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Duane Smith, President Inuit Circumpolar Council (Canada) ンΔ゚ 'Γ' , すしゃら。 アニィイター ΔΔΔ' 60Lトィイタイ' (6LC)

Paul Kaludjak, President
Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
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ICC Executive Council

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Chair

Patricia Cochran bnlng/ <a>\abovermath{\chi}\begin{array}{c}

Canada

Vice-Chair: Duane Smith
Executive Council Member: Violet Ford
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Greenland

Pita Aatami, President Makivik Corporation へく ぐくし、 すっしゃもも LPAも dd>っしゃ

Nellie Cournoyea
Chair & Chief Executive Officer
Inuvialuit Regional Corporation

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Rhoda Innuksuk, President Pauktuutit ◄∿ન%ં° <▷৬১∩°

Alaska

Russia

Vice-Chair: Natalia Rodionova
Executive Council Member: Luba Tayan ५/७
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Inuit Circumpolar Youth Council

Chair

Greta Schuerch bnLn゚イント dん(`dʔ.\

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Wynter Kuliktana
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Greenland

Alaska

Lee Ryan
Dea Latham
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Russia

Galina Seliverstova Lydia Tutai ゾイ bcっ `__`ンゔ゚ ¡-∩◁ ⊃C∆

Inuit International Elders Council

Chair

Levi Cleveland bハLハ・イト 亡ぐひ 亡・~こ

Members:

Canada

Lillian Elias החבאיי: הבל בכלי בבלי

Greenland

Magnus Therkelsen ddpc)c Lbab Dipch

Alaska

Willie Goodwin くこし らくく

Russia

Larissa Visolova こんく こんさく



Photo courtesy of Paul Gibbard



Message from ICC President

Canadian Inuit have faced some tough challenges, many of an international nature, over the past year. Who owns the Arctic and who has the right to develop and manage was (and is) at the centre of the circumpolar agenda as unresolved sovereignty questions among Arctic states re-emerge. Sovereignty issues have been brought about largely by the opening of the Northwest Passage which, in turn, is viewed by governments and industry as a way to shorten their transportation times and exploit our natural resources. Our wildlife too – such as the polar bear and seal – continued over the past year to attract the attention of foreign legislators who seemingly care more about the optics of hunting then they do about the Inuit way of life.

Responding to these – and other international challenges – on behalf of circumpolar Inuit is core business for ICC. Working together to protect our Arctic home is what inspired the Inuit who travelled to Barrow, Alaska, 31 years ago to create the Inuit Circumpolar Council. While some of the challenges have changed and the geopolitical framework in which we operate have altered significantly since that time, working together to protect our Arctic environment continues to inspire and guide us.

To achieve what we want and need to accomplish, guided by the Utqiagʻvik Declaration of the 2006 general assembly in Barrow, is a big task for ICC Canada. With only two years to go before the next ICC General Assembly, it is timely to ask ourselves how much we have achieved in dealing with the range of challenges confronting us.

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And it is time to ask how have the positions of Canadian Inuit been articulated through ICC.

Throughout the thousands of years Inuit have lived in the Arctic, we have adapted to survive. Climate change in the 21st century demands that we continue to adapt but at a faster rate than ever before. We must also work globally to reduce the factors that contribute to climate change while at the same time, gain support for our adaptation work. Climate change is global in nature but local in its consequence. For ICC Canada, it is one of our top priorities as we continue to represent Canadian Inuit's concerns and ambitions in international fora.

The sustainability of the ecosystems we depend on is a fundamental issue for ICC Canada. Biodiversity in the Arctic is critical as it is an essential element supporting our way of life. Similarly the sustainable utilization of our wildlife is of great importance for Canadian Inuit as it goes to the heart of who we are and how we live. Both our polar bears and our seals have been under attack over the past 12 months by the USA and the European Union respectively. ICC Canada has worked especially hard on these issues.

Encouraged by an escalating global hunger for the Arctic's natural resources and the ice-melting effects of climate change, the debate on unresolved sovereignty claims over parts of the Arctic has resurfaced. For the sake of Circumpolar Inuit, it is an international debate in which ICC must be involved. This is a fundamental issue for us because it impacts on our culture, our identity, our lands and the ecosystems that represent who we are. In the spirit of Barrow 1977, ICC Canada will be hosting a pan-Inuit workshop on Arctic sovereignty in Kuujjuaq in November this year.

In all, the past 12 months have seen important achievements by ICC Canada as we continue to uphold the goals of the ICC. An important milestone achieved for all Inuit and other indigenous peoples in 2007 was the adoption by the UN General Assembly of the Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This declaration which was 24 years in the making represents a significant advance in the protection of human rights for indigenous peoples. The disappointment however is the opposition to the Declaration of the Canadian Government which was one of only four countries to vote against it. Despite this opposition, ICC Canada continues to celebrate this great achievement and to lobby the Canadian Government to change its position.

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ICC Canada's success in fulfilling the expectations of Canadian Inuit depends on the support it receives from the communities we represent. If the achievements are to continue, that support must also continue. I would also like to thank all Canadian Inuit and the ICC Canada board members in particular for the great support you have provided since the last Annual General Meeting in 2007. We have been confronted with many challenges which were mostly met with your invaluable assistance.

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Duane Smith, President, ICC Canada & Lillian Elias, Canadian Member, International Inuit Elders Council

Photo courtesy of Paul Gibbard

OVERVIEW

Inuit Circumpolar Council

Since 1977, the Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) has flourished and grown into a major international nongovernment organization representing approximately 155 000 Inuit of Alaska, Canada, Greenland and Chukotka (Russia). The organization holds Consultative Status II at the United Nations.

To thrive in our circumpolar homeland, Inuit have the vision to speak with a united voice on issues of common concern and to combine our energies and talents towards protecting and promoting the Inuit way of life. The principle goals of ICC are, therefore, to:

- Strengthen unity among Inuit of the circumpolar region;
- Promote Inuit rights and interests on an international level;
- Develop and encourage long-term policies that safeguard the Arctic environment;
- Seek full and active partnerships in political, economic and social development in the circumpolar region.

ICC holds a General Assembly every four years at which time delegates from across the circumpolar region elect a new Chair and Executive Council, develop policies, and adopt resolutions that will guide the activities of the organization for the coming term. The General Assembly is the heart of the organization providing an opportunity for sharing information, discussing common concerns, debating issues and strengthening the common bond between all Inuit. Representatives from the Inuit Circumpolar Youth Council (ICYC) and the International Elders participate, thereby improving communication and creating synergy with these important affiliated organizations.

The ICC international office is housed with the Chair. Each member country maintains a national office under the political guidance of a President.

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Inuit Circumpolar Council (Canada)

The ICC in Canada is a non-profit organization led by a Board of Directors comprising the elected leaders of the four land claim settlement regions: Nunakput, Nunavut, Nunavik and Nunatsiavut (Labrador). The land claims settlement regions provide some core funding; however, raising additional resources to adequately pursue the objectives of ICC (Canada) and to effectively implement its initiatives remain a necessary and ongoing responsibility of the executive and staff.

ICC (Canada) greatly appreciates the generous donor support received for the year 2006-2007 without which the accomplishments of the past year would not have been possible. Please refer to Annex II for a list of donors and contributors.

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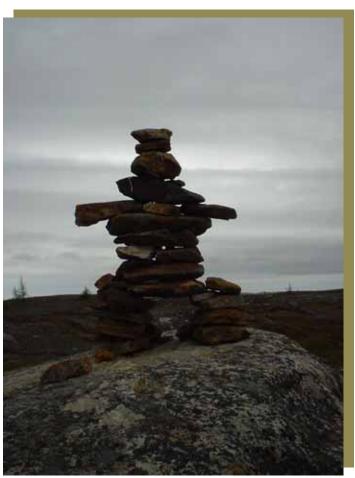


Photo courtesy of Paul Gibbard

ICC (Canada) Aims and Objectives

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

- ♦ 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 represent Canadian Inuit views on the Executive Council of the Inuit Circumpolar Council and to implement, in Canada, the resolutions emanating from the General Assemblies of the Inuit Circumpolar Council;
- ◆ To represent the interests of Canadian Inuit through our national organization, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK) and through our settlement claims organizations on matters of an international nature;
- ◆ To cooperate with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami in presenting the position of Canadian Inuit on international matters;
- ♦ 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 our 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;

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- ♦ 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 for 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 health, culture, language, values, human rights and any other matters that impact on the ability of Inuit to shape the future of our 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 ongoing dialogue with ministries of the Canadian government on issues of importance to Inuit in Russia, Alaska and Greenland and to promote rights and interests within Canada.

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ICC (Canada) Legal Status and Board

Membership

The Canadian branch of ICC was incorporated as a organization under the non-profit 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)

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GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

ICC Canada's relations with the Government of Canada

The breadth of the priority issues covered by ICC Canada during 2007-2008 made it more important than ever for ICC to enhance its ongoing constructive relations with a range of Canadian government agencies and in particular: the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND), Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), Health Canada, Environment Canada and Canadian Heritage. While the relationship with these agencies has been long-standing and largely positive, the Canadian Government's own increased emphasis on the Arctic, as highlighted in the October 2007 Throne Speech, has underscored the importance of strengthening even further these relationships to ensure Inuit issues and concerns are incorporated into the government's evolving Arctic policy approaches.

These agencies have also provided significant support for a range of activities undertaken by ICC Canada during 2007-2008.

An important strategic influence on the ICC-Canadian government relationship has been the International Dimension of the Inuit Action Plan (IAP) which was to be a road map for both government and Inuit to follow, as mandated under a former Partnership Accord signed between the Crown and Inuit mandates. The current Inuit Action Plan was developed jointly between ITK and ICC Canada, and submitted to the government for their agreement. The initial international component of the IAP - the International Dimension - contained ten (10) priority areas. In subsequent discussions with the Inuit Relations Secretariat (the unit within DIAND that is tasked with implementing the International Dimension together with ICC Canada), ICC Canada has been asked to identify five (5) of the most urgent priorities. While ICC Canada views that all 10 issues are important to pursue, it has agreed to work with the IRS on the following five (5) priorities:

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- ♦ Climate change
- ♦ Arctic Sovereignty
- ♦ Arctic Biodiversity
- ♦ Russian Cooperation
- Sustainable Utilizations

Territorial Governments

Following the release of the joint plan by Nunavut, Northwest Territories and Yukon called A Northern Vision: A Stronger North and Better Canada, ICC Canada is undertaking ongoing discussions with territorial the governments to identify ways in which ICC can support the plan's call for special attention to circumpolar and international issues and their link the territorial to governments.

CIRCUMPOLAR RELATIONS

Working with other ICC offices

A key aim and objective of ICC Canada is 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. In pursuing that goal and in response to directives under the Utqiagvik Declaration, ICC Canada joined with other ICC offices to advance work on a number of key issues throughout 2007-2008. This included the development of a comprehensive roadmap for ICC on climate change and the post-Kyoto framework initiating the implementation of the Circumpolar Inuit Health Action Plan as well as supporting ICC Russia.

ICC Canada also supported the ICC Chair, Patricia Cochran, in her work on climate change. This has included using ICC's NGO Status at the United Nations to secure the participation of the ICC Chair in the UN Secretary-General's High Level Event on climate change in New York in September 2007 which she addressed on behalf of the world's indigenous peoples. ICC Canada was also able to support the ICC delegation to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Bali in December 2007 where ICC hosted a side event and spoke at a number of other events.

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As well, ICC Canada participated in a workshop convened by ICC's Vice-Chair (Greenland), Aqqaluk Lynge, in February 2008 to explore options and assist in the preparation of a paper on ICC renewal and restructuring. This had been the focus of much discussion at the 2006 Barrow General Assembly and is the subject of a directive under the Utqiagvik Declaration. At the same workshop, participants also discussed ways in which ICC's *Principles and Elements for a Comprehensive Arctic Policy* might be updated.



Russian Cooperation

One of the stated mandates for ICC coming out of the Utqiagvik Declaration is to seek means of strengthening the capacity of the ICC office in Chukotka. To that end, ICC Canada has been energetic in exploring ways to attract support for the capacity building work. ICC Canada was successful in receiving support from DIAND's Circumpolar Liaison Directorate to enable it to plan for the next stage of ICC Canada-ICC Russia cooperation. In addition, the 2007 MOU between DIAND and the Russian Federation's Ministry of Regional Development provides further opportunity to promote cooperation between Canadian Inuit and Inuit from Russia. ICC Canada also participated in an international conference hosted by the Canadian Government in Ottawa in November 2007 on the economic, strategic and geopolitical developments in Russia and the implications for Canadian-Russian relations.

Sovereignty

With the rapidly growing significance of sovereignty issues and its potential impact on circumpolar Inuit, it has been important for ICC Canada to remain informed and a major contributor to the ongoing dialogue and policy development on this issue. To advance this work, ICC Canada initiated work in 2007-2008 on Inuit-centred policies and responses to Arctic sovereignty. The work has involved analysis of the current policies and approaches by the respective Arctic countries and the planning of an Inuit Circumpolar sovereignty workshop to be held on 7 November 2008 as a way of commemorating *Inuit Day*, which was designated as such at the 2006 General Assembly.

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ARCTIC COUNCIL

The importance of circumpolar and international aspects of the Arctic continued to increase exponentially in 2007-2008 making significant demands on ICC Canada to strengthen even further its involvement in the critical areas of the Through the permanent Arctic Council. participant status that all six indigenous peoples' organizations enjoy, ICC Canada made the Arctic Council a significant priority. Despite the challenge of covering all the necessary bases on Arctic Council and related matters, ICC Canada continued its significant contribution to the issues being dealt with. In particular, it participated in: Senior Arctic Officials meetings (Tromso, April 2007; Vadso, October 2007);

- Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME)/Arctic Marine Shipping and Assessment (AMSA) scenario workshop, San Francisco, April 2007;
- AMSA/Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG)/AMSA Health Cluster workshop, Ottawa, June 2007;
- ♦ AMAP Mercury Experts group, Copenhagen, October 2007; and the
- Senior Arctic officials meeting, Narvik, November 2007.

ICC Canada participated in the Canadian Government-hosted Canadian Arctic Council Advisory committee meetings September 2007; and January 2008). This committee provides the Federal Government, territorial governments and the three Canadian-based permanent participants the opportunity to exchange ideas and views prior to international Ministerial and Senior Arctic Officials meetings.

A significant initiative that ICC Canada is taking the lead on is the Arctic Indigenous Languages Symposium, scheduled to be held in October 2008. This symposium was a Canadian Government initiative agreed to at the 10th anniversary of the Arctic Council when it met at Salekhard, Russia, in October 2006.

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The symposium, which is being organized by ICC Canada in conjunction with Canadian Heritage and the Saami Council, is aimed at providing a forum for discussing challenges to preserving indigenous languages in the circumpolar region.

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Tromsø Harbour / Photo Courtesy of Carole Simon

Also particularly noteworthy amongst the Arctic-related work carried out by ICC Canada during the year was the report it developed specifically for Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment (AMSA). This report, entitled The Sea Ice is our Highway: An Inuit perspective on transportation in the Arctic provides AMSA with an Inuit perspective on the human dimension of shipping. This report, which represents a direct communication from Inuit northern in communities to AMSA, identified three key findings related to tradition and adaptation, standard of sustainable use; and that the sea remains the Inuit highway, whether in summer or winter.



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Aqqaluk Lynge, President, ICC Greenland Mary Simon, President ITK visiting the CCGS AMUNDSEN Vessel Photo Courtesy Pitsey Moss-Davies



Photo courtesy of Dan Rees

The Sea Ice is Our Highway

At the 4th Arctic Council Ministerial meeting held in Reykjavik in 2004, it was decided that a comprehensive Arctic marine shipping assessment (AMSA) should be conducted as a follow up to two key Arctic Council reports the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment and the Arctic Marine Strategic Plan. AMSA is a circumpolar assessment of social, economic and environmental factors impacting on Arctic shipping and is being conducted by the Arctic Council's Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME) Working Group.

In order to provide the Inuit perspective to AMSA, ICC Canada compiled a report in March 2008 based on historical Inuit land use, occupancy studies and interviews with current-day Inuit hunters and elders from various communities.

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The report was titled *The Sea Ice is Our Highway* and it gives voice to Inuit experiences and concerns about transportation in the Arctic. Here are some views of three of the hunters interviewed for the report:

"We have a hunters and trappers committee here, we take care of the wildlife. We deal with the people, we deal with the shipping companies. We have done some things where after freeze-up, the ships are not allowed to come into the harbour. But this past year, because of late shipping to other communities, we had to keep our harbour open longer than usual because the supplies hadn't gone out to

the other communities. "The community of Tuktoyaktuk is right in a harbour where a lot of fishing takes place. There are two entrances to the Tuk harbour. What we call the west entrance is where the smaller boats come in, and over by the east entrance is where the larger ships come in. The east entrance is a place where a lot of people here that do their fishing set their nets right in the channel. Because the ships had made a ship track through the east entrance, they kept it open up right until November sometime, and the people couldn't set their nets there because of the ships going back and forth. That is one of the impacts of shipping on our harvest."

Chucky Gruben Tuktoyaktuk Inuvialuit Settlement Region

"A few years ago there were 28 whale hunters who went out to go hunting. I love to take pictures, so I was filming our trip the whole way with my video camera. We ended up getting three whales, but because of the ice conditions that the ships left, there was almost like a disaster. We lost skidoos and equipment [when they fell through the ice]. Because I was taping the whole thing, I was a witness and we got compensated for the skidoos and hunting equipment we lost. The people who came in the helicopters asked for my tape, which they used to give us skidoos. They were smart enough to realize that they had wrecked the area with their ships and it was their fault, so they ended up compensating us for what we had lost."

> Tommy Tatateapik Arctic Bay, Nunavut

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"In one way [ships are] good for us. We need material, we need housing, we need goods, of course. But in another way, when it comes to hunting and fishing, there are less animals that come around our shores if there's a big boat offloading, with its big lights and so on. That scares off some of the marine mammals that do come here. Therefore it affects the hunting when there's a big boat anchored in the middle of the bay."

Paulusie Novalinga Puvirnituq, Nunavik "�� (ÞΓ४२४९) ΛΡΥΔ>Δ ΡΥΠ"Δ.

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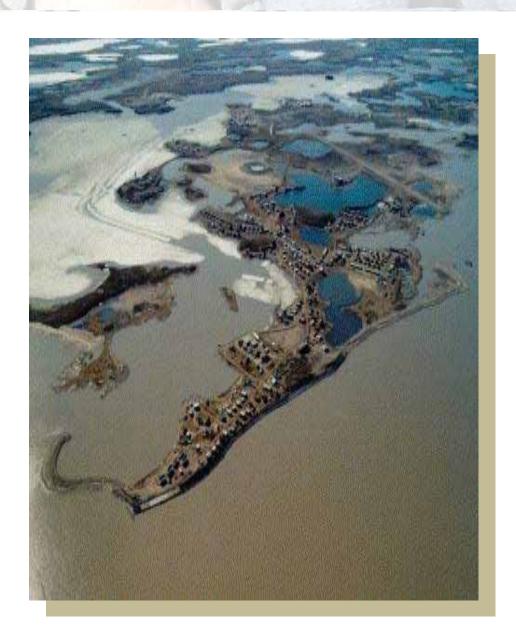
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Climate change is not just a theory to us in the Arctic;

it is a stark and dangerous reality.

~Patricia Cochran, ICC Chair~

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ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

As the causes and consequences of climate change are increasingly understood and the global community scales up its response and dedication of resources, Inuit involvement and participation in the processes which are determining the global response has never been more important. For ICC Canada, climate change stands out as a most significant challenge with consequences impacting on so many aspects of Canadian and other circumpolar Inuit lives. At the same time, other environment issues continue to demand ICC's attention. including global efforts to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity and to reduce worldwide emissions of contaminants that end up in the Arctic. Sustainable utilization issues also continue to require ICC action particularly in the lead up throughout 2007-2008 to the decision by the USA to designate the polar bear as a threatened species and the EU's threat to impose a seal product import ban.

Guiding ICC Canada's work in environment issues and sustainable utilization are several articles of the Utqiagvik Declaration which, in summary, direct ICC to:

- continue to address the impacts in the Arctic of human-induced climate change (Article 10);
- maintain its efforts to reduce worldwide emissions of contaminants (Article 11);
- further develop and increase its participation inthe Convention on Biological Diversity (Article 12);
- participate in international bodies....to defend the right of Inuit to harvest marine mammals (Article 15);
- use and where appropriate lobby international and regional bodies...to help promote trade of Inuit goods and services...that do not adversely affect Inuit hunting, fishing and gathering rights (Article 16);

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- explore approaches and guidelines to protect intellectual property of the Inuit (Article 17); and
- enter into discussions...on existing and newly developing international sustainability covenants (Article 18).

Climate Change

In 2007, the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issued its 4th Assessment, Climate Change 2007, which confirmed that climate change was occurring globally with severe and negative consequences and that the Arctic would be disproportionately affected. The findings of the IPCC, which won the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize in partnership with former USA Vice-President Al Gore for its climate change work, confirmed what Inuit communities throughout circumpolar region were experiencing. Enunciating this experience and communicating it to the world also earned ICC's former chair, Sheila Watt-Cloutier, a nomination for the same Nobel Peace Prize.

The consequences of climate change can be felt and seen throughout the Arctic - in the environment, in economic development, culture, wildlife, health and wellness. Although Inuit have always been a highly adaptive people learning new ways of surviving the Arctic variations in climate, the global nature of climate change and its ramifications means that the response requires more than local adaptation; it requires a concerted and visionary international effort which reflects the understanding that the Arctic indicator ecosystem is the of global environmental health.

A vital role for ICC, on behalf of Inuit, is to ensure that Inuit perspectives and concerns on climate change are incorporated into national, circumpolar and global decision making. ICC recognizes the ongoing need for Inuit to engage with the circumpolar and international processes including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), United Nations Convention on Biodiversity(CBD),

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United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) and the Arctic Council to ensure the Inuit knowledge and perspective is considered and reflected in these processes.

ICC Canada participated in one of the most significant meetings to be held on climate change in 2007-2008 - the thirteenth session of the UNFCCC's Conference of the Parties (COP 13) in Bali. This meeting culminated in the adoption of the Bali Road Map which amongst other things charts the course for a new negotiating process for the post-Kyoto framework. Indigenous peoples were excluded from the earlier development of the UNFCCC and the negotiations on the Kyoto Protocol so ICC is working hard to ensure that the concerns and contributions of circumpolar Inuit will be considered in the post-Kyoto framework negotiations. An ICC strategy has been developed to guide it in the work it will need to accomplish in the lead up to the critical COP 15 in Copenhagen in 2009 when the post-Kyoto framework is expected to be adopted.

Biodiversity

Preserving the delicate and unique Arctic biological diversity and associated Inuit traditional knowledge is a continuing goal for ICC Canada. In pursuing this goal, ICC Canada has an ongoing and strong involvement in the processes and negotiations linked to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). ICC Canada's Vice President, Violet Ford, has been a participant at the CBD meetings since 2006. The work undertaken by ICC Canada in this process is also important because of the linkages between climate change and the impact on biological diversity.

Because of the significance of biodiversity issues to Canadian Inuit, ICC Canada's Board of Directors agreed in February 2008 that ICC's contribution to the issue could be stepped up even further by pursuing the development of an Arctic specific protocol guiding biodiversity issues and work in the Arctic region with particular reference to Inuit-related issues. A draft of a proposed protocol is expected to be

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ready for consideration by the 2010 ICC General Assembly in Greenland. Other work undertaken by ICC Canada on biodiversity included participation in the Arctic Council CAFF meetings related to the Arctic Biodiversity Assessment.

Contaminants

While the adoption of the Stockholm Convention on the Elimination of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in 2001, in which ICC played a significant role, was a major advance in the international response to contaminants that end up in the Arctic threatening the health and well-being of Inuit and the environment, there is still significant work and challenges in this area which ICC Canada continues to be involved in.

ICC Canada continues to lobby sovereign States to ratify the Convention and to support a global monitoring program. ICC Canada remains an energetic member of the management committee of the Northern Contaminants Program (NCP) which was established in 1991 in response to concerns about human exposure to elevated levels of contaminants in wildlife species that are important to the traditional diets of northern Aboriginal peoples.

ICC Canada also works through the Arctic Council's Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program (AMAP) in the management of the research that monitors legacy POPs and new and emerging chemicals of concern in the Arctic. This data is used by ICC Canada to lobby for the addition of new substances to the Stockholm Convention. In addition, ICC is working to ensure that the interests of Inuit are considered in the UN's Economic Commission for Europe Long Range Transport of Airborne Pollutants process.

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Sustainable Utilization

The USA's listing of polar bears as threatened and the EU's renewed push to ban seal products were the two major issues related to the sustainable utilization of wildlife. These challenges demanded significant ICC Canada attention in 2007-2008. In both cases, ICC worked closely with ITK in developing a comprehensive and coordinated Canadian Inuit response to these two significant issues challenging Inuit livelihoods.

On the polar bear issue, ICC President Duane Smith had been asked by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to review the petition materials regarding the December 2006 proposal by the USA's Secretary of Interior to list the polar bear as a threatened species under their Endangered Species Act (ESA). In his review findings sent to USFWS in June 2007, Mr. Smith reiterated ICC's opposition to the listing of polar bears as threatened adding that the 12-month Petition Finding and Proposed Rule was flawed, biased, and incomplete. With legal and public opinion pressure mounting from the three environmental advocacy groups - the Center for Biological Diversity, the Natural Resources Defense Council and Greenpeace International Inc. – which had been behind the initial challenge to the US Government on the polar bear issue, the USFWS issued its decision in May 2008 to list the polar bear as threatened.

However, Canada's Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife (COSEWIC), which completed its review and assessment of Canada's Polar Bear populations in April 2007, has recommended the status remain as a species of "Special Concern", which is below that of "Threatened" and carries no added measures for conservation of polar bears in Canada than what currently exists.

One of the arguments ICC Canada has consistently made is to allow the comanagement bodies in Canada to do their job and that they are more than qualified to do so.

With regard to the renewed EU consideration to ban the import of seal products ICC Canada

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In addition to the focus on these two major issues, ICC continued to be actively involved in other wildlife issues through organizations including the International Whaling Commission (IWC), the World Conservation Union (IUCN), North Atlantic Marine Mammal Conservation Organization (NAMMCO) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

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RESEARCH

ArcticNet

ICC Canada continues to be very actively involved in the ArcticNet program, bringing to it the voice of Canadian and other Inuit. ArcticNet is a network of scientists and managers from Canadian Centres for Excellence in health, physical and social sciences. Focusing on the impact of climate change in the coastal Canadian Arctic, it partners them with Inuit organizations, northern communities, government agencies and the private sector.

2007-2008 ICC's involvement in was comprehensive. As a member of the Board of Directors, ICC Canada President, Duane Smith, attended all board meetings while ICC's science advisor, Stephanie Meakin attended all of the Research Management Committee meetings held during the year. ICC's involvement in ArcticNet has enabled Inuit to cast a new light on Arctic research and has ensured that Inuit research advisers play a key role in ArcticNet's considerations. ICC Canada is able to apply the research work coming out of ArticNet to policy at national, circumpolar and international levels. This includes using its influential position as a Permanent Participant to the Arctic Council to disseminate coordinate and international research activity taking into account ArcticNet findings.

ICC is working towards ensuring circumpolar Inuit engagement at the 2009 International Arctic Change Meeting in Quebec City. ICC is also facilitating the development of a large ArcticNet project entitled, "Integrating and Translating ArcticNet Science for Sustainable Communities and Global Policy and Decision Making".

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International Polar Year

As part of International Polar Year 2007-2008, the Government of Canada is focusing support on northern research priorities – climate change impacts and adaptation as well as the health and wellbeing of northern communities. As a member of the Canadian National Steering Committee.



ICC Canada continued its role of advising on the development of the overall IPY program in Canada as well as participating in the science review and social cultural review committees all with the aim of ensuring that IPY activities bring maximum benefit to Inuit. ICC has also been working with ITK to develop an Arctic Resiliency IPY project.

A major activity that ICC Canada is involved in is the Circumpolar Flaw Lead (CFL) System Study.

As leader of the Team 10 element of the major study, ICC Canada is working in partnership with the Inuvialuit Settlement Region communities and organizations to implement four key components:

- 1. traditional knowledge study;
- 2. a Circumpolar Inuit Climate change policy workshop;
- assessment of past successful community-based monitoring programs;
- 4. facilitation of the Circumpolar Inuit Schools on Board field program.

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Significant progress has been made throughout the year and plans were well in hand for the hosting of the Circumpolar Climate change policy workshop to take place on board the SS Amundsen in April 2008. ICC's work on this activity has significant ties to other flaw lead work in the circumpolar Arctic including in the Laptev Sea and in the Norwegian Sea.

ICC Canada is also participating in the key workshops organized by the Arctic Council's IPY initiative — Sustained Arctic Observing Networks. SAON brings together international organizations, agencies and northern communities involved in research and local observing and has been formed to develop a set of recommendations on long-term Arctic-wide observing activities.

CINE

ICC Canada continued as a member of the CINE Board of Directors in 2007-2008. CINE - Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Nutrition and Environment – is located at McGill University and was created in response to a need expressed by Canada's aboriginal peoples for participatory research and education to address concerns about the integrity of their traditional food systems. As the issue of food security throughout the Circumpolar region escalates as a key concern, CINE is an important source of advice in identifying appropriate research and education responses.

Nasivvik

ICC Canada is a member of the board of directors of the Nasivvik Centre which has been established to facilitate education, training and research on Inuit Health and Changing Environments. Based in the Public Health Research Unit at Laval University in Quebec, it is part of a national network and is intended to address Aboriginal health training and research needs.

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HEALTH

The health and wellbeing of Circumpolar Inuit has been a longstanding priority issue for ICC Canada. In 2007-2008, the importance of its work in this area was underscored and guided by two articles of the Utqiagvik Declaration which directed ICC to hold a pan-Inuit summit on social challenges, including health and wellbeing and to develop a Circumpolar Inuit Health Action Plan.

In response to these directives, ICC negotiated funds from Health Canada to advance work on Circumpolar Inuit health issues. Because of Health Canada's internal financial requirements which do not allow it to fund internationally-focused organizations, the funds are directed through ITK. As such, ITK and ICC Canada entered into a formal agreement in December 2007 to develop and implement the Circumpolar Inuit Health Action Plan. The plan, for which ICC is expected to receive funding over three years, aims to identify the health issues, priorities and mechanisms to advance Inuit health priorities. It also aims to facilitate Inuit involvement in international engagements on health.

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Rose Ann Kayotuk, Violet Ford & Lillian Elias
Palenque, Mexico
Photo courtesy of Jocelyne Durocher

With 2007-2008 representing the first stage of the plan, ICC Canada has made progress on a number of levels. An important element of the plan is the formation of a Circumpolar Steering Committee which is expected to have representatives from each of the ICC countries. Work is well underway in forming this committee which will be important in ensuring a fruitful exchange of information on the challenges, emerging trends and best practices in circumpolar Inuit health. The steering committee will also have an advisory role in the planning and staging of the pan-Inuit summit called for under the Utqiagvik Declaration. In keeping with the plan, ICC Canada has increased its involvement and participation in a range of national health organizations and events which focus on Inuit health issues. This has included:

- Participation as an observer at the regular National Inuit Committee on Health (NICoH) meetings;
- Participation in the Inuit Health Summit organized by ITK in January 2008 and the National Aboriginal Health Summit in March 2008;
- Strengthened collaboration with Health Canada's First Nations and Inuit Health branch
- Monitoring of and participation in the development of International Polar Year health initiatives.

ICC Canada has also participated in a range of circumpolar and international meetings as part of its effort to pursue the objectives of the Circumpolar Inuit Health Action Plan. This has included membership of the AMAP Expert Working Group on Mercury and its attendance at the initial meetings in Copenhagen to ensure that Inuit health concerns related to mercury were considered. AMAP's Oil and Gas Assessment has also been a priority area of focus for ICC Canada, again to ensure Inuit health issues are considered.

Internationally, ICC Canada played a key role in the staging of the tri-nations 2008 North American Aboriginal Environment Health Forum, renamed the Convening of Indigenous Peoples for the Health of Mother Earth (CIPHME) and held in Mexico from 10 – 13 March 2008.

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ICC Canada was the lead Inuit organization responsible for arranging the participation of Canadian Inuit in the CIPHME as well as being one of the two Canadian indigenous organizations on the international steering committee which oversaw the organization of the Convening. The purpose of the meeting was to look at ways in which environmental issues impact on human health and conversely the impact of human activity on the environment.

An Inuit delegation of 10, led by ICC Canada's Vice President, Violet Ford, attended the conference which attracted more than 200 representatives of indigenous groups from Canada, USA and Mexico. ICC's involvement in the organization of and participation in this meeting was based on the recognition that Inuit representation at this, the first gathering of its kind, was important to ensure that Inuit views on environment and health had a voice.



ICC Executive Council Members Front: Patricia Cochran, ICC Chair

Left to right: Chuck Greene, Vice Chair - ICC Alaska, Natalia Rodionova, Vice Chair - ICC Chukotka,
Violet Ford, Executive Council Member - ICC Canada, Carl Christian Olsen, Executive Council Member - ICC Greenland,
Aqqaluk Lynge, Vice Chair - ICC Greenland, Edward Itta, Executive Council Member - ICC Alaska
Luba Tayan, Executive Council Member - ICC Chukotka, Duane Smith, Vice Chair - ICC Canada

HUMAN RIGHTS

United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

After 24 years of negotiation and deliberation, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was adopted by the UN General Assembly (UNGA) on 13 September 2007. The Declaration was approved after 143 member states voted in favour, 11 abstained and four voted against the text. ICC Executive Vice-Chair (Greenland), Aqqaluk Lynge, had been the ICC lead on this file, working closely with ICC Canada and numerous indigenous peoples' organizations from around the world to develop a lobbying strategy for attracting support for the Declaration.

While this outcome is a monumental step forward in the protection of indigenous peoples' human rights, it was disappointing that Canada, which had been an early supporter of the Declaration's negotiations, was one of the four countries to vote against it. USA, New Zealand and Australia were the other three. ICC Canada has been working with other Canadian indigenous organizations in a concerted effort to convince the Canadian Government to reconsider its position. In a move signaling its support of this effort, the Canadian House of Commons adopted a resolution in April 2008 to endorse the Declaration as adopted by the UN and called on the government to "fully implement the standards contained therein". ICC Canada continues to celebrate this historic initiative for all indigenous peoples.

Organization of American States Draft Declaration

In the wake of the UNGA's adoption of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Organization of American States (OAS) working group preparing the draft American Declaration met once more in April 2008 to continue negotiations. ICC Canada participated in this session, as it has in previous negotiating sessions. The USA and Canada's position on the draft American Declaration continued to mirror their position taken on the UN Declaration.

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UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

After three years of holding the Europe/Arctic seat on the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, ICC handed the position to the Saami Council in January 2008. The seat, which had been held by ICC Vice-Chair (Greenland) Aqqaluk Lynge, rotates between ICC and the Saami Council on a three year basis. ICC Canada continues to participate in the Permanent Forum which is the UN's central coordinating body for matters relating to the rights and concerns of the world's indigenous peoples.

UN Human Rights Council - New Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

In December 2007, the UN Human Rights Council voted to create the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. ICC Canada working closely with ICC Greenland participated in the negotiations which shaped the expert group's mandate and terms of reference. ICC's participation in the development of this new expert group follows its significant involvement over 25 years with its predecessor, the Working Group on Indigenous Populations.



Photo courtesy of Paul Gibbard

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YOUTH & ELDERS

ICC Canada has continued to encourage and coordinate the participation of youth and elders in circumpolar and international activities.

This past year Jonathan Epoo Vice Chair for Canada, Inuit Circumpolar Youth Council and Lillian Elias, Vice President for Canada, International Inuit Elders Council, attended the ICC Annual General Meeting in Kuujjuaq in June 2007. Lillian travelled from Inuvik, and while in Kuujjuaq, had the opportunity to meet with local elders in the community. Lillian Elias, Jonathan Epoo and Wynter Kuliktana attended the conference Emerging Inuit Leaders - Igniting a Language Movement, held in Kotzebue, Alaska in July 2007. ICYC organized the event and invited participants from the circumpolar countries to participate.

In December, Jonathan and Pitsey Moss-Davies our ICC Canada Research Coordinator, participated in the training programme *Indigenous Peoples in the International System* held by the International Training Centre for Indigenous Peoples (ITCIP), in Illulisat, Greenland.

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Immediately following the course Jonathan travelled as part of the ICC delegation to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) CoP 13 in Bali, Indonesia.

Youth and Elders were valuable members of the ICC Canada delegation to a North American Indigenous Peoples health conference held in Palenque, Mexico under the auspices of the Commission on Environmental Cooperation. ICC participation in the event was coordinated by Yvonne Moorhouse our ICC Canada Youth Intern.

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Summarized Financial Statements of

INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR COUNCIL (CANADA) INC.

Year ended March 31, 2008

AUDITORS' REPORT

The accompanying summarized statement of financial position and summarized statement of operations and changes in net assets are derived from the complete financial statements of Inuit Circumpolar Council (Canada) Inc. (formerly Inuit Circumpolar Conference (Canada) Inc.) as at March 31, 2008 on which we expressed an opinion without reservation in our report dated May 12, 2008. The fair summarization of the complete financial statements is the responsibility of management. Our responsibility, accordance with the applicable Assurance Guideline of The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, is to report on the summarized financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements fairly summarize, in all material respects, the related complete financial statements in accordance with the criteria described in the Guideline referred to above.

These summarized financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes. For more information on the entity's financial position, results of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows, reference should be made to the related complete financial statements.

Chartered Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

Ottawa, Canada - May 12, 2008

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LA 12, 2008

INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR COUNCIL (CANADA) INC.

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March 31, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

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		2008		2007
Assets / ∧ ^c d∩ ^c				
Current assets: ∧ร่d∩Ր⊁⊳๙ჾ Ľ°ฉ :				
Cash / Þoobեն	\$	160,282	\$	78,955
Temporary investments				
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Accounts receivable				
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Prepaid expenses				
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		401,138		154,065
Capital assets / ៱៰d៱៰៴៰ ៱៸៴៴៴៰		41,388		51,406
	\$	442,526	\$	205,471
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Accounts payable and accrued liabilities ರ್ಷ-೧೯೬೧ ರ್ಷ ರಟ್ಟು ರಾಜ್ಯ-೧೯೬೩ ಕಂಡ	\$	242 243	\$	106 164
Deferred revenue / ሶ쇼ኦታቴር ህ প ሶቴት L ተና		163,412		56,250
Current portion of capital lease obligation				
ላዮርላር ህንዓርት ላጋምጋላነውነ <u>ታ</u> ላプየጋየ		6,156		6,015
		411,811		168,429
Capital lease obligation				
/לחוזלער 1704/04,040 היקר 1704/04/		22,710		28,865
Net assets: ארי⊃רי ∧יּארי:				
Invested in capital assets / ለቦታካረር ላህ ተና ለናለበና ተላበ ነር		12,522		16,526
Unrestricted deficiency / ÞơĐՈՎԵԳՐԸ ՎՐԱՒՈՎՐ		(4,517)		(8,349
<u> </u>		8,005		8,177
	\$	442,526	\$	205,471
On behalf of the Board:				
		0	-11	
C. Cdam	Hu	gre fra	B	
J. dam				

Director

Director

INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR COUNCIL (CANADA) INC. ΔΔ^c PPP^cC^cDTP^cbnr^c bnl²C^c (bac) nr^cU^c

Summarized Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

Year ended March 31, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

	2008	2007
venue: PaphsbCがtc:		
Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada		
Δ $_{\text{C}}$	\$ 358,348	\$ 434,919
Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami		
$\Delta D \nabla_c C V V C P C C$	243,038	38,330
Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.		
ን ^ተ ገብ ⁴ ልህ ^ም ር ንዲወ	75,000	75,000
Inuvialuit Regional Corporation		
ውሲያና ጋግሀልኑ በ୮ ሀናክ	75,000	75,000
I.C.C. Foundation – (re: Air Inuit – Makivik)		
ΔΦΦς ΡΟδεςωλιρομούς ΡΟΓΡευς - (V-¬): ΦΦΦς δρευςέρος - ΓΕΘΕ)	75,000	84,000
Government of Nunavut		00.000
LQL°UC Dasc	77,000	90,000
Nunatsiavut Government	75.000	00.75
	75,000	68,750
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade	124 277	200 647
ለ⊏ሲልኈႱ bሲርኦና ለፎርውኈሁለሮሲውና』ና ርኦጭለጭጋናውና』ናጋ Health Canada	134,377	208,614
nealth Canada י⁴יס⊲יווי Canada י+סיסיסיים בתאישי שברר		50,000
Canadian Heritage	_	50,000
Canadian Hentage baCl Δc%d/cabd	92,690	30,000
National Aboriginal Health Organization	92,090	30,000
baccil Lasbighia Health Organization baccil Lasbibbos deadstable bytes	_	10,000
Canadian Economic Development Corporation - Quebec Region	ons	10,000
bacr βabycbs/ of 4 dd>id - d<Δbr	_	20,000
Industry Canada		20,000
taton) ounau	_	25,000
Government of Northwest Territories		20,000
ሆደ∿ሆ	35,000	25,000
Canadian Council for the Arts	,	.,
Pacl pursual representations and pack supplies the pursual representation of the pack supplies the pac	_	24,000
Transport Canada		,
∇_{σ} ሁሪሪ ነው የተመሰመ ነው የተመሰ	_	5,000
DND – Security & Defence Forum		,
bacr ραςθυνταλνός - Υ>rrγασφ αςσωριτηςησασφ	_	2,500

International Centre for Human Rights & Democracy		0.500
ᠴᡆ᠅ᡃᢐ᠒ᡥᡳᡗ᠅᠋ᠫᡃᢐᢗᡃᢐᢤ᠘᠘᠘᠘᠂᠕ᢞ᠊ᡆ᠌᠌᠌ᠺᡥᡗᡥ᠘᠂᠙᠘ᠸ᠊ᡳᠣᡃ᠋᠋ᡃ᠋ I.C.C. Foundation	_	2,500
I.C.C. Foundation ΔΔΔ ^C ΦΡΦ [®] C [®] DΓΦ [®] DΠ ^C C bΛL ^E C ^C PΔΦ ^E S [®] DF [®] D		75,976
I.C.C. Foundation (re: Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation	_	75,976
I.C.C. Padyton (re. waiter and burican Gordon Foundation I.C.C. Padyton (ペン ペト C°b° Jac° Padyton ()	10,039	55,000
University of Manitoba	10,039	33,000
Lσ)<>> Δc°σ \d \begin{aligned} \d\begin{aligned} \daligne	304,163	_
Laval University	504,105	
- αναι στινοισική - αναι στινοισική	111,619	108,294
The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation	111,010	100,201
5° N. 4'L 605° N. 1°40 Partid N°1°	9,930	55,464
Miscellaneous	0,000	00, 10 1
4/°/rc	34,034	85,527
	1,710,238	1,648,874
penses: Þadygoðs		
Salaries, benefits and contracts		
ρ _σ Δρ. Α.	520,475	553,521
Professional fees	020,170	000,021
	512,456	310,085
Travel and accommodation	0.12, .00	0.0,000
ᡠᢤᢕᢗᢕ᠓ᠵ᠂ᡔᢤᡗᢣᡣ᠓ᢣᠴ	461,542	500,490
Operating costs	,	
4pc,4Upc	64,349	136,907
Communications	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	, , , , ,
$DPF_24U^2U^2U^2U^2U^2U^2U^2U^2U^2U^2U^2U^2U^2U$	79,038	47,765
Office rent	,	,.
ሳ ⁻ ርል ^ւ ୮ ላጋ ⁻ የጋላ ⁻ σ ⁻ ገ ⁻	56,747	80,069
Amortization of capital assets	,	,
₫₽Ċ₽Ÿ₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽₽	15,803	22,509
	1,710,410	1,651,346
eficiency of revenue over expenses		
LPNts Papside over expenses	(172)	(2,472
t consta haginging of year	· ·	•
et assets, beginning of year ֈ՟_>Ր৽ ^ᆟd∩Րᢣ⊳ᢣᡕ, ◁ṇᠲᠠᢣ ∧ՐՉ℩Ծ৽ᲡԺ	Ω 177	10 640
ו בו זאלי, איזט׳ או איס יטס יובר א איזעלי, איזט׳ או איס יטס	8,177	10,649
et assets, end of year		
dN°, <\\\\-\sightarrow\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	\$ 8,005	\$ 8,177

ANNEX I

Δ CL Δ 5U I

Inuit Circumpolar Council Offices Contact Information

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Website: www.inuit.org

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ANNEX II

∆CL⊲SU II

Donor Acknowledgement

ICC (Canada) has much gratitude for the ongoing support of our donors and is pleased to acknowledge the following contributors for fiscal year 2006-2007.

- ♦ Austrian Research Centre
- ♦ Canadian Heritage
- ♦ Environment Canada
- ♦ First Air
- ◆ Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada, Circumpolar Affairs Division
- ♦ Government of Northwest Territories
- ♦ Government of Nunavut
- ♦ Indian and Northern Affairs Canada:
 - Circumpolar Liaison Directorate
 - O Climate Change Adaptation
 - Northern Contaminants Program
 - o Inuit Relations Secretariat
 - Youth Employment Strategy Program
- ♦ Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami
- ♦ Inuvialuit Charitable Foundation
- John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
- ♦ Laval University, ArcticNet
- ♦ Makivik Corporation
- ♦ Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
- ♦ Transport Canada
- ♦ UNEP / GRID Arendal
- University of Manitoba
- ♦ Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation

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- ♦ UNEP / GRID Arendal
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