery of administrative fees on projects | (295,473) | (132,740) |
| Amortization of tangible capital assets | 4,563 | 6,805 |
| | 3,422,963 | 2,338,175 |
| Excess of revenue over expenses | 55,375 | 1,496 |

See accompanying notes to non-consolidated summary financial statements.

Notes to Non-consolidated Summary Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2023

1. Governing statutes and purpose of the council

The Council is a not-for-profit organization incorporated with Letters Patent under the provisions of Part 2 of the *Canada Corporations Act* on November 5, 1984, which started its operations on April 1, 1985. Effective November 1, 2013, the Corporation continued its articles of incorporation from the *Canada Corporations Act* to the *Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act*. The Council is exempt from income tax.

The object of the Council is to promote Inuit culture in Canada and the circumpolar region and increase knowledge of its members in the areas of social, economic and cultural studies about and for Inuit.

2. Non-Consolidated Summary financial statements

The non-consolidated summary financial statements are derived from the complete audited non-consolidated financial statements, prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations in Part III of the CPA Canada Handbook – Accounting as at and for the year ended March 31, 2023.

The preparation of these non-consolidated summary financial statements requires management to determine the information that needs to be reflected in the non-consolidated summary financial statements so that they are consistent, in all material respects, with or represent a fair summary of the audited non-consolidated financial statements.

These non-consolidated summarized financial statements have been prepared by management using the following criteria:

- (a) whether information in the non-consolidated summarized financial statements is in agreement with the related information in the complete audited non-consolidated financial statements; and
- (b) whether, in all material respects, the non-consolidated summarized financial statements contain the information necessary to avoid distorting or obscuring matters disclosed in the related complete audited non-consolidated financial statements, including the notes thereto.

Management determined that the non-consolidated statement of changes in net assets and the non-consolidated statement of cash flows do not provide additional useful information and as such has not included them as part of the non-consolidated summary financial statements.

The complete audited non-consolidated financial statements of Inuit Circumpolar Council (Canada) Inc. are available upon request by contacting the Council.

Preserve and promote the unity of Inuit as a single people within the Circumpolar Arctic and to assist Canadian Inuit in speaking collectively with Inuit in Russia, Alaska and Greenland on international matters.



ICC Canada Aims and Objectives

The activities of ICC Canada are directed towards the following general aims and objectives:

- To represent the interests of Canadian Inuit through their national organization (Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami), and through their settlement claim organizations, on matters of an international nature;
- To preserve and promote the unity of Inuit as a single people within the Circumpolar Arctic and to assist Canadian Inuit in speaking collectively with Inuit in Russia, Alaska and Greenland on international matters;
- To cooperate with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami in presenting the position of Canadian Inuit on international matters;
- To represent Canadian Inuit views on the Executive Council of the Inuit Circumpolar Council (International) and to implement, in Canada, the resolutions emanating from the general assemblies of the Inuit Circumpolar Council;
- To coordinate and facilitate cooperation among the Inuit settlement claim organizations on international matters;
- To serve as a facilitator, in coordination with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, for promoting cooperation between Canadian Inuit and Inuit from Russia, Alaska, and Greenland;
- To take measures to further enable Canadian Inuit to fully exercise their international rights and interests as Indigenous Peoples within Canada and globally;
- To act as the international vehicle through which all Canadian Inuit can voice concerns to world bodies, international conventions, intergovernmental forums, international non-governmental organizations, and global indigenous movements;
- To take measures at the international level to protect the Arctic environment and its renewable resources so that present and future generations of Canadian Inuit can fully benefit from the land and marine environment and its flora and fauna;
- To take measures at the international level to protect and promote Inuit rights related to their health, culture, language, values, human rights, or any other matters that impact on the ability of Inuit to shape the future of their society within the circumpolar Arctic and the world at large;
- To take measures at the international level to foster trade and economic development for Canadian Inuit and to assist in the development of successful business endeavors abroad;
- To bring to the attention of Canadian Inuit the ongoing issues and concerns of Inuit in Russia, Alaska, and Greenland and to solicit Canadian Inuit assistance when required;
- To maintain an on-going dialogue with ministries of the Canadian Government on issues of international importance to Canadian Inuit;
- To maintain an on-going dialogue with the ministries of the Canadian Government on issues of importance to Inuit in Russia, Alaska and Greenland and to promote their rights and interests within Canada.

ICC Canada Legal Status and Board Membership

The Canadian branch of ICC was incorporated as a non-profit organization under the *Canada Corporations Act* in 1984. The Board of Directors is comprised of the ICC Canada President, a Vice-President responsible for International Affairs/Council Member, a Vice-President for National Affairs, and the elected heads of the four land claims settlement regions in Canada. The National Inuit Youth Council and Pauktuutit each hold ex-officio seats on the Board. On January 7, 2007, Inuit Circumpolar Conference (Canada) underwent a legal name change and is now registered as *Inuit Circumpolar Council (Canada)*.

ICC Canada Board of Directors



Thank you to former ICC Canada President Monica Ell-Kanayuk!

Lisa Qiluqqi Koperqualuk

President
Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada

Herbert Nakimayak

Vice-President, International Affairs
Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada

Natan Obed

Vice-President, National Affairs
Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada
President, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami

Aluki Kotierk

President
Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.

Pita Aatami

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Makivik Corporation

Johannes Lampe

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Nunatsiavut Government

Duane Smith

Chair & Chief Executive Officer
Inuvialuit Regional Corporation

Gerri Sharpe

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Pauktuutit

Brian Pottle

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National Inuit Youth Council

ICC Executive Council

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Russia

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Jocelyne Durocher, Financial and Human Resources Director

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April Pigalak, Acting Executive Assistant

Napatchie Tikivik, Office and Project Coordinator

John Crump, Senior Policy Advisor

Matthew Zammit-Maempel, Policy Advisor

Anne Simpson, Policy Advisor, Climate Change

Selma Ford, Health Officer

Susie Joanasie, Health Coordinator

Jeremy Ellsworth, Environment & Research Coordinator

Lisa Mullins, Archivist

Cassandra Elliott, Communications Advisor

Papatsi Kublu-Hill, Culture & Language Advisor

Consultants

Stephanie Meakin, Senior Policy & Science Advisor

Eva Kruemmel, Science Consultant – Contaminants

Andrew Dumbrille, Project Specific Consultant – IMO

Stephen Hendrie, Communications Consultant

Donor Acknowledgements

ICC Canada is very grateful for the ongoing support of our donors and is pleased to acknowledge the following contributors for fiscal year 2022-2023:

Inuit Organizations

Air Inuit / Makivvik Corporation (in-kind donation)
Inuvialuit Regional Corporation
Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
Nunatsiavut Government
Nunavut Government
Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami
ICC Alaska
ICC Greenland

Government Departments

Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Indigenous Services Canada
Global Affairs Canada
Canadian Heritage
Environment and Climate Change Canada
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Canada Council for the Arts
Health Canada (via ITK)

Other

Laval University
University of Saskatchewan
World Wildlife Fund Canada
Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
Oceans North Conservation Society
Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME)
AMAP Secretariat
Climate Justice Resilience Fund
The Gordon Foundation
Sall Family Foundation
Oak Foundation
MakeWay Foundation
The Monarch Foundation
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Ottawa Public Library (in kind donation)







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