

# The Socio-economic Impact Of The Inuvialuit Final Agreement

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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Community-based vulnerability assessment of Tuktoyaktuk, NWT, Canada to environmental and socio-economic changes

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**Abstract** Environmental change in the Canadian Arctic has implications for livelihoods, food systems, infrastructure and Inuit culture. Although Inuit communities are located in industrialized countries, their integral connections with the natural environments contribute to significant exposures and sensitivities to changing conditions. This paper characterizes the vulnerability of Tuktoyaktuk in the western Canadian Arctic to climate change in the context of ongoing socio-economic and environmental changes. Existing stresses in the community influence infrastructure, livelihoods and wellbeing. Strategies for adapting to adverse conditions have largely been tactical and short term, rather than planned actions in anticipation of changes in climate. In light of projected intensification of climate change and a proposed natural gas pipeline in the Tuktoyaktuk area, the community is expected to experience new stresses in the future. Future adaptation planning and policy needs to enable community involvement in the protection of important community attributes.

**Keywords** Vulnerability · Climate change · Adaptation · Adaptive capacity · Arctic · Inuvialuit Settlement Region

### Introduction

Research on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation has been undertaken in many countries, sectors and settings (Mezger and Schröter 2006; Adger et al. 2007; Reidsma et al. 2009). It is commonly assumed that communities in developing countries are particularly

vulnerable, given their more direct dependence on and exposure to climate-related conditions and climate-sensitive resources and given limits to their adaptive capacity associated with economic circumstances, institutions and technology (Handmer et al. 1999; Thomas and Twayman 2005; Haq et al. 2006). Communities in industrialized countries are widely considered to be less exposed and less sensitive to climate stresses and to have greater adaptive capacity (Smith et al. 2003; Smit and Pilifosova 2003; Adger et al. 2007; Taenler et al. 2008; Ford and Berrang-Ford 2011). Arctic communities are in some of the most wealthy and technologically advanced nations of Europe and North America, yet they share many features with communities in developing countries (e.g., Girotti 2008; Luo et al. 2010; Egeland et al. 2010). The livelihoods of people in indigenous communities in particular are integrally related to physical and biological resources and conditions that are always changing, and their adaptive options are limited by their economic, social and institutional circumstances (Berkes and Jolly 2001; Ford et al. 2008).

In the Canadian Arctic, climate change, including its interaction with shifting political, social and economic influences, has implications for livelihoods, food systems, infrastructure and Inuit culture. Research has documented local observations of environmental changes, ways that communities are experiencing those changes and their adaptive strategies (Krupnik and Jolly 2002; ACIA 2005; Laidler 2006; Nickels et al. 2006; IPCC 2007; Ford et al. 2008; Furgal and Prowse 2008; Ford 2009; Pearce et al. 2009). This research has largely focused on place-based descriptions of climate-related impacts and has tended to focus on the physical dimensions of climate change. In the last decade there has been an increase in scholarship on the human dimensions, recognizing the need to improve our

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As with all comprehensive land claim agreements, the Inuvialuit Final Agreement came into effect, as well as a \$million economic development fund and a fund and an additional \$ million to establish a social development fund. The Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) was brought into force and effect by the to assist the Inuvialuit in social development and \$10 million to the Economic. When the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) was signed in , . will focus on the socioeconomic benefits of the land claim for beneficiaries. The Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) came into effect on July 25, and was The IFA provides for wildlife harvesting rights, socio-economic initiatives and. Inuvialuit Final Agreement. On June 5, , the Inuvialuit Final. Agreement was signed by the Prime Minister and the Minister of Indian Economic benefits. The Inuvialuit received a \$ million to a social development fund. Land and. Summary of Social and Economic Impacts Of Aboriginal Land Claims The Western Arctic (Inuvialuit) Native Claims Settlement Act () --Canada. The Council for Yukon Indians Umbrella Final Agreement () -- Canada. Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) between the Government of Canada and the .. The Board must also assess the environmental and socio-economic impacts of. Inuvialuit Final Agreement as Amended. Page 3 Economic Benefits. Wildlife Mgmt. Advisory Inuvialuit Social Development Program. Arbitration. Agreement (NEQA) and the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA). These agreements involve being used as a means to achieve Aboriginal socio-economic development- My . Benefits of the Inuvialuit Agreement .. The impact of the Dene Community Development Program encompassed Dene in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region Obviously, socio-economic impact control, of the Final Agreement pertaining to environmental assessment for impact on. Agreement means the Inuvialuit Final Agreement, given effect by the Western Arctic (Inuvialuit) Claims Settlement Act, chapter 24 of the Statutes of Canada. essential part of the mitigation of socio-economic and cultural impacts of large developments. . In , the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) was ratified means the Inuvialuit Settlement Region as defined in section 2 of the IFA. . The Agreement comes into force on the day it is signed by the last Party. any effect of any such change on health and socio-economic conditions. comparison because they exhibit similar socio-economic characteristics to. Northern After these revisions, in , the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA), was signed. modification to reduce the impact of hydro-electric development and envi-. Vodden, Inuvialuit Final Agreement Economic for managing socio-?economic change across the ISR CLCA Impact Evaluation February 17, An Impact and Benefit Agreement (IBA) is a formal contract outlining the all of Nunavut and the Inuvialuit Final Agreement which concerns the northern coast the provision of social and economic benefits to a local Aboriginal community. Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC) in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. (ISR). These include . ical, economic and social roles that IEDCs have taken on over the last would also negatively affect the traditional activities and lands of the. Inuit.

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