



**Nunavik Marine Region Planning Commission**

**Fiscal Year 2012-2013**

**Annual Report**

## **Nunavik Marine Region Planning Commission**

This Annual Report of the Nunavik Marine Region Planning Commission (NMRPC) covers the period from April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013 and outlines the activities of the NMRPC during this period in fulfillment of its mandate as set out in Article 6 of the Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement (NILCA).

This report also serves as the Annual Report that is required to be submitted by the NMRPC pursuant to Schedule DIAND-4 of the *Amending Agreement for Subsequent Years of an ARFA [Aboriginal Recipient Funding Agreement] for Fiscal Year 2012-2013* signed between Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada and the NMRPC (Agreement No.: 1112-01-000377).

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

---

The mission of the Nunavik Marine Region Planning Commission is to develop planning policies and priorities for the Nunavik Marine Region (NMR). The primary purpose of land use planning in the NMR is to protect and promote the existing and future well being of those persons and communities resident in or using the NMR taking into account the interests of all Canadians. Special attention is devoted to protecting and promoting the existing and future well-being of Nunavik Inuit and Nunavik Inuit Lands.

### **ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NMRPC**

---

The NMRPC is an institution of public government that was established pursuant to *the provisions of the Agreement Between the Nunavik Inuit and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada*, also known as the *Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement (NILCA)*, which was signed by the respective parties on December 1, 2006.

The mandate for the NMRPC is set out under Article 6 of the NILCA, which specifies that the NMRPC is to become the main instrument of land use planning in the Nunavik Marine Region.

The provisions of the NILCA, including the establishment of the NMRPC with the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person, were given effect by the *Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement Act* and came into force, by Order of the Government of Canada, on February 14, 2008.

However, the NMRPC only became operationally effective after: the members of the Commission had been duly nominated by the Government of Canada, the Nunavut Government and Makivik Corporation; the nominated members had been officially appointed to their positions by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development; and, the initial meeting of the members of the Commission had been held, which took place in Montreal on December 16, 2009.

## **MANDATE**

---

As noted above, the mandate for the Nunavik Marine Region Planning Commission is set out in Article 6 of the *Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement*. In particular, the role and responsibilities of the NMRPC are set out in sections 6.4.1 and 6.4.4 of the Agreement.

These provisions of the NILCA are set out as follows:

*6.4.1 The NMRPC is hereby established as an institution of public government with the major responsibilities to:*

*(a) establish broad planning policies, objectives and goals for the NMR in conjunction with Government;*

*(b) develop, consistent with other provisions of this Article, land use plans that guide and direct resource use and development in the NMR; and*

*(c) generally, fulfill the objectives of the Agreement in the manner described, and in accordance with the general principles mentioned in section 6.2.1, as well as such additional functions as may be agreed upon from time to time by Government and the MDO.*

*6.4.4 Consistent with the Agreement, the NMRPC shall:*

- (a) identify planning regions;*
- (b) identify specific planning objectives, goals and variables that apply to planning regions and are consistent with the broader objectives and goals;*
- (c) contribute to the development and review of Arctic marine policy;*
- (d) disseminate information and data;*
- (e) solicit opinions from municipalities, residents and others about planning objectives, goals and options of the region;*
- (f) prepare and circulate draft land use plans;*
- (g) promote public awareness and discussion and conduct public hearings and debate throughout the planning process;*
- (h) recommend plans to the Ministers;*
- (i) consider modifications requested by the Ministers in the event that a draft plan is rejected;*
- (j) consider amendments to a land use plan in accordance with Part 6;*
- (k) determine whether a project proposal is in conformity with a land use plan;*
- (l) monitor projects to ensure that they are in conformity with land use plans; and*
- (m) report annually to the Ministers and the MDO on the implementation of land use plans.*

## MEMBERS OF THE NMRPC

---

As provided for under section 6.4.5 of the NILCA, the membership of the NMRPC is to consist of an equal number of members (currently set at two members) between those that are recommended by Government and those that are nominated by Makivik Corporation plus a Chairperson who is to be jointly nominated by the other members. With the current membership of the NMRPC set at four commissioners, the Chairperson becomes the fifth member of the NMRPC who, after nomination by the other members, must be appointed by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

In addition, the reciprocal arrangements between the Nunavik Inuit and the Crees of Eeyou Istchee that are set out in Article 28 provide that, if the NILCA comes into force before the Cree offshore agreement comes into force, (which it did) the Crees shall nominate members equal in number to those nominated by the Nunavik Inuit. The provisions of Article 28 provide that a Cree member will replace one of the Inuit members for voting purposes when decisions or recommendations are made by the NMRPC in relation to the "Joint Zone". The boundaries of the Joint Inuit/Cree Zone (or "Joint Zone") are described in Schedule 2a of the *Cree/Inuit Offshore Overlap Agreement* that is appended as Schedule 28-1 of the NILCA.

During FY 2012-2013, the membership of the Commission consisted of the Inuit and Cree members shown below who had all been duly appointed by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

<b>CHAIRPERSON</b> Henry Alayco	
<b>GOVERNMENT OF CANADA APPOINTEE</b> Lorne McNeice	<b>GOVERNMENT OF NUNAVUT APPOINTEE</b> David Alagalak

<b>MAKIVIK CORPORATION APPOINTEES</b>	
Muncy Novalinga	Charlie Arngak
<b>GRAND COUNCIL OF THE CREES (EYYOU ISTCHEE) APPOINTEES</b>	
Phillip Awashish	Alan Penn

At the second meeting of the members of the Commission, which was held in Kuujuaq on February 16-17, 2010, it was agreed by the unanimous vote of the members that Henry Alayco, the elected interim Chairperson for the NMRPC, should be nominated to serve as the permanent Chairperson of the NMRPC. A letter to this effect was subsequently sent to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Henry Alayco was formally appointed by the Minister as the Chairperson for the NMRPC.

As Henry Alayco was a Makivik Corporation nominee to the Commission, Makivik was responsible for nominating a replacement member as provided for under 6.4.10 of the NILCA. As a result, Mr. Muncy Novalinga, nominated by Makivik Corporation, was appointed to the NMRPC by the Minister in July 2012 and Mr. David Alagalak, who was nominated by the Government of Nunavut in replacement of Qavaroak Qatsiya, was appointed to the NMRPC by the Minister in August 2012. On Monday August 8<sup>th</sup> 2012 they were both sworn-in by Reverend Benjamin Arreak.

## **MEETINGS OF THE NMRPC**

---

According to the by-laws of the NMRPC (sub-section 9.1), the Commission “shall meet at least twice a year, and may meet as often as it deems fit.” The NMRPC held two full meetings during 2012-2013, as the Commission had done the previous year, which were all meetings that were jointly held with the members of the Nunavik Marine Region Impact Review Board (NMRIRB).

In this regard, it should be noted that the *NILCA Implementation Plan* specifies that the NMRPC staff and offices are to be shared and co-located with those of the NMRIRB. This means that any decisions such as those related to the hiring of staff or the operation of

the head office must be jointly considered and collectively made by the members of the NMRPC and the NMRIRB prior to these decisions being implemented.

In practice, this has been achieved by way of regular on-going consultations between the Chairpersons of these two institutions of public government and by having joint meetings of the members.

The dates and locations of the joint meetings of the members of the NMRPC and NMRIRB, which have been held during the first four years of the operation of these two NILCA mandated institutions of public government, are shown in the table below.

<b>Meeting No.</b>	<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Location</b>
Meeting # 1	December 16, 2009	Montreal
Meeting # 2	February 16-17, 2010	Kuujuaq
Meeting # 3	June 1-2, 1010	Montreal
Meeting # 4	February 22-23, 2011	Montreal
Meeting # 5	August 8-11, 2011	Kuujuaq
Meeting # 6	February 6-9, 2012	Montreal
Meeting # 7	August 8-10, 2012	Kuujuaq
Meeting # 8	February 5-7, 2013	Montreal

## **NUNAVIK REGION USE-AND-OCCUPANCY MAP SURVEY**

As was mentioned in the FY 2012-2013 workplan for the NMRPC, the focus of the activities to be undertaken by the NMRPC this year must be considered within the context of the Commission's NILCA mandate and the priority related to the development of a land-use plan for the NMR. This primary concern has been addressed by undertaking the Use-and-Occupancy Map (UOM) Survey and the collection of data related to this process, as this will become the foundation for the preparation of the NMR land-use plan.

The joint UOM survey activities of the NMRPC and NMRIRB commenced in fiscal year 2011-2012 and are not scheduled to be completed until October 2015. The UOM survey activities proposed to be undertaken in FY 2012-2013 are toward the middle of this four-year period and will complete the development and refinement of a structured research guide for community interviews and the approach that will be taken with regard to community visits. The activities will also include beginning the process of undertaking the interviews planned to be held within each of the Inuit communities in Nunavik.

In particular, the workplans (dated October 18, 2011 and June 22, 2012) for the Nunavik Region 2012-2015 Use-and-Occupancy Map Survey describe four distinct project phases (see map for reference).

Phase I covers the period October 2011 to August 2012 and has the purpose of laying the groundwork for full-blown data collection across all of Nunavik over the ensuing three years. The work plans specify three major Phase 1 tasks to be undertaken by Nunavik Geomatics Inc., which include:

- facilitating a research-design workshop at which the map-survey parameters are defined in sufficient detail to allow the drafting of the data-collection manual and questionnaire;
- pre-testing the methodology by conducting a few map-biography interviews; and
- conducting pilot map surveys in the two most 'research-ready' communities, to produce map product that can be showcased across Nunavik with a view to educating residents about the project and encouraging widespread participation in Phases 2 and 3.



The research-design workshop was held in Kuujuaq in January 2012 and the pre-test interviews were conducted in Montreal in February 2012 as reported in the NMRPC 2011-2012 Annual Report. This work set the stage for the pilot map surveys that were completed in Aupaluk and Tasiujaq in March and April 2012.



At the joint meeting of the members of the NMRPC and NMRIRB that was held on August 8-10, 2012 in Kuujuaq the Regional Planner, Mishal Naseer, updated the members on the development of the land-use plan and specifically on the UOM study. For the pilot map surveys in Aupaluk and Tasiujaq, she reported that the targets set for respondent interviews were 30 and 38 respectively. The UOM team contracted through Nunavik Geomatics Inc. and led by Mr. Terry Tobias met those targets and in the case of Tasiujaq exceeded them by collecting two oral histories as well. The map biography of Putulik Papigatuk had been digitized, and Henry Alayco's and Johnny Peters' map biographies were completed soon after the Commissioners' meeting. It was also pointed out that the Data-Gap Analysis report would be issued shortly and that the map

biography of Putulik Papigatuk would be ready to print and use for promotions in the community information tours that would commence in September.

Phase II of the Nunavik Region Use-and-Occupancy Map (UOM) Survey commenced in September 2012 with the launch of interviews in the community of Kuujjuaq, which were conducted during the period from September 4<sup>th</sup> to September 18<sup>th</sup>. Over the next few months, the UOM team contracted through Nunavik Geomatics Inc and led by Mr. Terry Tobias met the targets set out in the UOM workplan for the communities of Quaqtuaq, Kangiqsualujjuaq, Kangirsuk, Salluit and had half of the interview targets for Kuujjuaq completed. The Hodge Podge maps from Aupaluk and Tasiujaq as well as the map biographies of Putulik Papigatuk, Henry Alayco and Johnny Peters were also showcased. The map biographies of respondents from Aupaluk, Tasiujaq and Kuujjuaq were also completed and ready to be distributed. Shortly thereafter, a Data-Gap Analysis report was prepared and the maps for interview respondents from the communities of Salluit and Kangirsuk were digitized. The remainder of Phase 2 would be completed in the following fiscal year. With the balance of the project schedule dependent upon available funding.

## **CANADIAN ARCTIC RESEARCH LICENSING INITIATIVE (CARLI)**

---

In FY 2010-2011 the Chairpersons of the NMRIRB and the NMRPC were informed that the Federal Government, through its Program for the International Polar Year (IPY) Canadian Arctic Research Licensing Initiative (CARLI), had indicated that it intended to make funds available to aid in the development of a central research licensing body, for the purpose of coordinating research permitting in Nunavik.

A letter from Makivik Corporation also recommended that, as research licensing involves many different Nunavik agencies, it would be desirable to create a small working group comprised of individuals representing research licensing stakeholders from the Nunavik Region to identify the main requirements necessary for the creation of a central licensing agency, designate the appropriate individuals and/or groups to fulfill these requirements, define the roles of these individuals within their organizations, and complete and submit a proposal to the Federal Government in order to apply for CARLI funding.

In response, the chairpersons of the NMRPC and NMRIRB jointly indicated to Makivik Corporation that their respective organizations would be interested in participating in this initiative and that Lorne McNeice would be the contact person for these purposes

for the NMRPC. The NMRPC agreed to fund all resulting costs for the attendance of their representative for the duration of the appointment. During the February 2013 meeting of the Commissioners it was decided that the Regional Planner would become the contact person with regard to this endeavour.

The members of the NMRPC and NMRIRB were provided with updates on the CARLI project at their joint board meetings held in August 2012 and February 2013. At the joint board meeting in August 2012 the Regional Planner reported that she had attended a community meeting organized by Gregor Gilbert which via visual teleconferencing introduced each of the fourteen communities of Nunavik to the web portal that had been developed. A tutorial of the portal was given and she informed the participants that the portal will go live before the end of the year. However, the launch of the web portal was delayed due to technical difficulties.

## **GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

---

The functions of the NMRPC necessitate the purchase and installation of a professional Geographical Information System (GIS) capacity. This subject was discussed jointly by the members of the NMRPC and NMRIRB and it was agreed that a series of base maps of the Nunavik Marine Region would be purchased from and installed in the shared NMRPC-NMRIRB office in Kuujuaq by Nunavik Geomatics Inc., which is a consulting firm that is wholly-owned by Makivik Corporation and focuses on geomatics products and services ranging from decision support, project management, GIS services, and collection of Traditional Ecological Knowledge.

The installation of the GIS capacity in the shared NMRPC-NMRIRB office in Kuujuaq proceeded largely as intended during the 2011-2012 fiscal year. However, the initial contract with Nunavik Geomatics Inc. was amended during the year to include the incorporation of thematic maps related to the Use and Occupancy Mapping project and a number of other related data layers. Due to the technical demands of including these additional data layers, the full installation of the GIS capacity was delayed until fiscal 2013-2014.

## **WEB SITE AND DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

---

At the joint board meetings of the NMRPC and NMRIRB that were held in FY 2010-2011 the members discussed and eventually mandated their respective chairpersons to

finalize arrangements with Qaujimaatik Systems Inc. and Strata360 for the production of web sites for each of the NMRPC and NMRIRB and a related Document Management System. It was envisaged that each of the web sites would include a Public Registry of the respective policies and procedures of the two bodies, the minutes and resolutions of meetings, public notices and decisions, etc. The web sites were also designed in such a way as to include a series of maps related to the Nunavik Marine Region.

The members of the NMRPC and NMRIRB were provided with an update by Adam Lewis at the joint board meeting held in Kuujuaq in August 2011 on the development of the content to be included in the respective web sites. Pictures of the NMRPC and NMRIRB members were also taken by staff at the meeting for inclusion in the web sites. As well, the design of the web site was discussed and it was agreed that an internal e-mail system would be attached to the web sites.

At the joint meeting of the NMRPC and NMRIRB that was held on February 5-7, 2013 in Montreal, Adam Lewis gave a tour of the two enhanced websites and the webmail server to the Commissioners. The Commissioners were also given one-on-one training in using the new webmail service. A press release was issued later in the month to inform the public that the website was now live. Don Axford reported that well over 80 separate documents were now available to the public on the NMRPC web site.

## **INTER-JURISDICTIONAL RELATIONS**

---

At the joint board meetings of the NMRPC and the NMRIRB that were held in previous fiscal years the members discussed and eventually directed their respective chairpersons to address relationships with adjacent jurisdictions. It was envisaged that each of the chairpersons would interact and instruct the Regional Planner to pursue more direct relations with the respective adjacent organizations created from the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) and the Eeyou Marine Region Land Claims Agreement (EMRLCA).

The chairperson of the NMRPC and the Regional Planner were invited to attend workshops and meetings of the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) regarding the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (DNLUP) and observe the land use planning process and its applications in Nunavut. On December 9, 2012, the chairperson of the NMRPC attended the NPC workshop on the DNLUP and was also invited to participate in the community tour that would be taking place in Nunavik regarding the DNLUP in the spring of 2013.

At the joint board meeting on February 6-9, 2012 (FY 2011-2012) the members of the NMRPC and the NMRIRB also approved the attendance of their respective chairpersons and the Regional Planner at the final International Polar Year (IPY) Conference held in Montreal in April 2012. The chairpersons and the Regional Planner reported on their activities at the conference to their respective organizations at the joint board meeting on August 8-10, 2012 and determined that the IPY conference further emphasized the importance of cultural and traditional data collected utilizing a scientifically-stringent methodology that can help address development in the North.

\* \* \* \* \*