Summary of Community Meetings on the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

ARCTIC BAY

November 1-2, 2012

Revised - August 2013
Chapter 1: Introduction

1.1 Context

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) is preparing a land use plan to guide and direct resource use and development in the Nunavut Settlement Area (NSA). As part of its efforts, the NPC is facilitating discussions in each Nunavut community on land use and resource management issues. Information that is obtained from these discussions will be used to inform decisions regarding the further development of the Nunavut Land Use Plan (NLUP).

1.2 Purpose

This report presents information obtained during the NPC’s visit to the community of Arctic Bay. The purpose of the report is to inform decisions regarding the further development of the NLUP, ensuring that the plan reflects the priorities and values of residents.

It is important to note that the information contained in the Community Report will be considered in conjunction with all other feedback when revising the DNLUP.

1.3 Methodology

Information was presented to and received from participants in Arctic Bay in accordance with the Nunavut Planning Commission’s Community Engagement Strategy (Engagement Strategy). The Engagement Strategy provides for the following methods for presenting and receiving information:

- Open house: information contained in the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (DNLUP) was presented on 7 multi-lingual large format poster boards. Participants were encouraged to review the posters, ask questions and provide feedback. Comments and questions were recorded by NPC staff and are contained in Appendix 1.
- Elected Officials Meeting: The NPC Chairperson and NPC staff met with senior and elected officials in the community. The development process for the DNLUP, its content and next steps were presented.
- Public Workshop: A formal presentation of the DNLUP content was provided to participants, including a slide overview of its content. Following the presentation, questions and comments were received from participants. The questions, comments and responses are contained in Appendix 3.
- Open house: approximately 45 people attended the open house to review the DNLUP and facilitated mapping sessions. Information was recorded in three separate mapping groups.
- Wrap Up Session: approximately 10 people attended the wrap up session. No additional mapping was conducted.

Areas that participants identified during mapping sessions as important to a particular goal have, in the majority of cases, been included in this report as they were recorded. In instances where participants identified an area that was better suited to another goal, the area has been reclassified to the more suitable goal and has been verified as appropriate to do so by the Community.

A follow-up meeting was held on May 30, 2013 to review a draft version of this report with the Hamlet Council, Hunters and Trappers Organization, and Community Lands and Resource Committee. A summary of this meeting is included in Appendix 5.

1.4 Public Awareness

The NPC raised public awareness regarding its visit to Arctic Bay in accordance with the Engagement Strategy.

The DNLUP and supporting materials were mailed to the Mayor and Council of Arctic Bay, the Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTO) in September 2012. In addition, letters of invitation were sent to the Arctic Bay Mayor and Council and HTO in advance of the NPC’s visit to advise of the meetings and to encourage participation. Follow up phone calls were also made.

Public notice of the various events was provided in the following ways:

- Nunatsiaq News and Nunavut News/North: notice of community meetings were posted in both newspapers a minimum of 45 days in advance.
- Co-op cable TV: notice of community meetings was run a minimum of 45 days in advance for one week and run again for no less than 14 days before the meetings.
- Community radio: notices were read by the hosts and a live interview with the Commission Chairperson was conducted.
- Community bulletin boards: notices were posted on bulletin boards around the community 45 days and again 14 days in advance of the meetings.
- Community mail drop: one page flyers that announced the meetings and their purpose were delivered to the post office in each community for all mail boxes that accept unaddressed ad-mail.
- nunavut.ca: the schedule of community visits, the Draft Plan, and all supporting information was available on the Commission’s website.

1.5 Community Population and Participation

Arctic Bay is a community of approximately 825 people (Statistics Canada. 2011 Census). It is located on the northern coast of Baffin Island (see Figure 1).

The Commission visited the community on November 1-2, 2012. All events occurred as scheduled. The sessions were attended as follows:
Chapter 2: Protecting and Sustaining the Environment

Protecting and Sustaining the Environment was one of five topics presented to and discussed by participants during the Open House, Elected Officials Meeting, Public Workshop and Wrap up Session, collectively referred to in this document as information sharing and gathering sessions.

2.1 Areas presented to participants

During the information sharing and gathering sessions, participants were presented the following areas and issues as important to Protecting and Sustaining the Environment.

- Key bird habitat sites
- Caribou Habitat sites
- Atlantic Cod Lakes
- Cumulative Impacts
- Transboundary considerations
- Climate change

The importance of these issues and areas to Protecting and Sustaining the Environment was not disputed by participants during the information sharing and gathering sessions.

2.2 Areas identified by participants

Additional areas and issues were identified by participants as important to Protecting and Sustaining the Environment during the information sharing and gathering sessions. These additional areas are:

- Caribou
- Marine Mammals
- Nesting areas for birds
- Muskox
- Important wildlife areas
- National Parks
- Polar Bear

2.3 Areas of importance to Protecting and Sustaining the Environment

Areas and issues discussed during the information sharing and gathering sessions as important to Protecting and Sustaining the Environment are illustrated on Map 1, including areas identified in the DNLUP and areas identified by the community. Scanned images of the maps on which community feedback was recorded can be found in Appendix 4.

Based on discussions with participants, the NPC understands that:

- The areas identified on Map 1 are considered by the Community to be important to Protecting and Sustaining the Environment.
- In these areas, the community would like the NLUP to encourage activities that support environmental protection and management needs, including wildlife conservation, protection and management.

This feedback will be considered in conjunction with all other feedback when revising the DNLUP.
Goal areas discussed during community consultations represent the generalized goal areas presented from the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (DNLUP). Goal areas do not represent specific designations and recommendations as layed out in the DNLUP. For more information on these areas please refer to the DNLUP and the Options and Recommendations document. Information collected in communities will be considered in conjunction with all other feedback when revising the DNLUP and will be part of the Consultation Record.
Chapter 3: Encouraging Conservation Planning

Encouraging Conservation Planning was one of five topics presented to and discussed by the participants during the information sharing and gathering sessions.

3.1 Areas presented to participants

During the information sharing and gathering sessions, participants were presented the following areas and issues as important to Encouraging Conservation Planning:

- National Parks Awaiting Full Establishment
- Proposed National Parks
- National Marine Conservation Areas
- Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary
- Migratory Bird Sanctuaries
- National Wildlife Areas
- National Historic Sites
- Territorial Historic Sites
- Heritage Rivers

The importance of these issues and areas to Encouraging Conservation Planning was not disputed by participants during the information sharing and gathering sessions.

3.2 Areas identified by participants

Additional areas and issues were identified by participants as important to Encouraging Conservation Planning during the information sharing and gathering sessions. These additional areas are:

- Historical Camps
- Heritage Rivers

3.3 Areas of importance to Encouraging Conservation Planning

Areas and issues discussed during the information sharing and gathering sessions as important to Encouraging Conservation Planning are illustrated on Map 2, including areas identified in the DNLUP and areas identified by the community. Scanned images of the maps on which community feedback was recorded can be found in Appendix 4.

Based on discussions with participants, the NPC understands that:

- The areas identified on Map 2 are considered by the Community to be important to Encouraging Conservation Planning.
- In these areas, the community would like the NLUP to encourage activities that support environmental protection and management needs, including wildlife conservation, protection and management.

This feedback will be considered in conjunction with all other feedback when revising the DNLUP.
Goal areas discussed during community consultations represent the generalized goal areas presented from the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (DNLUP). Goal areas do not represent specific designations and recommendations as laid out in the DNLUP. For more information on these areas please refer to the DNLUP and the Options and Recommendations document. Information collected in communities will be considered in conjunction with all other feedback when revising the DNLUP and will be part of the Consultation Record.

For Data Sources see Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (DNLUP). Areas identified by community collected as part of the Nunavut Planning Commission’s Community Engagement Strategy during the Mapping Sessions for the DNLUP on November 1 & 2, 2012. Maps were digitized at the Nunavut Planning Commission. To be used for illustration purposes only as part of the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan Consultation Process.
Building Healthier Communities was one of five topics presented to and discussed by the participants during the information sharing and gathering sessions.

4.1 Areas presented to participants

During the information sharing and gathering sessions, participants were presented the following areas and issues as important to Building Healthier Communities;

- Areas of Community Interest
- Community Land Use
- Transportation Infrastructure
- Unincorporated Communities
- Alternative Energy Sources
- Community drinking water supplies
- Land remediation
- Northern Contaminated Sites Program
- Aerodromes
- Canadian Forces Station
- Northern Warning System sites

The importance of these issues and areas to Building Healthier Communities was not disputed by participants.

4.2 Areas identified by participants

Additional areas and issues were identified by participants as important to contributing to the goal of Building Healthier Communities during the information sharing and gathering sessions. These additional areas are;

- Contaminated Sites
- Drinking Water

4.3 Areas of importance to Building Healthier Communities

Areas and issues discussed during the information sharing and gathering sessions as important to Building Healthier Communities are illustrated on Map 3, including areas identified in the DNLUP and areas identified by the community. Scanned images of the maps on which community feedback was recorded can be found in Appendix 4.

Based on discussions with participants, the NPC understands that:

- The areas identified on Map 3 are considered by the Community to be important to Building Healthier Communities.
- In these areas, the community would like the NLUP to encourage activities that support community needs and cultural priorities.

This feedback will be considered in conjunction with all other feedback when revising the DNLUP.
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Produced by the Nunavut Planning Commission (867)983-4625, npc@nunavut.ca
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Chapter 5: Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development

Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development was one of five topics presented to and discussed by the participants during the information sharing and gathering sessions.

5.1 Areas presented to participants

During the information sharing and gathering sessions, participants were presented with the following areas important to Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development;

- Mineral Exploration and Production
- Oil and Gas Exploration
- Commercial Fisheries

The importance of these issues and areas to Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development was not disputed by participants during the information sharing and gathering sessions.

5.2 Areas identified by participants

Additional areas and issues were identified by participants as important to Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development during the information sharing and gathering sessions. The additional areas identified are;

- Mineral exploration
- Commercial fishing
- Beluga and Char Commercial fishing
- Polar Bear Tourism and Sport Hunting

5.3 Areas of importance to Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development

Areas and issues discussed during the information sharing and gathering sessions as important to Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development are illustrated on Map 4, including areas identified in the DNLUP and areas identified by the community. Scanned images of the maps on which community feedback was recorded can be found in Appendix 4.

Based on discussions with participants, the NPC understands that:

- The areas identified on Map 4 are considered by the Community to be important to Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development.
- In these areas, the community would like the NLUP to encourage activities that support economic opportunities and needs.

This feedback will be considered in conjunction with all other feedback when revising the DNLUP.
Goal areas discussed during community consultations represent the generalized goal areas presented from the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (DNLUP). Goal areas do not represent specific designations and recommendations as laid out in the DNLUP. For more information on these areas please refer to the DNLUP and the Options and Recommendations documents. Information collected in communities will be considered in conjunction with all other feedback when revising the DNLUP and will be part of the Consultation Record.

For Data Sources see Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (DNLUP). Areas identified by community collected as part of the Nunavut Planning Commissions Community Engagement Strategy during the Mapping Sessions for the DNLUP on November 1 & 2, 2012. Maps were digitized at the Nunavut Planning Commission.

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6.1 Areas identified in the Draft Plan

The DNLUP identifies areas important for a variety of uses. These areas were presented to participants during the workshop as Mixed Use Areas. These areas, as they occur around the community, are illustrated on Map 5.

6.2 Areas identified by participants

No additional areas were identified as Mixed Use by participants. However, some areas identified as Mixed Use in the DNLUP were considered by participants to require additional protection because of their particular qualities. These areas and the goals they are important for are identified on Map 6.
Goal areas discussed during community consultations represent the generalized goal areas presented from the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (DNLUP). Goal areas do not represent specific designations and recommendations as laid out in the DNLUP. For more information on these areas please refer to the DNLUP and the Options and Recommendations document. Information collected in communities will be considered in conjunction with all other feedback when revising the DNLUP and will be part of the Consultation Record.
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7.1 Areas identified for multiple goals

All areas discussed with the community as important for a particular goal are shown on Map 7. In some instances, areas have been identified as important for multiple goals. These areas, and the specific goals they are important to, are also shown on Map 7. In these areas, the NPC will take all of the identified goals and all other feedback into consideration when revising the DNLUP.
Areas identified by community collected as part of the Nunavut Planning Commission’s Community Engagement Strategy during the Mapping Sessions for the DNUPP on November 1 & 2, 2012. Maps were digitized at the Nunavut Planning Commission.

To be used for illustration purposes only as part of the draft Nunavut Land Use Plan consultation process. Produced by the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC), 28/02/2013.
Appendix 1: Open House

During the open house, participants raised the following issues:

- Concerned with impacts from oil exploration in Greenland, including sonic depth sounders
- The identification of caribou areas on Baffin Island
- Need for a no-fly zone for helicopters in Moffat Inlet, including areas where ATVs are driven
- Interested in opportunities for jobs, and concerned with the level of unemployment since the closure of Nanisivik
- Concerned with the large number of flights disturbing caribou hunting
- Narwhal and seals are also important to the economy
- Concerned with the remediation of the old airport, including fuel in the ground
- The cleanup of Nanisivik
Appendix 2: Elected Officials Meeting

The elected officials meeting was attended by the Mayor and members of the Hamlet Council and HTO. During the meeting, participants raised the following issues:

- Impacts from shipping
- Oil spill management
- Oil and gas exploration and ship traffic in Lancaster Sound
- Protection of wildlife and marine mammals
- Concerns with ice breaking in Admiralty Inlet
- Concerns with cruise ships and pleasure craft in certain areas
During the community workshop, there was a question and answer period, which included a discussion of the following topics:

- **How effective will the land use plan be?**
  - The Commission explained that the plan will be legally binding once approved.

- **Why has it taken so long to produce a plan?**
  - The Commission answered that the North Baffin and Keewatin Regional Land Use Plans are in place and the Commission has been working on a Nunavut wide plan for several years. The Commission intended to visit communities earlier, but government did not support previous attempts.

- **Concerned with the decrease in numbers of seals.**

- **Can the land use plan place restrictions on the sea?**
  - The Commission answered that the land use plan applies to the ocean as well.

- **Concerned with cruise ships going to Moffat Inlet.**
  - The Commission answered that the areas can be identified during the mapping session, and that the Nunavut Marine Council may also be able to consider the issue.

- **Concerned with Russian claim in Lancaster Sound.**
  - The Commission answered that Russia (and other countries) are concerned with passage through Lancaster Sound. The area of dispute regarding ownership between Russia and Canada is further north.

- **Concerned with the protection of historic/cultural sites.**
  - The Commission answered that the areas can be identified during the mapping session.
Three groups completed the mapping session to identify important areas. This Appendix contains the maps that were used by participants to identify areas that are important to the following land use planning goals:

- Protecting and Sustaining the Environment
- Encouraging Conservation Planning
- Building Healthier Communities
- Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development
- Mixed Use

Also included on each map is a reference table that includes the specific values that were identified for the area.

During the mapping portion of the community workshop, the following concerns were raised that did not apply to a specific area that was identified on the maps:

- No areas should be identified for their importance to oil and gas
ARCTIC WORKSHOP
Nov 1, 2012
The NPC returned to the community to review a draft version of this report with the Hamlet Council, Hunters and Trappers Organization, and Community Lands and Resource Committee. The meeting included:

- A presentation of a draft version of this report
- An overview of the mapped information that was recorded for each topic:
  - Protecting and Sustaining the Environment
  - Encouraging Conservation Planning
  - Building Healthier Communities
  - Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development
  - Mixed Use
- Potential changes to the classification of a few mapped areas were discussed and agreed to.
- General discussion and comments including:
  - Timelines for completion
  - Opportunities to provide additional comments