



INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR COUNCIL

UTQIAGVIK DECLARATION **THE ARCTIC WE WANT**
REPORT OF ACTIVITIES JULY 2018 – JULY 2022



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A MESSAGE FROM THE ICC CHAIR

As we prepare for the virtual 14th ICC General Assembly, originally scheduled for Ilulissat, Kalaallit Nunaat, we offer this report of the activities, events and projects that the ICC has developed and engaged in since the Utqiagvik Declaration was adopted on 19 July 2018. It is unfortunate that we cannot meet in person to share the spirit of our people through a cultural celebration and a substantive dialogue on the issues that are impacting us across Inuit Nunaat.

In the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we honor those that have worked to keep our communities safe, healthy and strong and we mourn for those we have lost to this virus. Inuit have risen above the ongoing pandemic and have made contributions in creative and important ways, from Zoom meetings to increased activity out on the land, sea ice, and in our coastal waters. We remain grateful to the leadership across Inuit Nunaat for their continuing actions to minimize the impact of COVID-19 and its emerging variants. Ultimately, we thank every Inuk that has assisted the Inuit Circumpolar Council in our collective work with deeds both large and small, over the past four years.

When Inuit address issues of common concern with a unified voice, we find strength in our unity. This principle was first articulated at the founding meeting of ICC in 1977 and it remains true today. The theme of the 2018 Utqiagvik General Assembly was “The Arctic We Want”. Our vision is one of a world where Inuit are leading the way in every facet of our lives, creating and sustaining a future we can be proud to be a part of and which supports our distinct identity as Inuit.

Furthermore, we have collectively recognized the interrelated, interdependent, interconnected and indivisible nature of our way of life, our values and our relationships within our communities and with our environment. Our work has consistently reinforced Inuit views and the key dimensions of our cultural characteristics and identity. We have sought to underscore this holistic perspective in every single forum that we participated in over the past four years. Examples include the linkages between environmental health and human health; food security and sustainable development; and Indigenous Knowledge and our right to

directly participate in decisions that affect us. There are many examples of this effort outlined in this report, and we hope that you recognize this underlying foundation as a strength of the ICC.

I look forward to an in-person gathering in July 2023 in the host community of Ilulissat, where we will be able to gather, sing, dance, hear the stories of young and old and also to welcome a new era for the Inuit Circumpolar Council. It has been an honor for me to serve as the ICC Chair. I hope that you accept this report and our work with approval.



INTRODUCTION

The **Utqiaġvik Declaration** adopted on 19 July 2018 set out ICC's directives for the 2018-2022 term. An unprecedented Strategic Planning Workshop was held in December 2018, resulting in the adoption of an Implementation Plan to advance the work of ICC.

Three key objectives were identified in the Implementation Plan, referring to strategic focus areas that would have far-reaching impacts on organizational performance. The three areas included: Improving Communications, Improving Youth Engagement and Strengthening Collaboration and Teamwork.

Implementation teams were organized with representation from every ICC country, and to date, they have conducted organizing and update meetings to evaluate progress on each of the priority areas contained in the **Utqiaġvik Declaration**. The Implementation Teams have been largely successful, albeit some more than others but, as in everyday life, when one task is accomplished another one arises.

Because this was the first time in the ICC's history that we took this approach to organize our collective efforts, it was a learning process, and we should consider how effective the Implementation Plan has been and what areas could be improved upon in the next term.

The Implementation Teams were organized around the priority areas contained in the **Utqiaġvik Declaration** and this report is laid out in the same manner. The priority areas include:

- Communication and Capacity Building
- International Indigenous Human Rights and International Partnerships
- Food Security
- Families and Youth
- Health and Wellness
- Education and Language
- Indigenous Knowledge
- Sustainable Wildlife Management
- Environment
- Sustainable Development
- Operations and Organizational Efficiency





COMMUNICATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING

ICC initiatives have been actively promoted through traditional communications support including press releases on significant ICC developments. Increasing use of our social media channels – Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram – is now the norm. Although single, united ICC sites do not exist for such media, the respective ICC offices continue to populate their own sites with photos, announcements, job opportunities, and updates on diverse ICC projects.

We are continuing to produce notable documents such as Annual Reports and key project-specific reports, including the Pikialasorsuaq Commission, Food Sovereignty and Self-Governance, the Inuit Health Summit and the Circumpolar Inuit Protocols on Equitable and Ethical Engagement. When ICC leaders attended international meetings such as the Arctic Council, the UNFCCC sessions, ICC Executive Council meetings and other events, these were complemented by press releases and our social media communications. Since July 2018, the ICC Executive Council has issued over 30 press releases, all of which gained local, regional, national and international coverage ranging from the BBC through to Nunatsiaq News and The Hill, as well as radio and television coverage.

It was during the pandemic that the ICC Podcast ᐅᓂᐅᐅᐅ / UNIKKAAT / UNIPKAAT / UNGIPAGHAT / NALLUNAIRUTET / Circumpolar Waves was created. The first podcast encouraged all ICC country offices to develop the name and logo, and to record the initial episodes, and it was launched on August 9, 2020. The majority of the work to create and launch the podcast was done within this period. The first episodes featured interviews with the ICC Chair, ICC Vice-Chairs, and ICC country office Presidents as well with

the Circumpolar Inuit Health Steering Committee (CIHSC) Chair discussing COVID-19 throughout Inuit Nunaat. The podcast is hosted on Buzzsprout, and is available on Apple iTunes, Spotify Podcasts and Google podcasts. There have been over 2,000 downloads of all episodes in over 30 countries and 150 cities between launch day and January 2022. Regional radio stations, including KNOM in the Bering Strait region of Alaska, have also rebroadcast the podcast, further explaining its reach.

The ICC initiated an archive project that has started to increase access to and awareness of our work over the past six decades. This ongoing effort will digitize 47 boxes of archive material at the ICC Alaska office, including documents, audio and video from the inception of ICC through to the present day. The initiative will provide an information management system to allow users to search for and view archive materials online. The project has re-initiated communication with archives and libraries that currently hold ICC archive documents such as the Alaska Native Review Commission transcripts.

Finally, in relation to issues of global concern such as the COVID-19 pandemic, the ICC has raised the concerns of Inuit by issuing press releases specifically focused on the health of Inuit in small Arctic communities and the related infrastructure gaps. The most recent UNFCCC COP26 also included substantial ICC participation and generated substantial coverage across the globe. ICC was also active in many diverse virtual formats ranging from Zoom webinars and workshops concerning the Ethical and Equitable Engagement of Indigenous Knowledge through to The Wilson Center event on Inuit priorities and our Health and Wellness Summit.

INTERNATIONAL INDIGENOUS HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

As stated above, our guiding convictions and values form the foundation of our collective work. As noted in our Implementation Plan, there is a strong connection between our culture, our homelands and coastal seas that transcends national and political boundaries and connects us as one people. We have affirmed our right to self-determination, and through our unified voice and approach, we have committed to advocate for, and

protect the collective interests of, our membership at the international level. We serve Inuit throughout Inuit Nunaat with optimism and in the most innovative, creative ways possible. We are focused on our cultural survival and the integrity of our homelands now and into the future, autonomously and in cooperation with others. These values are at the heart and foundation of the ICC.

ARCTIC COUNCIL

We have consistently been active in the **Arctic Council**. Concerning ICC's advocacy within the **Arctic Council Senior Arctic Officials**, the 25th anniversary of the Arctic Council was celebrated in 2021. ICC believes that the six working groups, various task forces, and different expert groups have accomplished a great body of work since the Council was formally created in 1996, in Ottawa. The passage of an Arctic Council Strategic Plan took place under the Icelandic chair. Though global climate change is once again back on the agenda, ICC has pushed the need to bring the Council back to its original objective of balancing sustainable development and protection of the Arctic environment, which remains outstanding and primarily pivots around respect for our culture, our perspectives and our priorities.

The ICC is encouraged to report that the central theme of "People and Communities of the Arctic" was embraced by the Arctic Council in the Reykjavik Declaration. Consistent with this, ICC has stressed that people should live within, and in collaboration with, nature. Here again, Inuit meaningful engagement must be achieved and become the norm as this intergovernmental forum moves forward. ICC has consistently identified the priorities of food security and management of wildlife and their habitat; the infrastructure and social services deficit in our communities; environmental health issues; cultural survival; genuine meaningful

engagement; and the use of Indigenous Knowledge together with science, as called for 25 years ago.

The ICC has also expressed concern over the level of provocative rhetoric from some of the Arctic states, amplifying our constant message to ensure that our homeland does not become a region of competition and conflict. Most recently, we pledged our support to the Russian chair, promising to work hard to ensure its success. In this regard, we are glad to note the significant and increasing role that our membership from Chukotka now plays in the Arctic Council. This is in contrast to past experience in this regional setting and we are eager to maintain this important dimension of ICC's work over the coming term. More detailed information about our work is included under the various working group headings.

Turning to other segments of Arctic Council work, we have seen progress in the four Working Groups that we are most active in: the **Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME)**; the **Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF)**; the **Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program (AMAP)**; and the **Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG)**.

The central focus areas within **PAME** have been the problematic issue of plastics and pollution as well as a new initiative to identify Arctic Indigenous Peoples' values in relation to the marine environment, which also intersects with Arctic Marine tourism issues. ICC attended the



marine litter workshop, and we are involved in PAME's ongoing projects, including those focused on Marine Protected Areas; Ecosystem Approach; Shipping; Resource Development; and Marine Litter. Within the Meaningful Engagement in Marine Activities (MEMA) Group, ICC has continued to work on drafting a reference guide from the MEMA reports. ICC hosted an Inuit Values in an Ecosystem Approach webinar on our values and way of life with respect to the marine ecosystem. Inuit provided input as to how current management practices can be more reflective of Inuit ways and how to integrate Inuit Values in decision-making with respect to the ecosystem. The results of this discussion helped inform the Arctic Council PAME working group.

CAFF is the biodiversity working group of the Arctic Council. CAFF has focused on implementing the Arctic Biodiversity Action Plan, the Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program (CBMP) and the Arctic Migratory Bird Initiative (AMBI), among other projects. Additionally, CAFF hosted the 2nd Arctic Biodiversity Congress and aided in the organization and facilitation of an Arctic Youth Summit. The Congress brought together 400 representatives of government agencies, academics (scientists), industry, environmental NGOs, decision makers (policy), and Indigenous organizations from across the Arctic to discuss Arctic biodiversity. ICC played a direct role in the planning and implementation of the Congress and participated in high-level dialogues and panel discussions. ICC also facilitated, provided presentations, and advocated on behalf of Inuit interests and equitable involvement in numerous sessions, including those on Co-Production of Knowledge, Food Security, Monitoring through a food security lens, the need for Equitable and Ethical Engagement, the need for Institutional Adaptation, and Inuit management.

Over the past four years, ICC has directly influenced and participated in the following CAFF projects or AMAP/CAFF combined projects by monitoring and providing input and guidance to each initiative, with an emphasis on: Inuit food security; equitable and ethical engagement of Inuit Knowledge; and co-production of knowledge. These efforts have helped shift the way in which CAFF works to meaningful engage the ICC and other Permanent Participants.

- Inspiring Voices through Arctic Youth
- Resilience and Management of Arctic Wetlands
- Salmon People of Arctic Rivers
- Implementation of the Arctic Invasive Species Strategy and action Plan (ARIAS)
- Mainstreaming Arctic Biodiversity
- Circumpolar Seabird expert group (CBird)
- Arctic Wildland Fire Ecology Management and Monitoring Project (Arctic FIRE)
- AMAP/CAFF - Climate Change impacts on Arctic ecosystems
- Actions for Arctic Biodiversity: 2023-2030
- Inspiring Voices through Arctic Youth
- Coastal Expert Monitoring Group

AMAP continues to address the matter of pollution and its adverse impacts upon the foods that we eat from the lands and coastal seas. There are several expert groups within AMAP that prepare technical assessments, including on climate change, Persistent Organic Pollutants, Mercury, Human Health, and Litter and Microplastics. To support this work, and to provide the Inuit perspective, ICC has contributed to several of AMAP's technical assessments (e.g., the mercury assessment, human health assessment, Persistent Organic Pollutants, and climate change assessments), and has led and co-led two chapters of two assessments (human health and mercury, respectively), as well as organizing contributions from the Inuit regions for this work. AMAP has responded to pressure from the ICC to improve the engagement of Permanent Participants (PPs) in AMAP's work, to implement a true partnership approach, and to work on better utilization of Indigenous Knowledge. As a result, these points are now clearly reflected in AMAP's strategic framework and efforts are currently geared towards its implementation.

To this end, ICC and the other two PP organizations involved in AMAP (Saami Council and AAC) held several teleconferences with the AMAP secretariat to discuss ways forward. We are developing a pilot project on co-production of knowledge, which will likely provide input into the joint



AMAP and CAFF ecosystem project. Further activities that ICC proposed include a series of workshops with all PPs to reflect on experiences and develop specific guidance for better PP engagement, as well as structural changes in AMAP procedures.

Finally, **AMAP** and **SDWG** developed an outline of a brief report on biosecurity, with a focus on emerging threats, including zoonoses. The report is currently being prepared, will be peer reviewed and has a completion deadline of early 2023 for presentation at the 2023 Ministerial. To date, ICC has introduced Inuit experts interested in contributing to this work and each of them now form part of this group. We consistently promote the need for more Arctic Indigenous experts and knowledge holders in AMAP's expert groups, as these groups mainly consist of scientists.

The **SDWG** has done tremendous work on the human side of health and wellness and, specifically, the problem of high rates of suicide and also living conditions across Inuit Nunaat. ICC co-led Project CREATEs, which was the successful predecessor to the Local2Global (L2G) project. ICC continues to co-lead the Local2Global project, which aims to facilitate international collaboration and connections between circumpolar

communities working to prevent suicide and support the mental well-being of all Arctic youth & communities. Specifically, ICC launched a social media campaign to showcase the digital stories from Project CREATEs and hosted a virtual knowledge exchange. ICC also continues to engage in preparations for the second Survey of Living Conditions in the Arctic (SLiCA-2) and is seeking funds to support the survey work. In addition, ICC proposed and gained approval to establish an SDWG Task Force to facilitate Arctic Council follow-up activities on the COVID-19 pandemic. Prior to this, ICC contributed to a COVID-19 briefing document for the SAOs and Permanent Participants to inform initial discussions regarding the COVID pandemic. The document reflects the complex and intricate nature of how COVID-19 affects Arctic peoples and communities. ICC expressed concern at how our rural communities are at much higher risk and exposure to epidemics due to the chronic lack of basic infrastructure, including lack of sanitation systems and running water in many of our communities. Our comments communicated the need to understand the impacts of COVID on the Arctic in a holistic way, bringing attention to infrastructure gaps, including overcrowded housing, food insecurity, lower life expectancy, and the high prevalence of tuberculosis experienced by Inuit.

UNITED NATIONS MANDATES

The ICC responded to the directive of “laying the groundwork for negotiations to declare the Arctic as a Peaceful Zone” by delivering a number of presentations to the military, civil society gatherings and Congressional hearings, emphasizing the ICC 1977-11 resolution as well as the 1983 resolution, the ICC Arctic Policy, ICC Declarations, and the specific mandate given within the 2018 **Utqiagvik Declaration**. The promotion of viable options within the **UN OFFICE OF DISARMAMENT AFFAIRS** for establishing nuclear free zones in other areas as well as the Antarctic Treaty, the Seabed Treaty, and other zones of peace across the globe, have been consistently underscored.

Building upon the solid foundation of Inuit contributions to international Indigenous human rights, we have gradually increased our involvement in this diverse portfolio. Since 2018, we have prepared a brief Arctic Region report on the **2030 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)** and have explored alignment of the 17 goals with the objectives of the Arctic Council Sustainable Development Working Group [SDWG] objectives. We have found that there is little connection between these specific goals and the work of the SDWG but there is room to identify future constructive intersections as the world community edges closer to 2030 and realization of the SDGs.

The ICC has monitored and addressed multiple gatherings, emphasizing that although only a number of the goals refer to Indigenous Peoples, every single one of the 17 Goals is relevant to Inuit. The ICC has worked to raise awareness of the legal effects of the SDGs and their importance to Inuit, specifically in relation to the objective of zero hunger and how this aligns with Inuit food security and the rights of Inuit to hunt, fish and gather. In addition, the ICC contributed to the Arctic Region assessment of the SDGs within the Arctic Council, in collaboration with the Saami Council.

The **UN PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES (UNPFII)** has effectively started hosting hybrid meetings, which the ICC has engaged in. In 2019, the theme “Traditional knowledge: Generation, transmission and protection” afforded ICC the opportunity to focus on the use of the term Indigenous Knowledge, the definition used within the Arctic Council,

and the necessary guidelines for co-production of knowledge. In addition, we organized a side event entitled Indigenous Children’s Rights – A model for acting in Indigenous communities. The event featured the important work of the National Children’s Rights Spokesperson in Greenland, who highlighted issues common to Inuit across our homelands. In light of the **International Year of Indigenous Languages [IYIL]**, we also intervened with a statement on the status of our language and dialects, the significance of our language within diverse settings, and the importance of advancing Inuit pedagogy.

The 2020 UNPFII session was fully postponed due to the pandemic. However, in 2021, the Arctic Regional dialogue took place over two days with the ICC making three virtual interventions. The first focused on the significance of the Pikialasorsuaq Implementation Committee and its potential for establishing strong Inuit-led governance institutions to manage this biologically rich region of importance to Inuit in both Canada and Kalaallit Nunaat. The second was a joint statement with the Saami Council on the impacts of the pandemic and cross-border issues. And the third ICC intervention emphasized the infrastructure deficit that we face in the context of the pandemic. The final statements addressed the lack of implementation of Indigenous human rights and the need for enhanced participation within the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly as well as a statement welcoming the International Decade of Indigenous Languages 2022 – 2032. In 2021, Inuit gave a presentation at a side event organized by the Government of Denmark focused on Indigenous Peoples’ key role in climate action and the importance of incorporating Indigenous Knowledge into policy development and implementation. More recently, ICC collaborated with the **UNPFII Secretariat** on the Arctic Region gathering on self-government and autonomy, underscoring the diverse conditions within each member country and the need for increased implementation of these distinct rights.

An ICC delegation was present at the virtual **UN EXPERT MECHANISM ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (EMRIP)** session, where the impact of COVID-19 on the rights of Indigenous Peoples under the UN Declaration

on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was addressed. Here, the ICC made a statement about the infrastructure deficit throughout Inuit Nunaat. **EMRIP** also held sociocultural region meetings, including the Arctic. ICC focused on a call to governments for urgent action to close the infrastructure gaps throughout Inuit Nunaat by making major new investments in our communities, prioritizing basic infrastructure such as housing, water and sanitation. Furthermore, we emphasized the need to ensure that such investment supports climate-resilient infrastructure critical for our Arctic communities, who are most significantly impacted by the conditions of climate change.

In preparation for the 2021 virtual meeting of the **EMRIP**, ICC prepared an intervention on their study on the right of self-determination. This drew attention to the Circumpolar Inuit Declaration on Sovereignty in the Arctic (CIDSa) and the diverse expressions of self-determination across Inuit Nunaat, while emphasizing the unity of Inuit and the work of the ICC to transcend national borders. The second ICC contribution was a joint statement from the Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) & the Human Rights Council of Greenland, which highlighted that although each Inuit region in Chukotka, Alaska, Canada and Greenland have different colonial histories that have resulted in different educational challenges across the circumpolar Arctic, many challenges are similar.

We have actively monitored developments in the objective of **Enhanced participation of Indigenous Peoples in the UN General Assembly and the Human Rights Council**. In collaboration with the Saami Council, we influenced the outcome of the recent Human Rights Council and Third Committee resolutions, which made specific reference to the Quito Outcome Document. The overall objective is to identify a mechanism “to enable the participation of Indigenous peoples’ representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them”. We continue to participate in the **Coordinating Body** that is working to identify two **Indigenous Advisers** to assist the President of the General Assembly to maintain dialogue and influence a formal decision by the UN General Assembly. Such a decision would ensure that Inuit governments such as the Government of Nunatsiavut are recognized and play a direct role in a host of UN decision-making processes.

As discussed elsewhere in this report, our homelands have become of growing interest to Russia, China, and the USA, as well as the **EUROPEAN UNION (EU)**. The EU specifically has developed an Arctic Programme and now has a significant policy on Indigenous Peoples. Although the ICC has a portfolio on the EU, lack of funding and staff time has resulted in a minimal response to this issue. We did, however, manage to attend a **Roundtable with Indigenous Peoples’ Experts and Representatives** arranged by the EU in Brussels in February 2020. The roundtable dialogue was to follow up on the European Union Council “Conclusions on Indigenous Peoples”, which was adopted in 2017. The Council underscores the crucial importance of further enhancing opportunities for dialogue and consultation with Indigenous Peoples at all levels of **EU** cooperation, including in EU-funded programs and projects, in order to secure their full participation and their Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) in a meaningful and systematic way.

The ICC also participated in the global perspective on ways in which the right to, and application of, Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) should be operationalized. ICC reinforced the fact that FPIC is grounded in the **UN Declaration** and should define relations between states, the private sector and rights holders. FPIC embraces the right of Indigenous Peoples to use their resources, land and territories, including the right to say “no” and to refuse if there is a conflict of interest for the Indigenous community. In this dialogue, specific examples include the 2009 Act on Greenland Self-Government, which replaced the 1979 Greenland Home Rule Arrangement and made exploitation of the subsoil the responsibility of the Greenland government. We emphasized that land in Greenland is collectively owned, and thus individual Greenlanders cannot actually own land, which ultimately safeguards Indigenous Peoples’ uses, especially from the extractive industries.

The **Utqiagvik Declaration** called for increased Inuit youth participation, one of its key directives in relation to our international engagement. As will be discussed below under the heading **FAMILIES AND YOUTH**, the ICC created opportunities for young Inuit through the Hans-Pavia Rosing Leadership Award; the Emerging Leaders project; the ICC HEALTH AND





WELLNESS SUMMIT; and diverse UN Indigenous-specific mandates such as the UNPFII, EMRIP, and other fora.

Our work on the **UN Intergovernmental Conference that will be negotiating an Agreement for Marine Biodiversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ)** has been focused on monitoring both the formal and informal dialogues and debates related to the negotiations. In addition, the importance of Indigenous Knowledge and the interrelated nature of the biodiversity of the Arctic Ocean and its coastal seas has been addressed through short presentations in response to invitations from the Nobel Institute, the hosts of the informal dialogues surrounding the BBNJ discussions.

The **2022-2032 International Decade of Indigenous Languages (IDIL)** attracted the ICC's interest, consistent with our efforts in favor of Inuit education and language concerns. At present, the ICC representative holds a position on the global Steering Committee until 2023. Previously, we were able to advance our concerns and interests as a member of the Advisory Committee to the **UN EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (UNESCO)** to outline the program and plans for the launch of the Decade and its initial activities. This input has been important to ensure that Inuit language and dialects are considered in the work of both the Arctic Region specifically but the whole of the Decade more generally. We have effectively increased Inuit participation and are working to keep them informed through the ever-expanding list of Inuit language advocates and educators that originally emerged from the ICC-hosted Inuit Education Summit. Again, the seven sociocultural regions of the world include the ICC and the Saami Council as the Arctic Region.

UNESCO intends to adopt a **Global Action Plan [GAC]** and ICC has influenced the plan by ensuring the inclusion of other Inuit in the overall work. In regard to dialogue on the **GAC**, youth involvement has been highlighted within the ad-hoc group as well as appropriate Indigenous measures of success and how we need to create supportive spaces and acknowledge the varying vitality of Indigenous languages. ICC has advocated for the primary role of Indigenous Peoples to be explicitly recognized in the context of implementing the **GAC**.

Furthermore, heavy emphasis was placed on the critical importance of language in public services such as education, justice and health. The subjective nature of the term 'decent employment opportunities' requires an Inuit and Indigenous perspective to ensure that the measures are not solely from a non-Indigenous perspective. Another fundamental issue was that of ensuring clarity on the matter of explicit reference to the languages of *Indigenous Peoples*. We recognize that some nation states may not recognize Indigenous Peoples, which would necessitate the use of 'linguistic minorities', but we remained firm on the fact that in the **IDIL**, the **GAC** and related matters arising, we are discussing *Indigenous Languages* and that we are talking about Indigenous Peoples' languages.

In connection with the 50th Anniversary of the **UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION**, the ICC participated in a webinar and panel presentation at a gathering entitled *World Heritage, Human Rights and Participation*. The focus was on the operation of the Convention and its governance framework within broader developments in international and human rights law.

The ICC also reviewed and discussed coordination of comments to the **Draft Arctic Action Plan of UNESCO's Oceans Decade**. **ICC was disappointed that much appeared to have been** crystallized before we were asked to participate. This dynamic, plus a lack of funding and time on our part, meant that although we did provide comments to the draft, the initiative was not prioritized, which was disappointing.

FOOD SECURITY

The ICC completed the **Food Sovereignty and Self-Governance: Inuit Role in Managing Arctic Marine Resources (FSSG)** report, launched the **Alaskan Inuit Food Sovereignty Initiative**, and continues to advance discussions about Inuit food security through presentations and direction when applying a food security lens, advocating for the direct involvement of Inuit in work that relates to our food security, and influencing national and international policy to ensure an understanding of our food security.

Over the past four years, through countless workshops, one-on-one discussions and meetings, the FSSG project has completed a technical report that puts Inuit voices at the forefront of discussions on management. Overall, the report looks at what supports and what hinders Inuit food sovereignty, with an understanding that Western management systems overlaid on top of traditional Inuit practices often take a different approach and are often grounded in historical discrimination. This report elevates our values, knowledge and practices in order to bring forward the roles, knowledge and perspectives of Inuit in support of equity and food sovereignty. The technical report offers numerous transformative recommendations. An additional report was created to highlight the recommendations.

This work has aided ICC's advocacy across many fora aimed at educating the world on the connections between food sovereignty, monitoring, climate change, human rights, self-determination, community-driven monitoring and research, equity, and much more. For example, excerpts from the report were used to develop a document that was submitted to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on climate change and Inuit food sovereignty. Additionally, this work helped to inform work at the Convention on Biological Diversity, highlight Inuit management practices and advocate for direct engagement with Inuit in the development of any work that relates to the Arctic. Similarly, the report and findings have been used to influence the work being conducted under numerous Arctic Council working groups, to aid in shaping the development of the Alaska Arctic Policy, and to assist the National Science

Foundation to understand the connections between Inuit food sovereignty, a healthy environment, and equity. Other platforms have been engaged and policy is being actively influenced with the aid of this work.

This work not only resulted in important products but also brought our people together from across Alaska and the Inuvialuit Settlement Region to get to know each other, to share and learn from each other. Throughout this work, many participants voiced their gratitude for the Indigenous methodologies used and called for similar discussions to occur, using the same methods, across Inuit Nunaat in order to expand the discussions to include more Inuit.

This work also provides an example of the co-production of knowledge. With this in mind, it has been used to help advance our discussions – through presentations – on the need for co-production of knowledge and is one of the examples used in discussions within the Central Arctic Ocean Fisheries Agreement.

The *Food Sovereignty Initiative project is seeking to finalize a Food Sovereignty Management Action Plan* to secure access and management rights over traditional foods and this work directly intersects with the **Sustainable Wildlife Management** priority. In addition, many presentations have been provided to educate others about what Inuit food security is and to explain the connections between food security and other activities such as monitoring. All of this work links to a specific directive in the **Utqiaġvik Declaration**.

With regard to food security, we have engaged in numerous forums and activities to continue to influence research, monitoring, Inuit self-determination, environmental health, a holistic approach and adaptive decision-making, and continue to influence policy through direct involvement in high-level discussions and presentations on Inuit food security as it relates to multiple different topics. In addition to the distinct areas of ICC engagement in diverse UN and other intergovernmental fora, we raised the issue of food security within the following initiatives:





- One Health and the UN Education Program
- Arctic Biodiversity Congress
- Arctic Council CAFF, AMAP, and PAME Working Groups
- Arctic Observing Summit
- Arctic Science Summit Week
- Intergovernmental Forum on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
- World Conference Affairs
- International Arctic Science Committee
- Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee
- National Science Foundation
- American Meteorologist Society
- Reindeer Herders Association, James J. McCarthy Leadership Seminar Series for Future Arctic Indigenous Leaders
- International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences
- Pew Charitable Trust

Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)

In September 2019, the ICC participated in a special FAO Expert Seminar on Traditional Knowledge and Indigenous Peoples Fisheries in the Arctic Region, which took place in Rome, Italy. Inuit from Greenland and Alaska, as well as the ICC, engaged in this unprecedented event. The ICC was a member of the Technical Committee that drafted the final Declaration of the Summit. In addition, in preparation for the 2021 **UN Food Systems Summit**, Inuit leaders and the FAO North America Liaison Office held a series of webinars specifically on Inuit food systems. These events included Inuit leaders from the Kuskokwim Inter-Tribal Fish Commission; the Eskimo Walrus Commission; an Inuk negotiator for the Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine Conservation Area Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement; the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, and the US Marine Mammal Service.

UN Food Systems Summit (FSS)

The ICC collaborated with the Saami Council (as the UN sociocultural *Arctic Region*) on updates; Listening Sessions; dialogues with Special Envoy

Agnes Kalibata; preparation of the Coalition governance document; and the overall Indigenous Peoples' Organizations' (IPO) statement to the plenary of the UN Food Systems Summit. This work was inclusive of Inuit representatives from the ICC, Maniilaq Association, Association of Village Council Presidents, Eskimo Walrus Commission, Nunatsiavut Government, Young Hunters Program in Nunavut, Inuit academics, and Arviat Wellness Center.

The ICC was fortunate to be able to coordinate with the **Emerging Leaders** program in the delivery of the Indigenous youth statement. We also effectively influenced *The White/Wiphala Paper on Indigenous Peoples' food systems*,¹ which has garnered international recognition and acclaim. As noted by the FAO, the Paper "provides evidence on the sustainability of Indigenous Peoples' food systems, including the ways in which they have proven resilient over time. The Paper articulates the importance of respecting Indigenous Peoples' rights to ensure the preservation of their foods systems, and the value this can add to tackling emerging challenges that face mankind."

In regard to concrete outcomes, the ICC contributed to the Arctic Region's own Declaration and continues to monitor the development of a new Coalition on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems in terms of the governance and funding of this new Coalition as well as how it will be composed to ensure responsiveness to Indigenous Peoples' food systems across the world. It is likely that the ICC will benefit from and continue to engage in and monitor the work of the Coalition well into the future.

International Maritime Organization (IMO)

In addition to the ICC's interventions concerning the incremental phasing out of the use of heavy fuel oil, we pursued formal application for "Observer" status within the **International Maritime Organization**. The need for such status is to ensure our direct and independent capacity to represent ourselves as an Indigenous Peoples' organization distinct from the diverse interests of the majority IMO membership, which ranges

from industry to State parties to environmental organizations. The status provides greater access to the IMO in the context of monitoring **Polar Code** enforcement and advocacy for the incremental phasing out of heavy fuel oil (HFO) in order to protect and minimize impacts on the marine environment.

Following a virtual presentation to the sub-committee that was considering ICC's Consultative Status application to the IMO, in November 2021, at the 34th Extraordinary Meeting of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Council, the ICC became the first Indigenous Organization to receive IMO Provisional Consultative Status. The Provisional status means that ICC will provide a report to the IMO after two years to illustrate our contributions to the IMO and what we bring to this important international shipping body from the Inuit across our four membership countries.

Through ICC's use of its new provisional consultative status, Inuit voices were heard at an important IMO meeting on underwater ship noise. This will ensure that the group's work on reducing noise from ships uses Indigenous Knowledge and engages Inuit and our communities. ICC made a specific suggestion that the terms of reference guiding development of the work plan "explicitly includes engagement and utilization of Indigenous Knowledge, which is needed in the scope of work to complete the technical work of this sub-committee". The suggestion was adopted. Global rules on underwater noise pollution reduction will in this way be influenced to reflect local Inuit concerns and community input.

As noted, ICC consultative status will ensure that, as shipping increases in our Arctic waters, Inuit will have our own voice and community members will be heard on issues ranging from the importance of Arctic shipping to concerns we have regarding our marine environment in terms of potential spills, underwater noise, black carbon, safe shipping corridors, grey water discharge, invasive species, and a host of other issues. Recognizing that almost 90% of traded goods are shipped by sea, Inuit must have a seat at this international table where issues that impact the Arctic, its coastal seas and multiple ocean governance concerns are discussed.

¹ <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb4932en>

FAMILIES AND YOUTH

In addition to establishing the **Hans-Pavia Rosing Leadership Award**, the ICC successfully gained funding to support the **Emerging Leaders** project, which includes young Inuit who are gaining a background in the history of the ICC and its current efforts and affords them the opportunity to attend international meetings; develop recommendations from a youth perspective; increase youth engagement in the ICC; share and discuss their concerns and aspirations with ICC leadership in preparation for the ICC General Assembly in 2022.

The **Emerging Leaders** have been involved in numerous Zoom meetings and, more recently, in-person meetings. In November 2019, Emerging Leaders traveled to Nuuk, Greenland and were joined by youth representatives from Canada and Greenland. They held a two-day meeting that brought together emerging leaders to discuss ways to engage youth in ICC, across Inuit Nunaat. The meeting began with a group exercise by country to discuss our history and the similarities across our homelands. This discussion allowed the group to connect with each other and to build friendships. The influence of this project will ultimately result in a future where Inuit youth are aware, interested and engaged in ICC's work and vying for leadership positions within ICC and its members.

As an outcome, an online survey focusing on youth engagement was created to help identify what issues are important to youth and how ICC can improve engagement with young Inuit, 18-35 years old. The results of the survey helped to determine a way forward, from a youth perspective, in terms of improving Inuit youth interest in ICC and developing recommendations that will be considered at the next ICC General Assembly in 2022. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the group is continuing to engage virtually via Zoom and teleconferences. However, where opportunities arise, Emerging Leaders are continuing to engage in collaboration with their respective Mentors.

In addition, the **Emerging Leaders** initiated a Facebook LIVE Virtual Event and a series of interviews with ICC leadership. The virtual event highlighted the emerging leaders' project and goals and provided a space to celebrate Inuit youth and raise awareness of ICC. The emerging leaders

also participated in the AFN Elders & Youth conference, setting their own agenda focused on "Learning to Advocate for your Community". ICC Alaska's leadership participated in the workshop along with the emerging leaders and shared their experiences of ICC and community advocacy.

Both Emerging Leaders and other Inuit youth have also been involved in the **ICC HEALTH AND WELLNESS SUMMIT**, supporting and participating in the youth-focused subject of Mental Wellness and Suicide Prevention. Each ICC region country has also had youth engagement with ongoing projects, such as the Ethical, Equitable Engagement (EEE) project workshops.

With regard to in-person or hybrid UN meetings, the ICC has included both Emerging Leaders and other Inuit youth in the Conference of the Parties' (COP) 24th, 25th and 26th sessions of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). These sessions have afforded their direct engagement in ICC-driven side events, press conferences, panel sessions, and comprehensive communication strategies plus UNFCCC directives, such as the activities of the Facilitative Working Group (FWG) discussed below.





HEALTH AND WELLNESS

CIRCUMPOLAR INUIT SUMMIT ON HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The Circumpolar Inuit Summit on Health and Wellness was successfully held through a virtual format from **September 22 to October 26, 2021**. A pre-engagement session chose the theme of *'Inuit youth and connection to culture for mental wellness & suicide prevention'* and youth shared and reflected upon how they connect with Inuit culture for mental wellness, what they find most helpful, the barriers they face, how they navigate tradition in a fast-changing world, and the support they need from adults in this regard.

They worked together to draw out similarities, highlight parallels and identify points of consensus. Among other anticipated outcomes, these reflections were documented in 36 graphic recordings that will be shared widely so that those in charge of developing or implementing suicide prevention strategies across the Inuit Nunaat will be in a better position to effectively accomplish this challenging work.



A connector program was launched at the close of the summit. This initiative provides an opportunity for summit participants to connect with one another once the summit has ended. The connector program removes language barriers by offering interpretation and/or translation for participants wishing to stay in touch with another summit participants regarding the work happening, in an effort to learn more and understand how the initiatives may be useful for them.

Crucial factors for mental well-being and other emerging themes identified during the summit include:

- Messages of inclusion – the youth voice was loud and clear about the need to be inclusive and to be supportive of each other, whether or not we are speaking Inuktitut, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, or growing up outside of Inuit Nunaat etc.
- Cultural revitalization – youth are already reclaiming parts of their culture that were impacted by colonization. They are re-learning their language, learning skills such as hide preparation, hunting, etc. During the summit, they discussed other things they would like to see revitalized moving forward after the summit.
- Men's Health – even though more men die from suicide, they are commonly underrepresented in events such as the health summit. It will therefore be important moving forward to be mindful of this and design initiatives that reach men where they are. This can be done by targeting male-centered programs already in existence.

Youth evaluations highlighted the need for (1) spaces where the youth felt free to share and feel heard and, (2) an event that celebrates Inuit culture as a way of expressing pride in being Inuk. The latter has been included in the 2022 Ilulissat Declaration. Mentorship opportunities for youth, as well

as focusing more on families, are other identified areas of importance, along with continuing to include Elders in these initiatives.

Circumpolar Inuit Health Steering Committee (CIHSC)

The CIHSC contributed to the content of a press release entitled *'Ongoing Coronavirus Pandemic Highlights Infrastructure Gaps Across Circumpolar Regions Related to Inuit Health – Demonstrates Strength of Inuit Culture'* in April 2020. The CIHSC also held a direct dialogue with the **UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous peoples** in relation to his study on the impacts of COVID-19 on Indigenous communities. Each Steering Committee member had the opportunity to highlight the pandemic situation in their region and the Inuit initiatives undertaken to address the issues, with some Committee members sharing written responses.

Lancet Commission

The ICC is actively engaged in Urgently Accelerating Indigenous Health and Well-Being: The Lancet Commission on Arctic and Northern Health. The Commission comprises 35 Indigenous experts (majority of members) and other medical experts and scholars from across seven circumpolar countries. Inuit membership as Commissioners is significant, ranging from ICC staff to Inuit medical doctors. Our Arctic Region Sami colleagues and other northern Indigenous Peoples are participants as well. The first full Commissioner meeting was held at Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, in February 2020, just before the coronavirus was declared a pandemic. A draft initial report is now being reviewed by the full Commission and a virtual meeting is anticipated to take place in 2022 to complete the report sections as well as the conclusions and recommendations.



EDUCATION AND LANGUAGE

The ICC has set up the **Inuit Committee on Education** and held its initial meeting with membership from all Inuit regions. More recently, the Committee held two virtual sessions, first of these to identify membership and the Terms of Reference. In addition, they addressed the Outcome Document from the International Inuit Education Summit held in February 2018 in Nuuk where it was agreed that this report would inform their agenda and objectives as a committee. They furthermore agreed to prepare a regional report for the next meeting in January or February 2021, and they intend to undertake regional consultations in order to report on outcomes for delivery to the 2022 delegates. Reports from each

region were submitted in late 2021, which was followed by the creation of a drafting committee to compile a single report for submission to the ICC Executive Council and, ultimately, to the ICC General Assembly.

Note the discussion about **UNESCO** and the International Decade of Indigenous Languages, above, under the heading OTHER UN INITIATIVES. The ICC is ably represented on the current Steering Committee established by UNESCO and intends to carry forward this work in relation to the coming 2022-2032 Decade. The most recent activity is an Inuit-specific “launch” of the IDIL involving Inuit language advocates from across all four ICC member countries.



INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

Numerous interrelated initiatives have been accomplished by the ICC in relation to this set of directives.

ICC has provided presentations and engaged in many discussions to educate the international community on what Indigenous Knowledge is, in addition to advocating for a co-production of knowledge approach and for greater intellectual and political space for Inuit. This work is reflected in the shifts that some large-scale institutions are taking as to how they view Indigenous Knowledge and engage with us. Additionally, ICC technical staff collaborated with others to develop a co-production of knowledge framework shared through a published paper.

Expressing respect for diverse regional use, we have managed to consistently advocate for greater intellectual and political space in which to improve understanding of Indigenous Knowledge and genuine co-production of knowledge, which is central to our work in all arenas (Arctic Council; CBD; UNFCCC; IPCC; etc.) and specific fields and, in particular, food security and biodiversity.

As discussed more fully below under the heading **Environment**, the ICC is a member of the **Facilitative Working Group** (FWG) of the **Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform** of the **UNFCCC**. As part of the FWG's initial work plan, the ICC has worked to actively implement a webinar training series to train State Party members of the UNFCCC on the content and contours of Indigenous Knowledge. The ICC also actively and directly engaged with the **IPCC** as both author and expert reviewer for the Special Report on the Ocean and the Cryosphere in a Changing Climate and the Polar Regions' Cross-Chapter in Working Group II's report for the 6th Assessment Cycle. The substance of these contributions centered around the procedural and substantive issues of the use (or lack thereof) of Indigenous Knowledge and inclusion of knowledge holders in these reports and within the IPCC process.

Equitable and Ethical Guidelines for the Engagement of Inuit Communities and Indigenous Knowledge

In response to this directive, ICC is working on the development of International Inuit protocols on the

equitable and ethical utilization of Indigenous Knowledge (IK) and engagement of Inuit communities to

provide guidance to international fora, such as the Arctic Council. The work is being conducted by the Indigenous Knowledge Team. To begin the work, the ICC developed an Inuit Circumpolar Synthesis Report that pulled together protocols (guidelines, rules, values, etc.) created by Inuit across Chukotka, Alaska, Canada and Greenland. The Synthesis Report was used in the discussions and helped to inform the development of the international Inuit protocols. This work was accomplished virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic with Inuit from across the circumpolar region over the latter part of 2021.

Convention on Biological Diversity

The Convention on Biological Diversity has three objectives: 1) conservation, 2) sustainable use, and 3) fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from genetic resources. With these three objectives, the CBD holds a large portfolio of work that spans across the globe and influences policies that impact our communities through national implementation of agreements and international work. ICC has a strong history of engaging in the CBD. Over the past four years, we have increased our engagement, recognizing the growing interest Parties have in the Arctic, the impact that work stemming from agreements within the CBD has on our communities and the increasing amount of crossover between the CBD and other forums, such as the Arctic Council. Through our enhanced engagement, we have focused on:

- Participating in the process to develop the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) (to be finalized in 2022).
- Participating in the processes to address the ethical and equitable involvement of Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous Knowledge in CBD work.
- Educating the Parties about Indigenous Knowledge, food security, Inuit sustainable management practices and much more in order to inform the direction of work and policy through presentations, panel discussions, contributions to position statements, and delivering statements during preliminary sessions.
- Working collaboratively with the Indigenous Arctic Caucus and members of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity to bring forward positions as they relate to the development of global agreements and proposed processes on human rights, hunting, food security, data management, proprietary rights, and more. While there is more work to be done, this work has greatly influenced the shaping of processes and continues to inform negotiations of the Post-2020 GBF.

These efforts have raised Inuit positions within the CBD's work while also educating the Parties as to who we are and about the Arctic. Additionally, they have enhanced our knowledge of the work and systems connecting to other international forums and have helped develop a strong strategy for future across the numerous connecting international forums.

Here again, we have ensured reference to the interrelated significance and importance of Indigenous Knowledge in every international event and gathering that we have participated in concerning Inuit rights and interests. Such advocacy centered on the references and value placed upon our distinct knowledge as articulated by the founding leadership of the ICC in 1977 and consistently thereafter.

Central Arctic Ocean on Fisheries

The 2018 Central Arctic Ocean (CAO) agreement on fisheries came into force last year. Signed by nine countries and the European Union, the CAO agreement is important for many reasons, not least because it is the first

international treaty to consider Indigenous Knowledge and local knowledge as equal to scientific knowledge. Inuit have important contributions to make to the health of Arctic Ocean ecosystems through knowledge and direct involvement in = implementation of the agreement, which includes long-term research, monitoring and management. At a February 2020 meeting of the Provisional Scientific Coordinating Group (PSCG) in Ispra, Italy, several recommendations on how to co-produce knowledge under the CAO agreement were reviewed. The participants recommended that a single body be used for this purpose; Inuit agree with this position taken. Following the Ispra meeting, ICC coordinated three virtual workshops with Inuit regions, government, and other interested parties to refine ideas, which were then distilled into a background paper on Inuit engagement that ICC presented at a virtual Preparatory Conference of the Signatories in June 2021. Among other things, the paper reinforced the need for ethical and equitable engagement of Inuit and meaningful participation at all stages. Discussions continue and the first Conference of the Parties is expected to be held in Korea in fall 2022.



SUSTAINABLE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

The **Circumpolar Inuit Wildlife Committee (CIWC)** comprises two representatives nominated by each ICC country office and includes Inuit from each of the four member countries. The Committee serves as a mechanism to galvanize a united Inuit voice on wildlife management issues by building up the CIWN, which will be central to developing collective positions, informed by Indigenous Knowledge, from which to advocate for Inuit rights and interests across the international fora.

The CIWN includes a closed group of regional, national and international Inuit co-management organizations, hunters and Inuit Knowledge holders. The leadership of the CIWC and the implementation of the network has been aimed at strengthening collaboration among Inuit through a unified and strategic effort to advocate for our rights to self-determination and our culture, food sovereignty, and sustainable use, providing a pan-Arctic voice concerning the access to, sharing and management of resources across Inuit Nunaat. The next steps for the Committee are to continue holding routine meetings through which to exchange information on the challenges, emerging trends and best practices in collectively responding to circumpolar Inuit wildlife issues. This work is being carried out by the Sustainable Wildlife Management team in collaboration with the CIWC.

After a decade and a half of effort and advocacy, ICC and other Indigenous member organizations, together with IUCN representatives, managed to gain unanimous adoption of an Indigenous Peoples' Organization (IPO) membership and voting category within the **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**. This is a significant success and milestone to report and there are currently 22 IPO members (including ICC) with IPO membership expected to increase between now and the next WCC. Following the second postponement of the IUCN World Conservation Congress (WCC), a hybrid session was finally held in Marseille, France in September 2021. This recent WCC was the first time Indigenous members had participated as IUCN IPOs in the IUCN's 70-year history. The IUCN will offer opportunities for ICC and other Inuit organizations and representatives to utilize the IUCN and IPO status to promote, leverage

and advocate for the rights interests, and perspectives of Inuit within the circumpolar context.

In addition, the Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC) prepared and sent a joint communication from Inuit in Canada and Alaska to the IUCN Chair of the Species Survival Commission (SCC) in December 2020. The joint communication draws attention to the need, and calls on the IUCN, to include Inuit and Inuit Knowledge in the global assessment of polar bears through the IUCN Polar Bear Specialist Group (PBSG). This correspondence yielded a response suggesting a broader approach to Inuit engagement in the development of Traditional Knowledge (TK) and the IUCN Red List Assessment process and with joint involvement of other bodies within the IUCN that focus on TK. The ICC and the IGC prepared a reply and expect to have movement on the matter in spring 2022.

Inuit organizations in Canada have been highly active in the **Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)** treaty for decades, most notably when proposals to list polar bear on CITES Appendix I (trade ban) were introduced by others at CITES COPs in 2010 and 2013, including ongoing advocacy efforts to prevent another proposal from being submitted to the CITES COP in 2016. The United States was the lead proponent in each proposal, including a potential proposal that did not go forward to CITES COP in 2016.

Since the CITES COP in 2016, no other polar bear listing proposal has come forward from any of the Parties. During the CITES COP in Geneva in August 2019, however, the Inuit organization representatives attended a side event hosted by Naturschutzbund (NABU), a German environmental NGO, that featured a keynote presentation by Norwegian photographer Ole Liodden on his self-published book *"Polar Bears and Humans"* in which he provides his own self-investigative observations, concerns and criticisms focused on Canada's trade in polar bear, more particularly through Svalbard, Norway. While the presenter is not a scientist and his book is not a peer-reviewed publication, the representatives took note of this presentation while bearing in mind the ongoing possibility of another polar bear proposal coming forward at a future CITES COP. In June 2020, ICC and other Inuit

organizations in Canada received a Norwegian NDF Report on polar bear from Environment and Climate Change Canada. The Canadian government has been in correspondence with the Norwegian government regarding what it intends to do with the NDF Report. At this time, Norway is still considering how it will implement the NDF Report.

In addition, there has been considerable effort and advocacy by Inuit and other Indigenous Peoples and sustainable-use partners to highlight the importance and role of Indigenous Peoples, Rural and Local Communities (IPRLCs) within CITES. A process to discuss this has been underway since the CITES COP in 2016 through intersessional Working Groups made up of Party and Observer representatives. The WG process that reported to the CITES COP in 2019 did not yield any consensus as to a path forward. As a result, another WG has been discussing the IPRLC matter and will be reporting back to CITES ahead of the next COP in late 2022 in Panama City, Panama. The status of these discussions as communicated by Canada's delegation is that there may still be no consensus and they may need to go back to a third WG process after the next COP. The role of IPRLCs is too important and is such an ongoing issue that it requires further work and discussion to come to a consensus and, hopefully, ICC and IPRLCs will be able to achieve something on behalf of the rights and interests of Inuit and other Indigenous Peoples.



ENVIRONMENT

Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme

In addition to the work noted above, specifically in relation to the Environment, the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (**AMAP**) published several assessments dealing with contaminants and climate change issues in the Arctic. ICC contributed to and/or reviewed several of these assessments to ensure that Inuit perspectives were reflected. Current assessments that are being finalized include: the 2021 Assessment of Mercury in the Arctic (ICC co-led a chapter on Indigenous perspectives and contributions to mercury research); 2021 Climate Change on POPs, a 2021 assessment of human health in the Arctic (ICC led a chapter on risk communication); Arctic Climate Change Update 2021: Key Trends and Impacts, an integrated assessment of air pollution issues with a focus on short-lived climate forcers (SLCFs); and the AMAPs Litter and Microplastics Expert Group (LMEG), which has delivered a monitoring plan that includes monitoring guidelines for litter and microplastics. Policy makers' summaries of the technical assessments were delivered to the Arctic Council at their Ministerial meeting in May 2021. In addition, the ICC serves on AMAP's Climate Expert Group where it is continuing to call for enhanced and meaningful participation of Permanent Participants in the report process.

Sustained Arctic Observing Network

The Sustained Arctic Observing Network (SAON) has continued its efforts towards building a framework that realizes the vision of a connected, collaborative and comprehensive long-term pan-Arctic Observing System. ICC is working to ensure this framework enjoys the equitable participation of Inuit, and that it will reflect Inuit self-determination in research and monitoring, utilization of Indigenous Knowledge, as well as community-based/led monitoring activities. ICC is a member of the SAON Board and Executive Committee. As an extension, ICC has been involved in organizing the Arctic Observing Summit (AOS), which provides input into SAON. At the last AOS in March/April 2020, the ICC provided a keynote presentation and participated in a panel discussion while ICC staff provided a presentation

in breakout group discussions of the Indigenous Food Security Working Group. The next AOS is currently in the process of being organized and will take place as a hybrid meeting (virtually and in-person in Tromsø, Norway) at the end of March/beginning of April 2022. ICC is part of the organizing committee and is working to increase the engagement and participation of Arctic Indigenous Peoples at the AOS.

The third Arctic Science Ministerial (ASM-3) concluded in the summer of 2021. ICC was a member of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB), participated in the ASM-3 meeting online and generally ensured that Inuit perspectives were reflected in the process. ICC commented on several draft outlines for the joint statement, submitted project updates on ICC's work, participated in project reviews and analyses as part of the SAB, helped to organize and presented a keynote speech and formed part of a panel for an Indigenous-focused webinar, and presented ICC's work in other ASM-3 webinars. As a result, ICC's input was well reflected in the Ministerial Statement and other documents coming out of the process. In general, ICC reinforced earlier contributions made during ASM-2 in 2018 where ICC highlighted the need for the equitable participation of Indigenous Peoples in Arctic research and monitoring, and explained Indigenous Knowledge, co-production of knowledge, the importance of Indigenous languages, and of holistic monitoring based on a food security approach.

UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform's Facilitative Working Group

The **Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP)**² was established by the Paris Agreement in 2015 under the UNFCCC. The overall purpose of the platform is to strengthen adaptive capacity to address climate change, exchange experiences, best practices and lessons learned on mitigation and adaptation, as well as engage local communities and Indigenous Peoples in the UNFCCC process. The **Facilitative Working Group (FWG)** was established at COP24 in December 2018 to operationalize the platform. The FWG comprises 7 Indigenous representatives and 7 State Party representatives who serve a three-year term. ICC International Chair served as the Arctic Indigenous representative and ICC Vice Chair for International Affairs (Canada) served as the Alternate between 2019 and 2022. ICC has worked closely with our Sami colleagues through Arctic Caucus meetings.

Since 2019, the FWG has held six meetings and since FWG3 in October 2020, all of these meetings have been virtual. Most recently, a hybrid FWG6 meeting took place between October 28-30, immediately preceding COP26. This meeting saw the conclusion of the first FWG work plan, a review of the FWG to be considered at COP27, and the launch of a new three-year work plan³ covering the period 2022-2024. The ICC contributed substantially to the development of the second three-year work plan with a set of specific Arctic Region proposals. In the lead up to FWG7 in June 2022, ICC will hand over FWG representation to Saami Council representatives for the second three-year term of its members.

Regarding the activities of the first two-year work plan⁴, the ICC engaged in and influenced several of the activities including mapping exercises and

the annual gathering of knowledge holders as well as holding the role of co-lead on two of the 12 activities,

- **Activity 3:** Identify and disseminate information about the development and use of Indigenous peoples' curricula and materials that incorporate Indigenous knowledge and languages in formal and informal education systems, and/or incorporate traditional and local knowledge systems, related to addressing and responding to climate change.
- **Activity 4:** Organize annual thematic training workshops to build capacity for engaging Indigenous peoples, and local communities in the relevant work under and outside the UNFCCC process.

Webinars were hosted for both activities and included Indigenous Peoples from around the world, with a strong presence from Inuit and Sami. Notably, from ICC's direction, Activity 4 involved a series of thematic training workshops to build the capacity of State Party members and relevant institutions in understanding, respecting, recognizing, and increasing their potential for ethical engagement with Indigenous Knowledge in the context of averting, minimizing and addressing the adverse impacts of climate change. Webinar recordings and activity reports are available on the LCIPP web portal (link in Footnote 4).

ICC played a significant role in creation the LCIPP web portal, a primary tool to support the LCIPP and provide an online space to share information, events, and updates. An ICC representative sat on a web portal sub-committee with representatives from State Parties, other Indigenous Peoples' Organizations, and UNFCCC staff. The sub-committee's two-year process to inform the design and development of the portal marks the first time ever such a partnership has occurred for a UN portal. Perhaps one of the most important outcomes was the development of a Safeguards statement to ensure that Indigenous Knowledge and participation is

² More information on the LCIPP can be found here: <https://lcipp.unfccc.int/>

³ https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/sbsta2021_1_AV.pdf

⁴ <https://lcipp.unfccc.int/lcipp-background/2020-2021-workplan>

respected and treated appropriately. The ICC highlighted the need for a clear differentiation between Indigenous Peoples and local communities and the application of a rights-based engagement process to ensure that the leadership and contribution of Indigenous Peoples remain at the forefront. The web portal continues to evolve and is a useful resource for those interested in learning about and engaging with the UNFCCC through the LCIPP.

The ICC played an important leadership role in addressing a need for and advancing formal Terms of Reference to guide the FWG and its membership in their engagement both inside and outside of the UNFCCC. This included raising our continuing concerns about the problematic term “local communities.” Regarding this latter, the ICC Policy Paper on “Local Communities” has been constructive in all of the work within the UNFCCC and has garnered support and attention in various intergovernmental fora and other Indigenous Peoples’ Organizations. We also advanced the need to provide a review of the FWG from an Indigenous Peoples’ perspective in order to accurately assess the responsiveness of the FWG to Inuit and other Indigenous Peoples and advance our concerns about, and aspirations for, the FWG.

UNFCCC Conference of the Parties [COP]

Over the past four years, ICC has participated in COP24, 25, and 26. In December 2018, Monica Ell-Kanayuk, ICC Canada President, attended **COP24** in Katowice, Poland along with the National Inuit Youth Council President. ICC’s focus at this COP was to engage in the negotiations regarding the organization, governance and activities of the Facilitative Working Group and the actual operationalization of the LCIPP. Two issues presented great challenges in reaching a final text: (1) certain Parties wanted to cherry pick articles from UNDRIP (i.e. language on sovereignty and territorial integrity, Article 46) to include in the preamble of the decision text, and (2) certain Parties advocated for the inclusion of seats for local community representatives on the Facilitative Working Group despite the lack of definition of local communities and the lack of a formal constituency for local communities under the UNFCCC. ICC maintained a firm position that the status, rights, and responsibilities of Indigenous Peoples must be distinct and firmly understood and we cannot and should

not speak for the undefined category of “local communities”. We also maintained that UNDRIP must be recognized in its entirety and that no platform is better than a platform decision with language that weakens Indigenous Peoples’ rights, erroneously using the UN Declaration. ICC remained firm in our position and, through support from friendly Parties such as Canada, we were able to influence the negotiations so that there were no seats allocated to “local communities” and no specific articles were cherry picked from the UN Declaration.

In 2019, the ICC participated in **COP25**, which was held in Madrid, Spain, and where we put attention on growing our youth representation. As such, the Inuit delegation grew to include both an Emerging Leader and also Inuit youth from Tuktoyaktuk, who screened their film “Happening to Us” about coastal erosion in their community at several ICC co-hosted side events. Additionally, media interviews, bilateral engagements, and other speaking opportunities centered on strategizing for ICC advancement of our objective to feature the Arctic and our interests in the climate change arena. Lastly, ICC made a submission to the UNFCCC’s Ocean Dialogue at COP25. The submission focused on the interconnections between biodiversity and climate change, the importance of the ocean for Inuit, and the imperative to include Indigenous Peoples in such dialogue. We are continuing our efforts to promote more interconnectedness between biodiversity and climate processes and discussions, which remain separate at the international level.

The ICC delegation grew even bigger for **COP26**, which took place from November 1-12, 2021, in Glasgow, Scotland, and brought together ICC leadership, Inuit youth, elders, and community leaders. As mentioned above, COP26 saw the endorsement and approval of the LCIPP’s FWG review and second work plan. Indigenous Peoples also strongly advocated for explicit reference to human rights and, even more specifically, to Indigenous Peoples’ human rights, e.g., the 2007 *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, in the text on carbon markets under the Paris Agreement’s Article 6 negotiations. Prior to our attendance in Glasgow, the ICC prepared a Statement to guide our participation. ICC’s activities were expansive and extensive including two ICC-led side events featuring Marine Governance and Youth and Infrastructure across Inuit Nunaat. Our delegates also participated in numerous meetings and events, including

a panel on oceans and cryosphere; a dialogue with UK COP26 Presidency; a panel session on Arctic Indigenous Perspectives and experiences at the UN Food Systems Summit and Impacts of Climate Change; an event on the achievements of the FWG; an FWG annual gathering of knowledge holders; an ITK and UK government-hosted event on Self-determination in Research; and brief meetings with foundations that support Indigenous Peoples' climate change initiatives. Our presence in Glasgow also afforded the opportunity to meet with the UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation and to dialogue with US Special Envoy for Climate Change John Kerry and Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland. Notably, ICC hosted an INUIT NIGHT reception in the Cryosphere Pavilion and INUIT DAY at Strathclyde University, which included panels and performers. ICC delegates participated in countless interviews and media opportunities with global, national, and local media outlets including the BBC and CBC.

The ICC remains active within the International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on Climate Change that operates within the UNFCCC space to ensure that the Arctic Region is well represented. One of our main messages has been the need for regions to speak for themselves to emphasize that there is not one 'Indigenous voice' but rather many diverse voices starting with the seven UN Indigenous Peoples' sociocultural regions.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [IPCC]

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (**IPCC**) is a UN body that assesses science related to climate change. The IPCC is organized into assessment cycles and produces assessment reports as well as special reports during each cycle. ICC's request for Observer Status was granted in February 2020. In February 2022, ICC participated in an approval session for Working Group II's (WGII) Summary for Policy Makers marking the first time in the history of the IPCC that an Indigenous Peoples Organization participated as an official Observer.

Over the past four years, ICC has been involved in the expert review of Special Reports and Working Group Reports under the 6th Assessment Report Cycle. We have also been contributing authors to two reports. Our contributions to the Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a

Changing Climate and to the Polar Regions' Cross-Chapter in WGII's report have highlighted Inuit self-determination in climate change assessments within IPCC and Inuit-led climate action and transformative adaptation. The sections are written in first-person format by Indigenous Peoples as an effort to support our self-determination and these mark the first time in the IPCC's history that such contributions have been included.

In addition, given that 223 of the 574 Tribal Governments in the US are in Alaska, the ICC shaped a contribution to the North America Chapter [Alaska, Canada, USA, and Mexico] of the WGII Report. This was accomplished by identifying, inviting, and coordinating the work of key members of the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals [ITEP] and other Indigenous scholars [in Canada and Mexico] working in the field of climate change. This collaboration has resulted in an expansion of ITEP's enhanced participation within the UNFCCC, among other things. In particular, it is likely that ITEP will organize a training session focused on what Tribes can do to advance their concerns regarding the impact of climate change within their communities.

Two other elements of the IPCC's work have involved serving as a Panel Participant in the **IPCC** event **Say It with Science: Indigenous Knowledge & Equitable Climate Transitions** that explored how IPCC scientists integrate equity and Indigenous knowledge into climate science. Finally, ICC contributed to a Cambridge University Press book chapter specifically on "widening the knowledge base", specifically with Indigenous knowledge systems, within the IPCC.

UN Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), and the **Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee (POPRC)**

The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) is a global treaty that restricts or bans the use, trade, transport, and emission of contaminants that have been identified as persistent, bio accumulative, toxic, and undergoing long-range transport. Since Inuit are disproportionately affected by these chemicals, with contaminant levels often being higher than among any other population measured, and frequently exceeding health guidelines, ICC has been very actively involved in the negotiation of this treaty, which was adopted in 2001. ICC is an accredited observer and remains active in its implementation. ICC

usually attends Conferences of the Parties (COPs), as well as meetings of the technical body, the POP Review Committee (POPRC). The POPRC meets annually and reviews chemicals that are proposed for addition to the annexes of the Convention, and makes recommendations to the COP.

New contaminants continue to be added to the annexes of the Convention, which started with 12 chemicals when it entered into force in 2004. Currently, 30 POPs are listed under the Convention's annexes, one chemical is recommended for addition, three are currently being reviewed, and three more have just been nominated for inclusion. The newly nominated chemicals and those already under review will be discussed at the next POPRC meeting, which is planned to take place in person from 24 – 28th January 2022 (COVID permitting). A face-to-face meeting of the next Stockholm Convention COP is planned in June 2022 in Geneva, Switzerland.

UN Minamata Convention on Mercury

ICC is an observer to the **Minamata Convention on Mercury** and has been a crucial voice in the negotiations of the Minamata Convention, which entered into force in 2017. We remain active, attending the Conference of the Parties (COPs) and working within intersessional technical expert groups.

ICC was, for example, an observer to the ad-hoc expert group on the **effectiveness evaluation** of the Minamata Convention and contributed to the development of a report on the monitoring framework. The matter was a topic at the **Minamata Convention COP-3**, 25 – 29 Nov 2019, which ICC attended. ICC is currently participating in further online discussions around the monitoring plan and the effectiveness evaluation and contributing to the development of associated reports and guidance, to be delivered by ICC to **COP-4**. A virtual session of COP-4 took place in early November 2021, and a face-to-face segment will take place at the end of March 2022 in Bali, Indonesia. At that meeting, detailed discussions on the effectiveness evaluation and monitoring guidance are going to take place. ICC is advocating for the inclusion of Indigenous representatives in the process, as well as for specific language in associated documents and guidance on the need for Indigenous Knowledge and Indigenous self-determination in mercury research.

UN Environment Assembly [UNEA] and Plastics

ICC Greenland has embarked on cooperation with the local group **Plastic Not So Fantastic** to minimize the growing problem of plastic use. They held a public workshop that included presentations from WWF Greenland and the Greenland Government's Department of Environment. In addition, ICC Greenland is working on school materials for middle and primary schools about the environment and how to take care of nature – this program is called "Pinngortitaq Inuillu", which means Nature and Inuit, and ICC Greenland is actively fundraising with outreach to Greenland's Department of the Environment and others.

ICC has signed a global call for action on plastics (<https://bit.ly/PlasticsTreatySign>) and provided comments on a resolution for the 5th meeting of the United Nations Environment Assembly, which outlines the need to start negotiations for a global treaty on plastic pollution. The face-to-face segment of UNEA 5 where this will be discussed is currently planned to take place in February 2022 in Nairobi, Kenya.

ICC has also commented on the draft Arctic Science Ministerial declaration entitled "Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals". We pointed out the need to emulate the POPs and Minamata Conventions and ensure the language includes the Arctic and Indigenous Peoples. ICC also pointed out the importance of combining science and Indigenous Knowledge for effective climate action and policy making. We also drew attention to the important work of the Arctic Council and its Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter, which was released last year.



PIKIALASORSUAQ & PIKIALASORSUAQ IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

Although stalled by the lack of funding, the pandemic, elections, changes in Inuit leadership and roles in both Canada and Greenland, we have worked to advance Inuit control and management of the **Pikialasorsuaq** (North Water polynya) in the northern Baffin Bay and Davis Straight between Canada and Greenland and to ensure visa free travel and mobility for Inuit coastal community hunters, harvesters, and fishers. The **Pikialasorsuaq Implementation Committee (PIC)** was established to implement the original commission's recommendations. To date, we have held meetings with representatives of the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, the rights holders within the region on the Canadian side as well as meetings with the Avannaata Kommunia (Municipal Council on the Greenland side). Our key message to all concerned has been the importance for everyone to participate on an equal footing and for the area to be considered in an interrelated and interconnected, holistic fashion. In addition, it is important for the Inuit communities reliant on the Pikialasorsuaq to

directly participate in the project and to work together. At the national level, the Government of Canada has responded favorably with finalized agreements with Inuit rights holders and further negotiations concerning adjacent areas. We await a response from the Government of Denmark and also the Government of Greenland. We understand that Canada and Denmark are making progress on a Letter of Intent outlining a commitment for cooperation on the Pikialasorsuaq. This would be a precursor to a more formal Memorandum of Understanding.

Together with Avannaata Kommunia and the local branch of KNAPK (Fisher's and Hunter's Association) in Qaanaaq, in January 2020 ICC transmitted a letter to the Government of Greenland insisting on their involvement in further negotiating processes. To date, ICC Greenland has had a meeting with the Minister for Environment who promised to involve the parties in future developments. It is anticipated that a gathering will be held in Qaanaaq in early 2022 for dialogue on the PIC.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

ICC leaders have been directly involved in current efforts to prepare the Joint Program of Scientific Research and Monitoring within the 2017 International Agreement to Prevent Unregulated High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean, which has emphasized the importance of Indigenous Knowledge in policies and appropriate management measures supporting the conservation of the Arctic Ocean. As previously reported, the ICC was the only Indigenous Peoples' organization to form an integral part of the negotiation process through national State delegations. We will be a key partner in the creation of an enhanced knowledge system for the sustainability of future commercial fishing activities. ICC participants have raised the need to protect our food security and cultural practices as well as Indigenous Knowledge (IK) methodologies within the scientific and monitoring programs required to support the Agreement. The first conference of parties is scheduled to take place, now being planned in person, in Korea in late spring/summer 2022. It was noted that ICC needs to ensure common messaging even though those who are participating in the CAO agreement negotiations are a part of their country delegations.

The ICC has issued three infrastructure-specific press releases and included the infrastructure deficit in our presentations and statements both inside and outside of Inuit Nunaat at the regional, national, and international level. Specifically, we highlighted the spread of the coronavirus and the urgent need to remedy the profound infrastructure gap in Inuit Nunaat that contributes to vulnerability and underpins the health challenges being experienced by too many of our people. Inuit communities historically experienced a devastating loss of life due to lack of immunity to preventable diseases such as influenza, tuberculosis, and other viruses and diseases. The lethal impacts of these diseases were compounded by the absence of the resources and infrastructure required to effectively prevent and respond to them. The basic conditions that contributed to vulnerability in the past continue to this day in too many of our communities, contributing to a high prevalence of tuberculosis, respiratory infections, and greater susceptibility to other viruses and diseases.

We called upon governments to close the infrastructure gaps throughout Inuit Nunaat through major new investments in our communities, prioritizing basic infrastructure such as housing, water and sanitation. And ensuring that this investment supports climate-resilient infrastructure critical for our communities, which are dealing with the most significant impacts of climate change. We expounded on the fact that this is the only way to create social and economic equity, support population health, and reduce vulnerability to virus and disease. In addition, when designing local, regional and national response and preparedness to the coronavirus and other infectious diseases, governments must acknowledge the challenges that Inuit communities face. Because of these conditions, combined with looming threats such as the coronavirus, Inuit leaders across the Arctic are concerned about the compounded threats to our basic health, well-being and cultural integrity.

As noted above, we prepared a submission to the UN Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation, in collaboration with the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami. The intervention highlighted conditions throughout Alaska, Canada, and Greenland. Due to lack of substantive information on conditions in Chukotka, the document did not address this region. The submission underscored the need for states to make major new Inuit-specific investments in Inuit community water and sanitation infrastructure and take measures to streamline processes for community procurement of funding; that a call to the Arctic Council should be leveraged to support solutions for improving access to drinking water and sanitation; and that a specific call to the Government of Canada must prioritize improving water and sanitation infrastructure in Inuit Nunangat; it also highlighted the need for states and academic institutions to prioritize investments in Inuit-led research into drinking water and sanitation in Inuit communities.

Finally, during COP26 in Glasgow, where the UNSR was present, the ICC was able to meet with the UNSR. We thanked him for his interest in our written submission and the opportunity to include Inuit concerns within his report on Indigenous Peoples and drinking water and sanitation services, which he intends to complete in 2022. He indicated that he would be grateful for our advice and input into this work and noted that he intends to collaborate with Jose Francisco Cali Tzay, UNSR on the rights of Indigenous peoples. His desire is to ensure that their respective reports will be complementary. The ICC raised the potential opportunity for him to make a country visit and he stated that he was in favor of the idea and that the ICC could count on his cooperation in this regard. However, we recognize the need for an invitation from the Government of Canada; financial support; identification of communities; and coordination with ICC, ITK, and the communities concerned.



In February 2020, the **International Inuit Business Association (IIBA)** was created on the margins of the bi-annual Northern Lights Trade Show. In addition to broad ICC country region participation, there was a participant of the Emerging Leaders project in attendance. Following discussions, it was decided to formally establish the IIBA. Although the call for the first annual Meeting of Representatives was set to take place within 13 months of the founding date, due to COVID-19 the gathering has been postponed. In the meantime, the provisional officers are reaching out to companies interested in building connections across international borders and identifying specific sectors to focus on with regard to barriers to partnering.

This concludes our report for the period 19 July 2018 to 19 July 2022. In future reports, we hope to include the names of all Inuit that have assisted us in our work at the local, regional, national and international level – the ICC is every Inuk, and every Inuk is the ICC.



