



The Imappivut (Our Oceans) Marine Planning Initiative – An Inuit-led approach to marine management



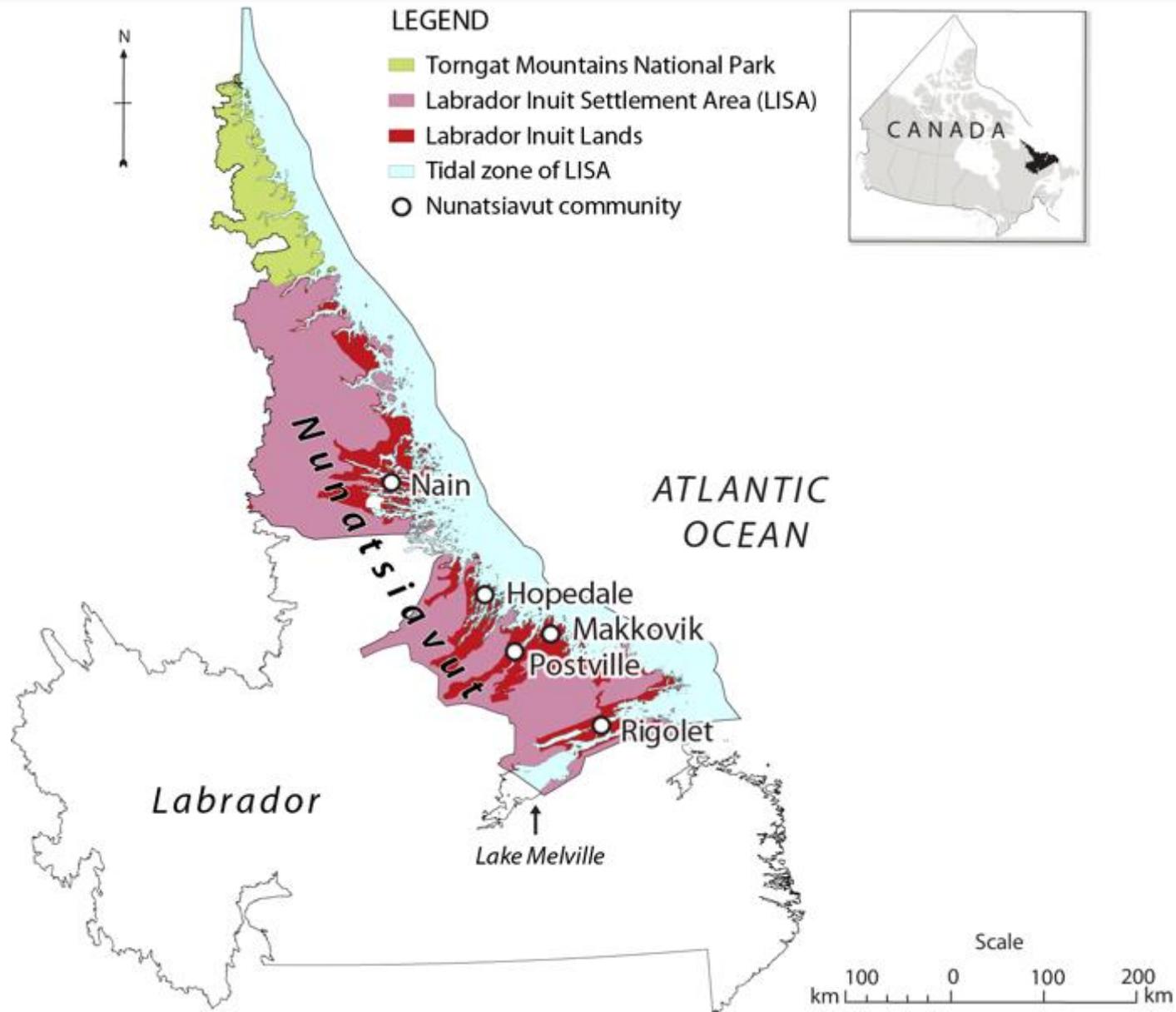
August 30, 2018

Rodd Laing, Director of Environment
Nunatsiavut Government

Inuit Nunangat



Nunatsiavut, the Labrador Inuit homeland





Relationship between Inuit, environment and health



Indigenous Knowledge

“Indigenous Knowledge is a systematic way of thinking applied to phenomena across biological, physical, cultural and spiritual systems. It includes insights based on evidence acquired through direct and long-term experiences and extensive and multigenerational observations, lessons and skills. It has developed over millennia and is still developing in a living process, including knowledge acquired today and in the future, and it is passed on from generation to generation.”

– *Inuit Circumpolar Council*

Key Messages

Informed decision-making requires a full picture of Arctic Systems that includes both Indigenous Knowledge (IK) and science

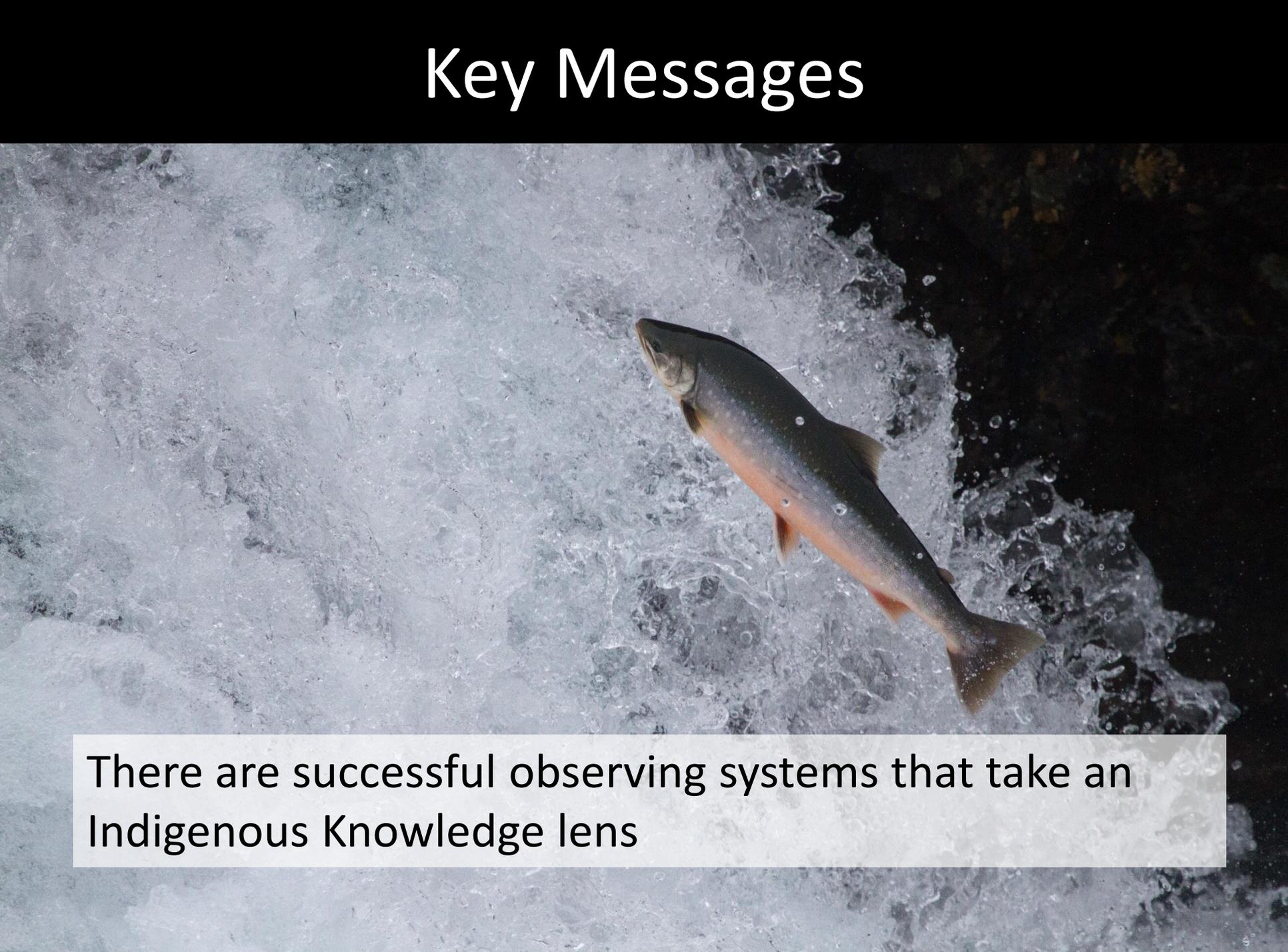


Key Messages

Informed decision-making requires a full picture of Arctic Systems that includes both Indigenous Knowledge (IK) and science

Equitable vs Equal

Key Messages

A photograph of a salmon leaping from the water, captured in mid-air. The fish is angled upwards and to the left, with its body curved. The water around it is splashing and turbulent, creating a dynamic background of white foam and greyish-blue water. The lighting highlights the scales on the fish's body.

There are successful observing systems that take an Indigenous Knowledge lens

Key Messages



Sustained, successful observation networks require connectivity across scales

Key Messages



Mobilization of knowledge

Capacity Building

Develop capacity building and educate people participating in knowledge mobilization to ensure equitable research partnerships.



Local Priorities

Research and monitoring projects should support and enable local communities to address their own identified observing, monitoring and decision making needs



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Rights holders not stakeholders



Partnerships

Need to create platforms for trust and respect amongst Indigenous and scientific knowledge systems



Knowledge in silos is limiting



Rethink how research is conducted



Downscaling vs Upscaling

Ensure results are relevant



Run and evaluate programs through local lens



Reconciliation



Self-determination





Imappivut

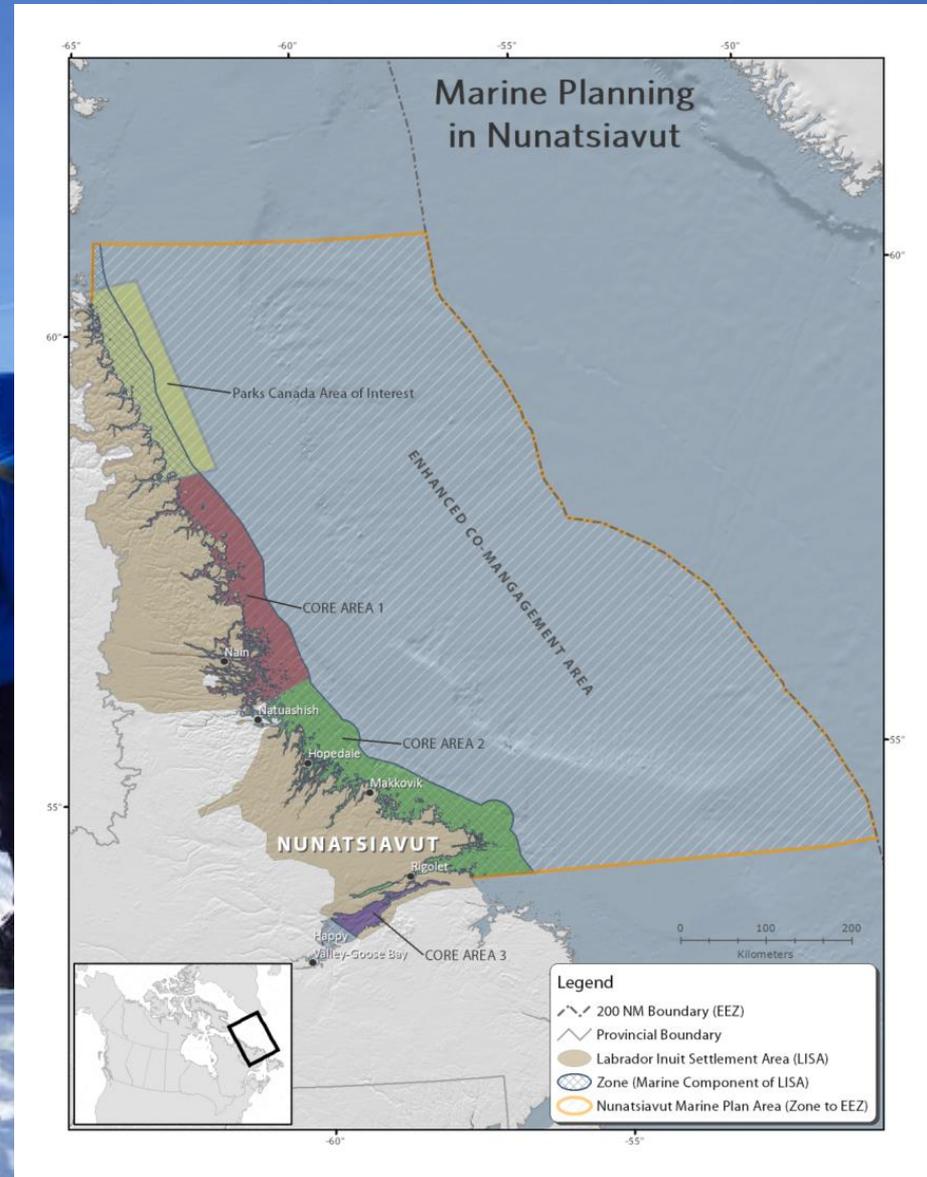
Marine Plan

Background

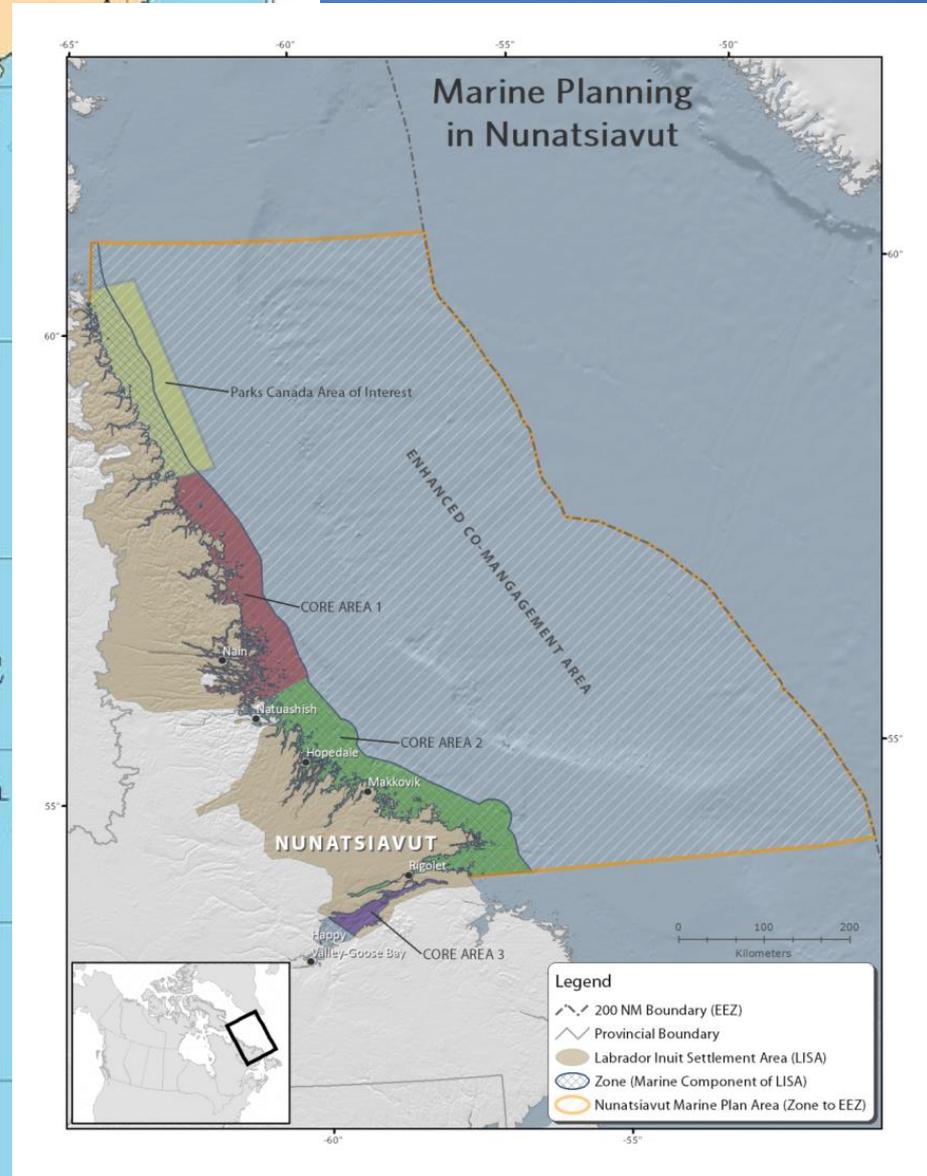
- Marine management was a central piece to original land claim negotiations. LILCA contains opportunities for NG to lead protected areas planning (Chapter 6 Ocean Management).
- Government of Canada put pressure on NG to consider how it could take its own initiative in the offshore area.
- Nunatsiavut Executive Council expressed need for Labrador Inuit to lead this process and idea of creating its own marine management plan emerged.
- Opportunity for partnering with Government of Canada but in a way that protects Labrador Inuit interests and priorities.

What is Imappivut?

- Imappivut will be a marine management plan that is developed by the Nunatsiavut Government with support from the Government of Canada.
- It will cover the entire the coastal waters in the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area, also known as the Zone Area.
- Will not take over jurisdiction from federal departments but will provide framework for how decisions are made.



What is Imappivut?



What is Imappivut?

- Content of marine management plan will be drafted by the NG.
- It will reflect Labrador Inuit history, culture, connection to the land and sea. This includes sea ice.
- Connectivity across scales
- It will be based on the needs, knowledge and priorities identified from Labrador Inuit
- Knowledge study to inform ecological aspects of plan, including protected area planning.
- The plan will also utilize existing scientific data, outcomes of marine network planning (ex. EBSAs) and identify major research gaps that need to be filled.
- Examples of Indigenous marine management plans exist across Canada (ex. Haida Gwaii Marine Plan, Beaufort Sea Integrated Oceans Management Plan).

Our Vision and Goal

Vision

Fully implement the Labrador Inuit Land Claim Agreement in the entire coastal and marine waters of Nunatsiavut and guarantee that for generations to come, these waters support a healthy marine ecosystem and prosperous Labrador Inuit.

Goal

To work towards creating a management plan that is separated into 2 regions – Zone and Non-Zone

The objective for the Zone is to create a marine management plan that is designed and developed by Labrador Inuit and allows the NG to have decision-making authority over the marine environment so that decisions are made that focus on Inuit well being, health, protection and economic development.

Non-zone objective is to create joint Nunatsiavut-Federal-Provincial governance structure to achieve integrated decision making, sustainable development, and co-management over regional strategic oceans issues facing our marine area [ex. fishing, oil and gas, shipping].

Milestones

- Defined that there was interest and a need from Labrador Inuit through community engagement – **Early 2017**
- Signed a Statement of Intent with the Government of Canada (DFO and ECCC) that commits their participation and support for initiative – **September 29, 2017**
- Solidified funding for 2017-2018 fiscal year – **Fall 2017**

WWF-Canada supports groundbreaking agreement between Nunatsiavut and federal governments

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Posted on 29 September 2017 |

OTTAWA, September 30, 2017 — Today's announcement of a new partnership between the federal government and the government of Nunatsiavut has the potential to create strong protections for the marine area off northern Labrador, a rich and fragile Arctic ecosystem.



© Sara Falconer / WWF-Canada

Enlarge

Ottawa signs deal with Labrador Inuit to co-manage large marine protected area



NAIN, N.L. — Ottawa and the Nunatsiavut Inuit government have formed a partnership to protect and manage the waters around northern Labrador.

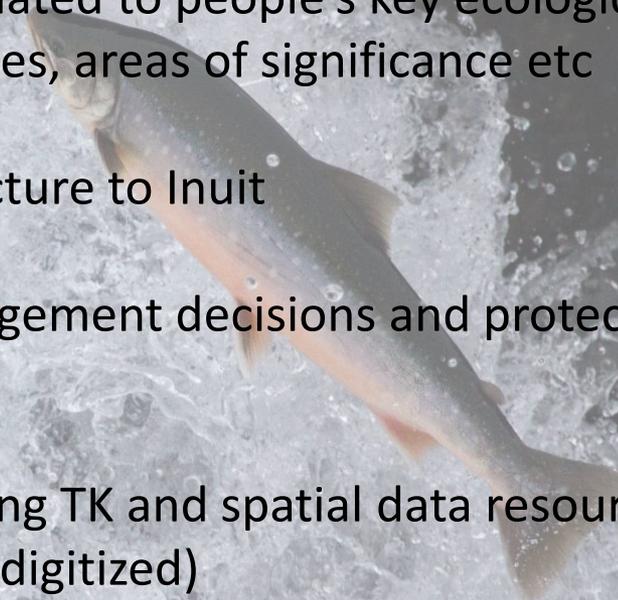
A marine management plan will be developed to protect a stretch of coastline

Inuit will write marine management plan for eastern end of Northwest Passage

Milestones

- Started reviewing existing knowledge sources and developing methodology and plan for how to collect new information – **Fall 2017**
- Internal progress: increasing staff, providing training for TK study, preparing data management plan, developing communication tools, preparing for community consultations – **Fall 2017**
- Completed community tour explaining goals of Imappivut Marine Plan – **December 2017**
- Inaugural meeting of External Partner Working Group – **January 31, 2018**
- Funding requested for next fiscal year – **Acknowledged by Prime Minister, Minister Leblanc and Minister McKenna Winter 2018**
- Marine conservation and protection at the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee – **March 2018**
- Completed first round of Knowledge Study – **April 2018**

Overview of Knowledge Study

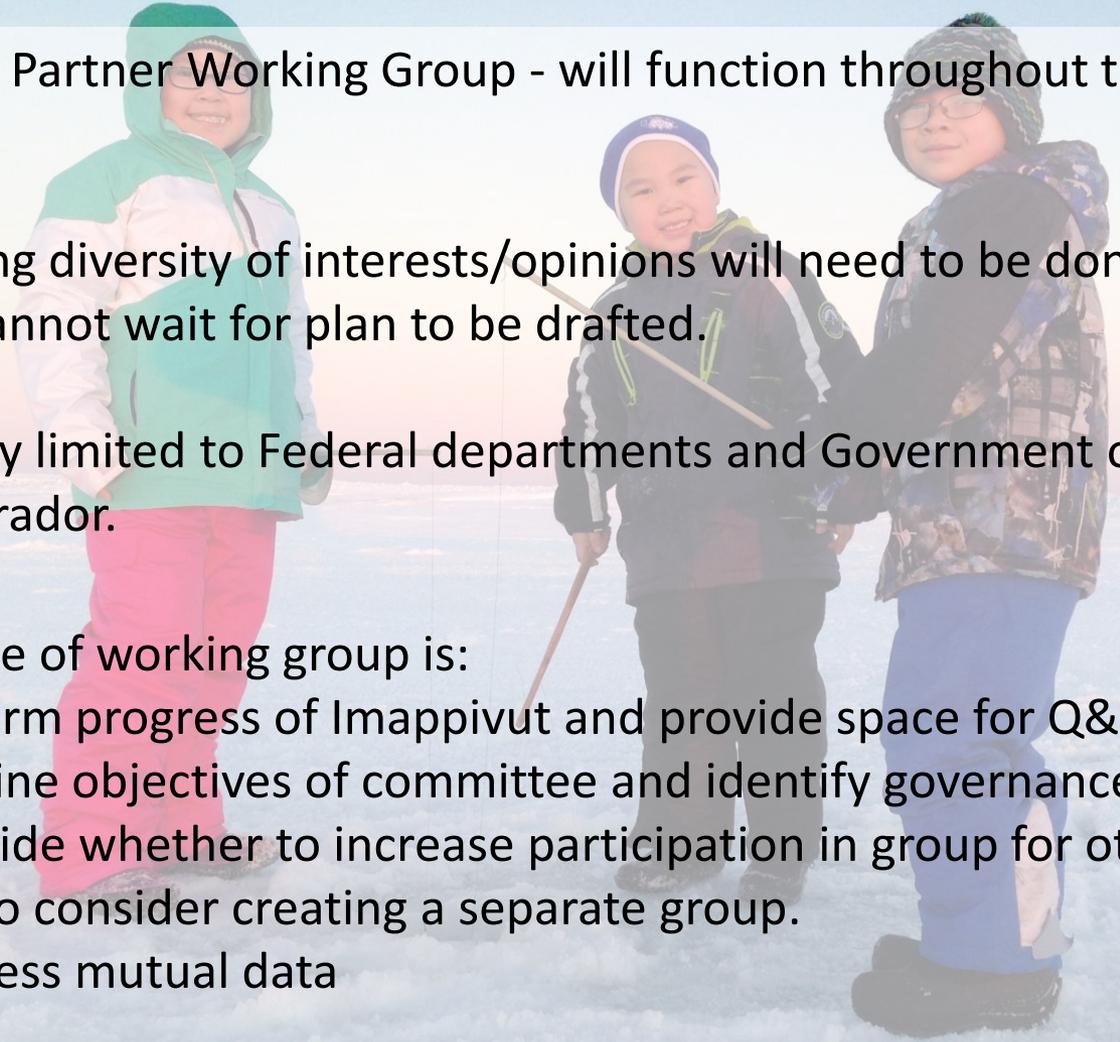
- Collected information from marine users from a variety of different backgrounds in Nunatsiavut who are interested in sharing their knowledge
 - Focused on obtaining information related to people's key ecological and biodiversity observations, travel routes, areas of significance etc
 - Inclusion of sea ice, critical infrastructure to Inuit
 - Information crucial for species management decisions and protected spaces planning
 - Will also validate and updating existing TK and spatial data resources including *Our Footprints are Everywhere* (now digitized)
 - Have agreed with C-NLOPB to collect information for the Labrador Strategic Environmental Assessment update
- 

Overview of Knowledge Study

- Intend on interviewing 100-150 people with focus on diversity (fishers, Elders, youth, hunters and trappers) in all 5 Nunatsiavut communities and Upper Lake Melville
- Online tool for engagement



External involvement

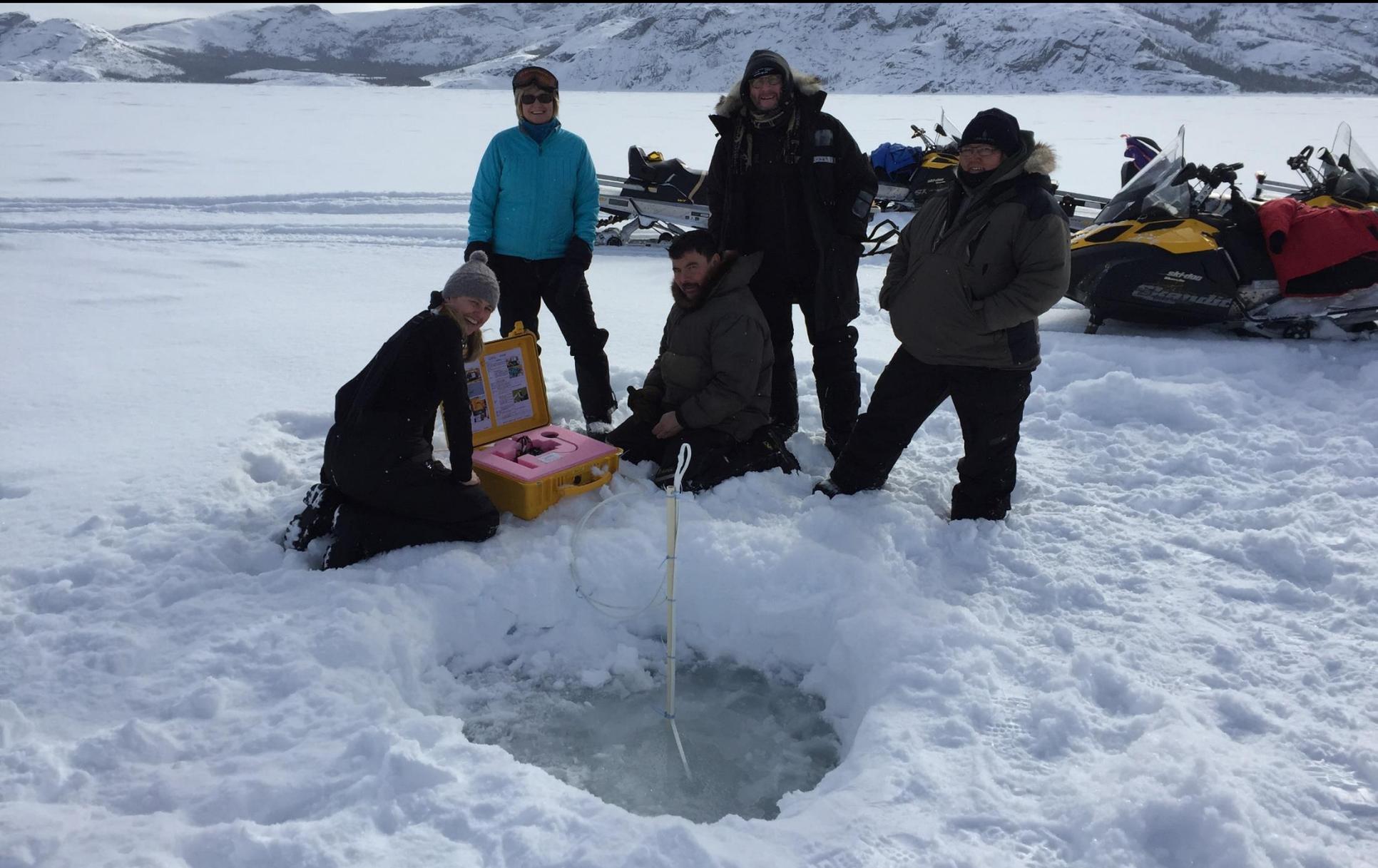
- 
- Three children are standing on a snowy field. The child on the left is wearing a green and white jacket and pink pants. The child in the middle is wearing a dark jacket and a blue hat. The child on the right is wearing a patterned jacket and blue pants. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera.
- External Partner Working Group - will function throughout the project's lifecycle
 - Managing diversity of interests/opinions will need to be done on ongoing basis. Cannot wait for plan to be drafted.
 - Currently limited to Federal departments and Government of Newfoundland and Labrador.
 - Objective of working group is:
 - Inform progress of Imappivut and provide space for Q&A.
 - Define objectives of committee and identify governance structure.
 - Decide whether to increase participation in group for other stakeholders, or to consider creating a separate group.
 - Access mutual data
 - Aiming for late summer for next meeting

Implementation and Stewardship



- Hiring of Imappivut Community Coordinators in Nunatsiavut communities (including Upper Lake Melville)
- Responsible for helping to implement our Imappivut Initiative and associated research and monitoring programs
- Will be the first point of contact for Imappivut in each of our communities

Research



Research

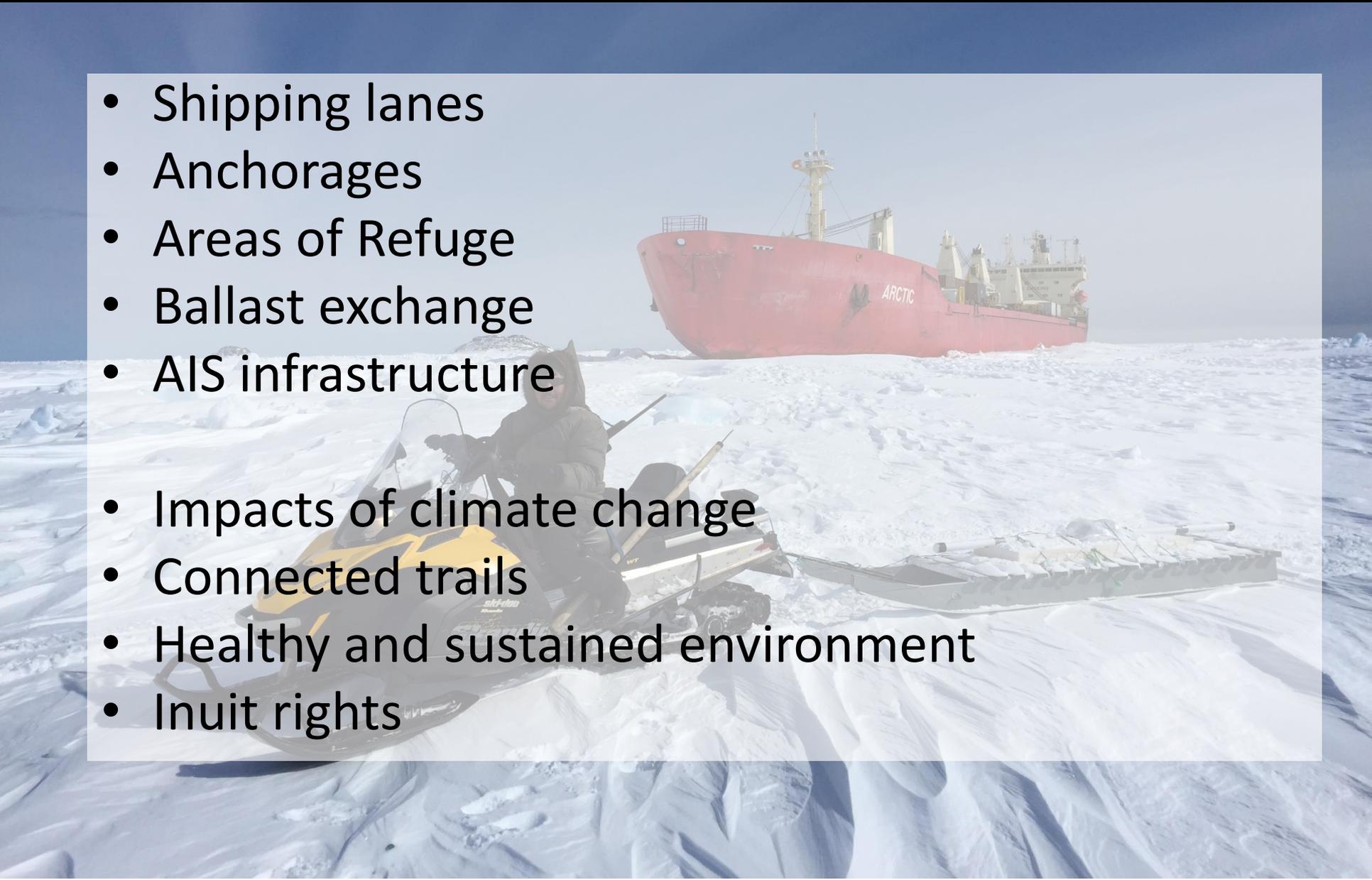
- Arctic Char Research:
 - genetics (DFO)
 - tagging (DFO)
 - contaminants (INAC)
 - Plastics Research
 - Ice Monitoring
 - Community stations
 - SMARTIce
 - Weather stations (Queens)
 - Ocean Currents (Dal)
 - Marine Tower Infrastructure (CCG / TC)
- 
- A group of five researchers in winter gear are standing on a snowy field. In the background, several snowmobiles are parked. The scene is set in a snowy, mountainous area. A semi-transparent text box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing a list of research topics.

Shipping



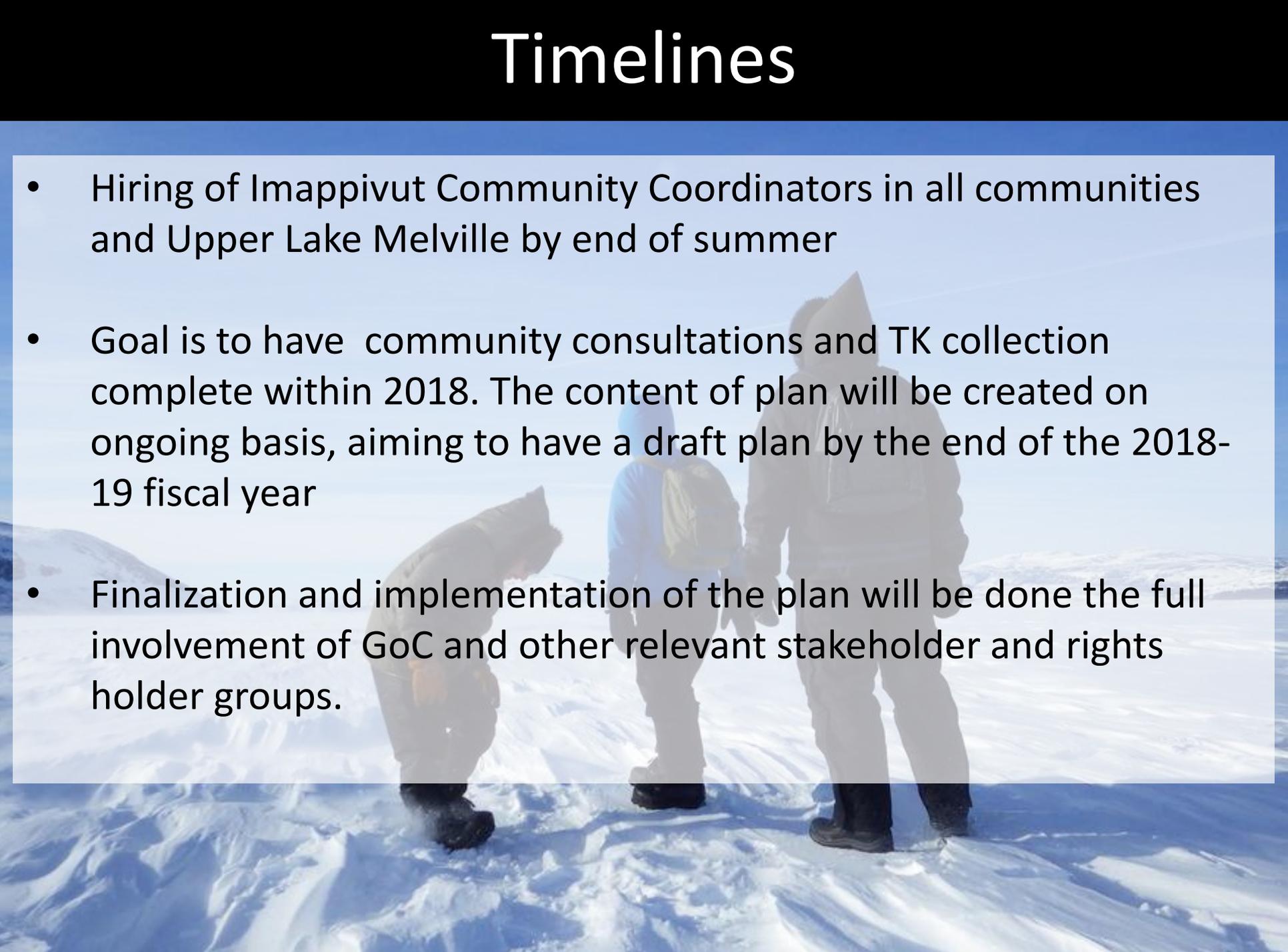
Shipping

- Shipping lanes
- Anchorages
- Areas of Refuge
- Ballast exchange
- AIS infrastructure
- Impacts of climate change
- Connected trails
- Healthy and sustained environment
- Inuit rights



Timelines

- Hiring of Imappivut Community Coordinators in all communities and Upper Lake Melville by end of summer
- Goal is to have community consultations and TK collection complete within 2018. The content of plan will be created on ongoing basis, aiming to have a draft plan by the end of the 2018-19 fiscal year
- Finalization and implementation of the plan will be done the full involvement of GoC and other relevant stakeholder and rights holder groups.



Staff





Imappivut

Marine Plan

Nakummek