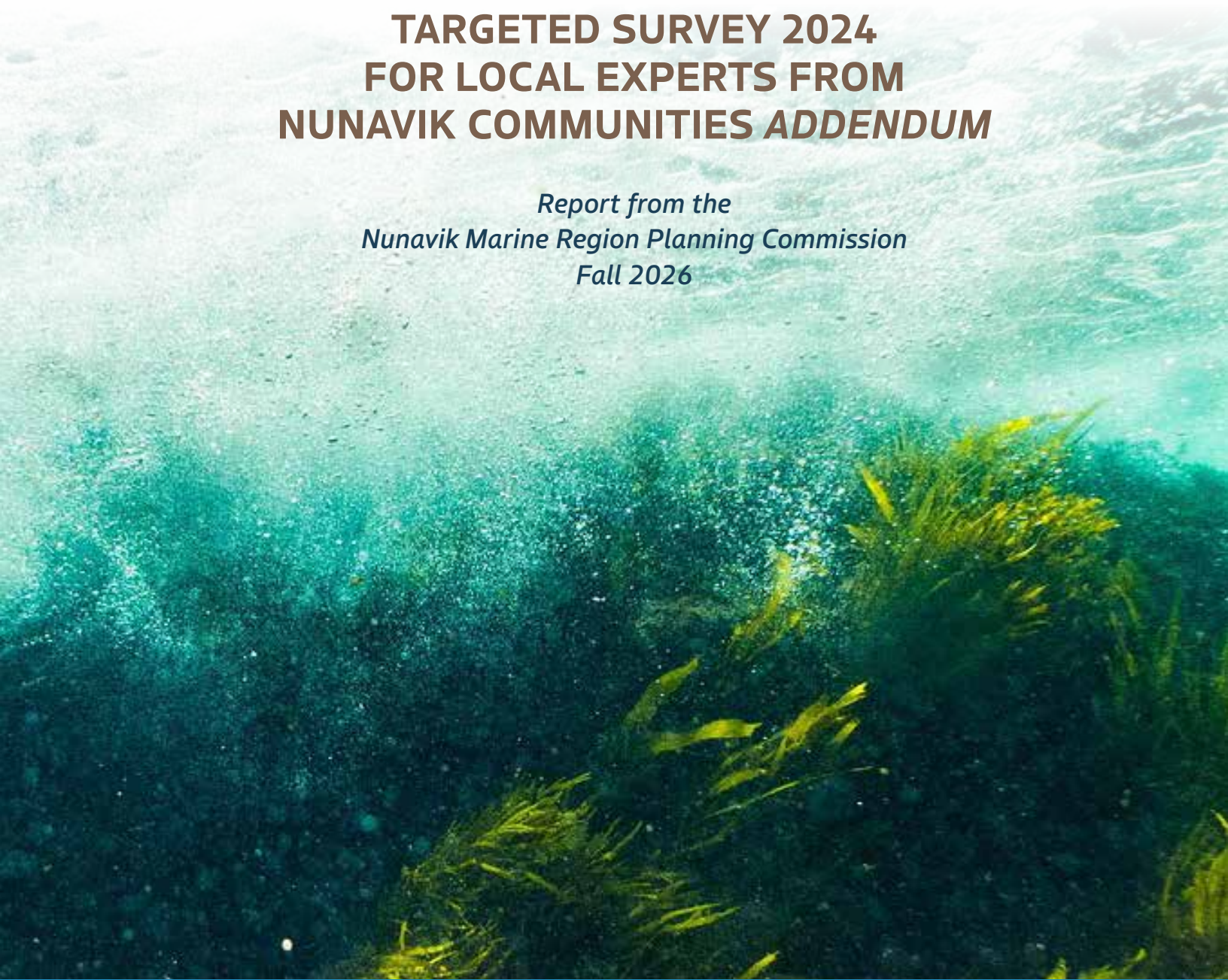
Nunavik Marine Region Planning Commission
Commission d'aménagement de la région marine du Nunavik

MARINE PLANNING STRATEGY

TARGETED SURVEY 2024 FOR LOCAL EXPERTS FROM NUNAVIK COMMUNITIES *ADDENDUM*

Report from the
Nunavik Marine Region Planning Commission
Fall 2026



CONTENTS

Introduction 2

Values and Goals 3

NUNAQQATIGIINNIQ
The people of Nunavik are defined by their relationships with each other. 10

NUNAMIINGAAQNIQ
The way of life for the people of Nunavik comes from the land and their relationship with the land. 18

PIVAALLIQATIGIINNIQ/MAKITANIQ
The people of Nunavik and the Nunavik Marine Region grow and prosper together. 26

Additional Comments 30

INTRODUCTION

The Nunavik Marine Region Planning Commission (NMRPC) delivered the Targeted Survey in-person to local subject matter experts in all Nunavik communities, including Whapmagoostui, and Chisasibi between January and May 2024. In September 2024, we released our report on the 2024 Targeted Survey for Local Experts from Nunavik Communities, which summarized the results of the 204 responses we received. The report took all the information provided into consideration but did not explicitly include the free form comments offered by respondents. As such, the NMRPC has prepared this companion document, presented here as an addendum to the 2024 Targeted Survey Report.

PHOTO: MICHELLE VALBERG



PHOTO: MALAYA QAUNIRQ-CHAPMAN

VALUES AND GOALS

Theme 1: Nunavik communities need to work together and cooperate to implement these values. Success will rely on ongoing communication between people, communities, and organizations.

- "Only united can anyone anything remain strong."
- "We are all in one. Cree, Inuit, black."
- "Having good job would be to make our own rules and regulations about social services, we have our own ways of raising children. The way we treat people with problems has bee taken away by us by Quebec. We have our own ways of dealing with issues, the elder used to be the boss of the whole family – they would listen to him. It's now taken by law, by social services. We need to run our own affairs. If we don't, we have no reason to go forward and prosper – just for traditions, culture."
- "Participate at national stage when oceans or marine is discussed."
- "Find a way to have more information and be more transparent."
- "A lot of new programs are not run by Inuit, having more Inuit actively involved would help."
- "Inform all of the main community organizations, they are the leaders of the community. "
- "Together we are stronger."
- "Understand and listen to each other."
- "Inuit be included."
- "The people of Nunavik are defined by their welcoming hearts. No matter the race, we are all Inuit."
- "Work together cause if its for a Nunavik be one not just few community, the whole community."
- "To collaborate with other communities."
- "If the companies will do mining, they should work with landholding committee."
- "Important to understand the potential impacts of development."
- "The whole Nunavik supposed to work together and those communities are needing the most."
- "It needs to be more clear that it's ok to have development."
- "So much communication better to keep update."
- "Integrity and inclusion: will be answered when the report is done, it will be the outcome
- Talk to the elderly hunters and elderly women."
- "For all people/communities to work together, more people, more help (sometimes it seems like one community gets more say/help over others)."
- "Organize community meetings to discuss what members would like to do on the land and islands."
- "Racism affects the ability to stay healthy."

- "Work together. In need for more information of what's going on. In need to get an informer for each village in order to work together with this planning."
- "Offer clear information to Nunavik residents on the things they will have control over to not have it taken away."
- "Working together is the best way."
- "Teamwork is best."
- "We need more youth young kids. This will help our young people involved."
- "Working together always works well."
- "These workshop should be more involved in this community."
- "Inuit used to work together to get things in order."
- "Better communication and understanding between 'community' and 'organizations'."
- "In the end, we would find out the outcome of these situations, of these goals."
- "I want to work with the outside boundary and agencies that manage outside our boundaries. We know more about what goes on in the marine than the feds. We are in the best position to manage our own resources."

Theme 2: Sharing is an important part of Inuit life that should continue.

- "I provide country food for my family . And when we catch beluga we share with everyone."
- "The barrier is that we still hold on to the traditional way of sharing. Tradition is stronger than selling or monetizing natural resources like sharing food."
- "What's important to me is when hunters share their catch at the shore."
- "Perhaps add sharing as a good value or add it as a whole new value."
- "Inuit not helping each other."
- "it's part of healing, shared food of course."
- "Supporting and helping each other no longer exists unless you pay."
- "We share out camp sites and hunting sites with Aupalak/Kuujjuaq communities."
- "Addition sell more fresh country food."
- "In ancestor time, they used to share 1 ptarmigan for 7 families."
- "People should be having more country food."
- "We share with those who are more in need."

Theme 3: It is important that knowledge, skills, and language be passed on to younger generations. Elders' knowledge should be shared through hands-on learning.

- "It is the only time that our children have time off, if they don't train they will end up with no food. Hunting has a lot to do with our food, if we don't do it we can't get food except the grocery store (prices are higher in the north)."
- "Never give up anything you value including the fact your mother tongue has power of its own."
- "Speak mother tongue and keep culture I valued mother tongue / culture."
- "Include children especially mother tongue Teach culture also."
- "The people of Nunavik are defined by their relationships and their knowledge passed down with each other."



PHOTO: MICHELLE VALBERG

- "Teachings from elders of how to predict weather."
- "Revitalize our Inuit Language in Chisasibi and harvesting practices for our youth and young adults, and all ages both women and men.
- "To see more land skills training."
- "People of Nunavik, the Inuit, offer them opportunities to hunt individually with other hunters to show them other ways of hunting."
- "Would like the elders that know the land very well to teach the younger people. Too many people do not know where you can hunt on land."
- "In this generation, the youth should go in the land more often."
- "The younger generations are not fully reached of our traditional knowledge, like not leaving anything after butcher or how to butcher and or when and where."
- "I value Inuit men because they have to learn to butcher seal, a caribou, and other animals, how to clean animals, young people should be taught."
- "Mark and name the locations of hunting areas."
- "We all have different from notch to south and east to west. Our traditional knowledge and harvesting is the same, but in respect, other learning is important from each relationship.
- "Speaking Inuktitut the right way, properly."
- "Maqaiqatiqiinniq (camping together) Ilinniatitsiniq (teaching) Ummiartuqatiqiiniql (boating together)."
- "How to survive the land nowadays."
- "Following parent in land at any age, or relatives."
- "Migration of animals knowledge to go places that have more animals."
- "Would love to see teenagers out on land, like to be trained."
- "Teaching by visual, show them how to do it instead of just speaking or writing."
- "...hopefully all the things we do are kept and pass it on to youth."
- "Putting Elders first and respect them as they have lived on the longer and know the culture and traditions."
- "Small acknowledgement from the knowledge passed down to today's generation."
- "Young people (adolescents) learn to respect and understand that messages from these elders will keep them in good track in life."
- "Communities should have events to meet out on the land and reunite with families, friends or long lost relatives and maybe people would find relatives they have which they did not know."
- "Young people are so capable and they learn quickly they should be taught about relationships not just sports. There are so many activities happening everywhere like hockey, volleyball, winter games and so on but I believe most important is relationships and how to deal with life difficulties."
- "In communities, closer family ties, teaching about having husband/wife. I wish there was more community closer together as a whole, families. It is noticeable that there are more conflicts If we are separated, we will not flourish."

Theme 4: The relationship between Inuit, the land, and wildlife must be preserved. Inuit are part of the natural world and have a duty to respect and care for the lands and waters.

- "Its a place for me to feel better (therapy) and a place for me to find delicious food."
- "Marine region is my breadbasket."
- "I love nature it heals me."
- "The land is something else, it's...beautiful."
- "Inuit have survived on this bay and islands for long time according to archeological sties living mainly from ocean and islands."
- "Respect the land and water should be included somewhere."
- "We use country food from land and sea."
- "I am part of the land and water forever."
- "The people of Nunavik, depend on the land and sea for their way of life since the beginning of time. "
- "Anything that is eaten from around Nunavik is a very healthy source of food and is good for the body."

- "We value our marine and it is our values. It's essential for us to have marine food."
- "I will add more here, food that Inuit eat has to be well cared for and prepared the way they should be and make sure they look good to eat."
- "Each Inuit to have a membership that recognizes they are hunters and are landowners."
- "Traditional Inuit clothing for winter. Clothes, such as parkas, caribou skin parkas, seal skin boots, seal skin mitts, and working tools for women. Wooden boards for patterns, scrapers, skin drying boards, and different tools, like needles, threads. Also tools men use."
- "Create committees in the communities that will protect their land."
- "The people of Nunavik are defined by their relationship with the land."
- "Respect to the environment."
- "Should add something in the sense of taking care of our surroundings and environment?
- "Do not change the land to what can't go back to it's natural state."
- "There are good medical marine food that can help our body to recover by eating i.e.: mussels good for sore throat, etc. "
- "Ivujivik is full of past land use rocks and hunting grounds visit us and we show you.
- "As Inuits, where we are in the land, we rest mentally, spirit, and physique; there is a peace in no stressful."
- "Ivujivik is full of islands where millions of birds are nesting each year All kinds of birds from small to big birds."
- "I would stress the adults should implement their values more to our younger generation."
- "Inuit when they in land, they hunt for food and camping with their families."
- "Mention ocean, we live on the coast because we depend on water 4 it's resources. Highlight that we are of nature as demonstrated by these facts: we are mainly made of water, we are living with frozen water, we absorb what is from the ocean."
- "Protect our land and marine resource that is used by all Nunavik people and research need to be done with all 1 2 3 land of all Nunavik lands."
- "Nunavik Inuit had sustain and maintain the area since time immemorial."
- "Keeping the land clean, no pollution."
- "People have to visit each other more to talk about living and more."
- "Also the young has to know, if they take good care of "their land" the land will provide for them!!!"
- "Do not bother the natural habitat. "
- "Too much activity will disturb animals and their habitat."
- "Just put more barriers so that the islands and marine region wouldn't be used for wages/ profit."
- "Try to preserve our animals that we harvest Because things changes so do animals."
- "All the rivers should be adjusted especially the ones the fish migrate to lakes."
- "All the berry picking areas should be preserved because there are too much land being destroyed."
- "For duck hunting islands has to be protected also increasing polar bears going to islands. Helicopters during summertime on egging season should calm going to places near nesting sites."
- "No cabins or housing on marine areas."
- "Income tax, no infrastructure in marine area."
- "Yes, we need a connection thru land to the south (in order not to bother marine mammals)."
- "no cargo shipping boat towers on the islands."
- "Waterway for fish to go through without stopping."
- "I have a concern on marine traffic and noise pollution of cargo ships and fuel tankers that can disturb marine mammals and fish during their annual migration such as Salmon, Beluga, Seals and migratory birds."


PHOTO: FELIX WILLIE

Theme 5: It is hard to maintain traditional practices and values under existing government regulations.

- "The limits of the catch and restrictions of hunting gears."
- "Us, in strong current water is difficult when they go beluga hunting, big barrier between that has no quota to hunt beluga."
- "How each island is used today as it was used before us."
- "We're not allowed to catch enough belugas."
- "To have more availability of marine hunting like no quotas on beluga."
- "When quotas were put in place, people started competing with each other and fighting over food."
- "We do need our hunting goals set more properly No need to add answers are there It will eventually help."
- "This needs to get more understood, since other communities sometimes like to control or restrict other land users from other communities from accessing/harvesting on the specific marine area closer to them. Ex: like if Kuujjuaq hunters/fishers would like to go Payne river to either harvest arctic char or hunt belugas, the residents of Payne bay sometimes not welcome the Kuujjuaq residents or tell them to hunt/fish elsewhere."
- "We aren't allowed to sell out fish to non-Inuit, James Bay agreement. Not allowed to use wildlife for business. They damaged out opportunities very much with that."
- "People of other communities don't ask to go there if they have category 1 or category 2 beside their community. They don't want them to go hunting where we have always gone. The relationship of the land, not these days. We were nomadic and now we don't go anywhere. People of Nunavut do not grow and prosper together. Every man for himself."
- "Inuit from the different coasts disagree and think they're better than each other. If I want to hunt/fish in another community like Salluit, I can't because I'm not from that community, but if they come here, we welcome them. I should be able to hunt/fish in any community."
- "Ask the government of Canada to ease on hunting regulations."
- "The caribou and beluga, looks like we're not happy and destroys relationships."
- "Canada's laws need to be changed since NILCA was created. I do not want Quebec government to create laws on the islands."
- "Government ways of interrupting our way of life."
- "Inuit have their own schedule Adjust to that!!follow the season and follow the animals."
- "People who doesn't want to understand their own resources for them not outsiders because only outsiders are benefitting from our resources."
- "Younger people have a different point of view of the James Bay agreement. As a result, they think the people who negotiated the James Bay agreement could have been negotiated better."

- "If we disperse category 1 and category 2 and just have land as it was before, above 55th parallel."
- "If there was a map on where you can hunt, I would really like that. Indicating what you can hunt and where, which lakes have fish, where you can hunt seals, where you can hunt belugas, and where you can pick mussels. This map would help people that are starting out in hunting."
- "Hunting and fishing sites misarvik fishing area in Jangirsuk should be named or the land or rivers needs to be renamed."

Theme 6: There is a need for better social services. Goals should support improved housing, food security, and transport.

- "We need more services like more water trucks, sewage trucks, loaders in order to have healthier economy in our town ."
- "More public transportation would be a great asset ."
- "lack of housing."
- "Better housing (good) ."
- "Housing."
- "Airports in Nunavik are lifelines., without airports, we cannot receive goods (cargo) and services (educators, medical professionals, trades people etc.). Airports are also direct (Healthy) Economic pillars. We need to upgrade the airports for current and future needs (longer and wider runways, larger terminals as some have reached their life span and capacity."
- "Lack of transportation such as boats to get to theses islands."
- "More services for people with the social services, especially for the elders."
- "Being a single mother with little to no help in finding food but I do still try my best to keep trying with little to nothing."

Theme 7: The high cost of living is a concern and could be reflected in goals that aim to create more job opportunities in communities.

- "Too expensive would be great if we could get help for fuel and food even hunting gear. its very expensive."
- "Need a good job to afford skidoo boat tools and food and safety equipment, gas."
- "Work no boat and cost off equipment and few I'd have to be a millionaire to live on the land 24/7."
- "Cost of living."
- "Cost of living high, food, gas, tools too expensive."
- "Hunting equipments are too expensive."
- "There is money for the person down south and more goods for us at a triple price. we need to get matched prices as south."
- "...everything is too expensive..."
- "There is lack of housing and rent is way too high."
- "I feel that more and more people are excluded now from being out on the land due to the high cost of hunting equipment and transportation such as boats, snowmobile, and ATVs and other."



- "The cost of living has made big changes in our daily lives because we don't live off from dog sledding and kayaks anymore therefore have to move by motor vehicles which do need money to run and purchased them and they are expensive."
- "no budget to go out hunting to provide as gas food and parts and machines are expensive which also the cause of mental break down."
- "Inflation forces people to beg."
- "Young people are going out less due to expensive hunting equipments. "
- "Not enough outdoor equipments, too expensive."
- "Trying to have healthy food in our freezer is getting harder. Cost of living are rising. Hunting equipment are getting too expensive."
- "...the high cost of living in the north."
- "High cost of living (is a barrier)."
- "Too many young people renting houses, it destroys family relations not enough money to pay rent, no money for food Elder abuse."
- "People grow and prosper together, in my view, has stretched from before. Living in 2 worlds has affected the prosperity and increased the struggle of some. I don't have any ideas yet how to change it and I would have to think about it."

Theme 8: There is garbage being left on the land and in the waters, and there is pollution from mining and development activities. People have seen changes in land use over time: traditional berry picking areas have been destroyed, nesting waterfowl are disturbed by helicopters and thin ice after ice-breaking and late season shipping can be dangerous.

- "The ice on the ocean is full of garbage..."
- "Trails do not let you go straight anymore because they get shoveled. Garbage...plastics are ruining the ocean, and dirty water with ash from fires and garbage is flowing into the ocean from rivers."
- "There needs to be a funded program to gather garbage in all of the places people occupy as camps every year."
- "The pollution that is left behind either by machines and or other machines that the researchers use. The pollution that is left behind such as garbage."
- "There is too much discarding of trash into the water and camping areas, educational means need to be addressed for healthy environment and ecosystems. "
- "Not leaving garbage in any hunting ground."
- "In the land (islands) lakes, it would be helpful to install signs; reminder to bring trash to garbage."
- "Campsites, keeping camp area clean."
- "All the berry picking areas should be preserved because there are too much land being destroyed."
- "When people come hunt on our land, I want them to have someone make sure they are not leaving garbage behind so we can prevent littering."
- "People from some communities arrive to hunt in our area and leave garbage everywhere. It would be ideal to have guides for them or some by-laws out in place for them."
- "Always environment clean even if its not our mess."
- "It seem each village is and are careless about garbage in their own hometown which is environmentally not so good for people and animals. And i think we need help with this situation (garbage) from health environment. "
- "The 'Healthy Environment and Ecosystems' goal is important. If development takes place, make sure the environment is protected."
- "Raglan Mines because there is a river from that area, it's going to Hudson Straight, it should be observed and crushing granite because they produce a lot of fume destroying the vegetation, it should be observed in all of Nunavik."
- "Ocean needs major clean up in Nunavik I mean in deep water, I wonder if that can be done with special equipment, I am aware its big project but it can be done."
- "There needs to be mitigation in place unlike the jbnqa."


PHOTO: EMMA CAIN

NUNAQQATIGIINNIQ: THE PEOPLE OF NUNAVIK ARE DEFINED BY THEIR RELATIONSHIPS WITH EACH OTHER.

Theme 1: There are many benefits of traditional activities, practices, and country foods

- "When a young guy and girl, when they start eating healthy foods they eat less sweets and when they start catching animals they're usually happy."
- "It realigns you in all areas."
- "Renews my mind, energy and I'm not just sitting at home using my handheld device."
- "to learned how to eat country food."
- "I congratulate myself in losing weight, gaining friends, having FUN."
- "When we stay in town all the time without going hunting for long time we are more involve with social issues and run out of hunting equipment also feel the cold harder."
- "It gives you a mental rest. Because it is not the same as the one you go to. It is a good method of learning."
- "It is nice and quiet away from ATV's at night, away from public intoxication, a break from public drama, a break from social media which seem to be filled with negative content."
- "Spending outdoors erases your mental issues."
- "There is traditional knowledge, But we can also discover new things, wildlife habitat, archeological sites."
- "Our ancestors roam the land they were very healthy and we need to live out on the land more often and eat mostly traditional foods."
- "A lot happier. A sense of freedom Very educational."
- "To have fresh air. To have peace of mind. Sense of freedom."
- "Self-reflection, fresh air, time-out from reality, mainly the healthy mentality. And as of today, it would also to witness or observe the climate change (Mainly in the north)."
- "White man ways with Tylenol. Woman with low iron that need IV from lack of eating seal I noticed a few woman that went to "clinic and received IV due to lack of Iron in body And also these woman are lacking of eating Seals. Such seals are high in iron."
- "Outdoors is the best medicine."
- "It also helps people to go take some time off & focus on oneself / self-reflection."
- "People who spend time outdoors/out on the land have a healthier mentality & physical health. It also keeps people to stay away from trouble, such as drugs & alcohol."
- "Keeps us mentality sane."
- "It helps to live a less stressful life."
- "Hunting is also a method of healing."

- "The people that go through court can get the help they need through hunting. It is important to understand when workers are struggling, they can feel mentally calmer when they go out hunting."
- "It is sometimes physically demanding, can give quite a good workout which my father always credits to being outdoors to being fit and healthy at age 51. Also applies to me too, I always feel I'm mentally and physically stronger if I'm in the water or the land regularly."
- "My mind always feels better after being in the land when I comeback to the community or the city. "
- "Helps maintain mental health, being out on the land decreases personal struggles
- "Peace, gathering and preparing food is the best part."
- "Criminal when I take them out their attitude change, they start to learn how to respect others. Learning a lot how to prepare hunting gears especially going out by canoe. Also learning how to use which and why. they have to direct which from high/low tide also from fall and summer/marine."
- "It also helps to heal your mind its very important. You feel happier too."
- "It helps everyone mentally being out in the land / islands."
- "Healthy food eating in the summertime."
- "It helps me with my stress."
- "Medicine going on the land like exp when someone going thru so much is the thing to do."
- "Healthy food comes from all animals and marine animals."
- "Spending time helps you to love others and yourself."
- "Good for mental health."
- "Helps keep you more active."
- "I think that over generations, we have overcome so many hardships and obstacles and are now recently able to express ourselves. In my perspective of health and wellbeing, I have seen people striving to end trauma related experiences coming from dark histories and also still see that some people are not ready to take that step. Not being active enough on the land is also a big factor for many families who do not have the means to go. I cannot speak for others, but for myself, the last 10 years, I have not lived a healthy lifestyle and do struggle with my wellbeing. But there are many resources out there that are willing to give a helping hand. "
- "We go out on the land to live."
- "People who eat from the land are healthier, stronger, has more endurance."
- "It helps mentally/spiritually."
- "Spend time outdoors with others gives helping each other and no domestic violence."
- "Life is better at home and away when time is spent on the land."
- "Being out on the land releases any kind of sickness (physical, mental, emotional)."
- "Every hunting location is important to us. It is our healing process when ever you're hunting."
- "I get less angry."
- "Gives you peace and happiness."
- "It is less stressful to be free out on the land and being with nature. Seeing wildlife roaming about is satisfying and peaceful. "
- "It is also very healthy for the mind."
- "We need land based retreats or camps where people can go for healing or relieve stress from work or other life stressful situations."
- "After being outdoor is very relaxing mentally and physically."
- "They always try to be in good health and wellbeing."
- "It is very healing and calming."
- "People seem to be more active when hunting seasons are open."
- "After facing a difficult challenge on the land, it gives me a better objection of life. Hard situation/difficult challenge out on the land makes life challenges look easier. I have notice too that people that had event of a survival mode (near death) during hunting, changes there way of view of life (realises how life is valuable)."
- "People who keep going out are happier/ healthier."

- "Having a camp inland feeds my family when I catch an animal."
- "When we go out hunting and camping we think clearly because nowadays there are a lot of difficulties because no one goes hunting and camping anymore."
- "I am comfortable at camp with no one controlling what I am doing."
- "I get to eat fresh food. I become more active."
- "As a young person, they're not aware but as an older person. They're very aware. An elder body that don't do any activities their bodies start to deteriorate faster."
- "Also just to add the well being of mental and physical health."

Theme 2: There is concern about the impacts of infections like tuberculosis, Covid-19, and flus along with rising rates of cancer, diabetes, heart conditions, and high blood pressure. However, there have been improvements in health care and services in recent years.

- "...right now people have arthritis because the ancestors never had arthritis."
- "More illness i.e., diabetes, heart conditions & asthma, obesity."
- "More frequent fevers, vomiting."
- "Obesity in many Inuit."
- "White man food Lack of nutrients which cause of working to eat white processed food
- "Again COVID 19 plus after more COVIC of different deadly virus."
- "More cold/flu."
- "Less active lifestyle and the consequences of that."
- "Noticed more diabetes and health problems."
- "It seems that more and more inuit people have cancer."
- "Many health problems seem to have occurred."
- "Obesity, back then we had no warnings what is good and what is bad so we ate what ever that was available."
- "More cancer, diabetes ."
- "There seems to be more people hospitalized over health issues. "



PHOTO: MALAYA QAUNIRQ-CHAPMAN

- "More sickness, aging faster, unable to move around as much. Taking care of grandchildren more than previous generations."
- "Water is often aggressive later in the summer…"
- "Tides get very low and high in the fall. I'm not sure if that changed but we worked so hard to get in the water last fall."
- "Increase in health problems: high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity…Increase in mental health issues: anxiety, depression."
- "I see more people are getting strokes."
- "People getting sicker, addictions."
- "young age faster, less elders, elders die younger. less fit, lazier."
- "Health has deteriorated due to inactivity."
- "Cancer is killing many Inuit."
- "People adapting to modern life and going out on the land less, it seems that self-esteem and general health has degraded due to modern diet and less outdoor activity
- "Covid and other viruses are coming up north now."
- "Obesity Mental illness."
- "Covid Easy to catch/self isolation."
- "Cancer."
- "People seems weaker."
- "I have noticed and seen that obesity is a grown concern because the traditional and cultural diet is disappearing."
- "COVID 19 big problem, deadly."
- "elders getting cancer."
- "New type [of plants] for Ivujivik Few new plants, new & more animals."
- "More younger adults get cancer and heart attacks."
- "People seem to be heavy when walking, in the past they used to be light, actually hopping and jumping ."
- "Diabetes, alcoholism, hemo dialysis, laziness."
- "We are relying too much processing food."
- "Heart attack 15 years ago, stroke. A skin disease that went to the bones. Needs medication every month, not able to get around so well."
- "Too much store-bought food has impact on well-being of people, diabetes, weight problems.
- "Cancer is very prevalent in our society; perhaps it was this way in the past but maybe it was not identified. "
- "Covid 19, TB, Cancer, Inflation."
- "Avoiding people with Covid, TB and unable to help people with cancer."
- "cancer appearing more and more."
- "Lot of people have diabetes, cancer, heart problems, and other types of diseases because, they are not as active or they eat mostly store-bought food."
- "More cancer patients and younger people and more depressed."
- "lots of snow is hard for our machines, our traditional roads on the snow & ice aren't as (the same) snow suddenly melts."
- "More snow to go around (humid), winter gets warm (good for our dog)."
- "Unhealthy food or junk food being more prevalent in the family. Maybe due to having to work 9-5 to pay bills."
- "We don't eat healthy food as much today."
- "Store bought food is more easier to get."
- "Research, science, knowledge should be open & available."
- "Need more scientific researchers."
- "Buying store bought food is not as good as food from the land and sea. Cancer is noticeable more and more due to unhealthy food from the stores. "
- "We are getting weaker because we don't eat traditional food, especially those that don't hunt
- "more beer bellies."
- "less country food."
- "Processed food diets and sedentary lifestyles causes health problems, example diabetes. Less active Less land-based activities."
- "Our food changing our habits."
- "In my view, Inuit are not as healthy as they were 40 years ago. We see the difference today after having settled into villages full time. Unhealthy food, alcohol, drugs have had a big impact as I age into my fifties and sixties. Some people, my age, are dying sooner than their older brothers and sisters."
- "Less people going out on the land, more and more store bought food, reducing the necessity of traditional food."

- They tend to be unhealthier and dying younger than they used to."
- I would like to learn to make spices and edible substitutes from our seaweed and seafood."
- I go by boat to the islands in summer, or on ice in winter, islands are important, can stay the night while ice is still moving. I have four cabins spread over the land, some by the sea. I don't lock it, people can go there in emergency. I am semi-retired, now I train by word."
- Always hunting on waters as an elder, the waters give them more runny noses. We have to be careful with our bodies to see if we spend too much time on the water."
- "In need to get more health care more and healthy food."
- Modern medicine has helped a lot..."
- over the past 50 years the services and the addressing health issues have improved the well being of Nunavimmiut."
- Better health care, more planes & first responders."

Theme 3: Spending time in the Nunavik Marine Region preserves traditions, culture, and language. Passing down knowledge about the land and wildlife along with values, morals, and ways of thinking are important traditional components in the lives of Inuit.

- "Inuit way is very related to ad use and the environment."
- "The traditional values of sharing, helping each other etc. have changed. Two worlds (cultures) clashing (modern and traditional)."
- "Good for healing."
- "Learn and see new things everyday."
- "I learn to travel to different places. :)"
- "I hear oral stories all the time from elders, older people, so I could recognize changes."
- "Need more Inuktitut speaking."
- "Knowledge isn't really passed down."
- "Speaking tradition language, sharing."
- "Words and identify camping sites."
- "The use of Inuktitut language is disappearing so fast and being out on the land/water has to be one of the avenues in preserving it. The loss of our language will be a huge loss."
- "Inuit used to use traditional relationships (to call one another). That has lost its usage."
- "Always a learning process."
- "We watch and learn of activities."
- "Our language, our ways of life (dog team hunting)."
- "People get closer to each other. Seen people being happier after they spent time out."
- "They are less family camping back then we use to have more families camping seasonally."
- "We live in an area that is abundant with seals, sealskin are now being thrown out in Ivujivik. It's a need to teach those that are eager to learn through our traditions."
- "it better to team work on the land."
- "When we use our language out on the land my grandchildren continue to know the knowledge."
- "learn the names by Inuktitut."
- "Too much English and French."
- "I try to do what I can to help my family teaching, cooking, preparing food."
- "Including all Nunavimmiut or in my case, Kuujjuamiut, in anything to do with camping/ hunting/fishing/just being on the land would increase self awareness whether its traditional knowledge, gatheringness, being out with elders, or just being out as an Inuk person."
- "The behaviour of younger generations, such as no manners, respect for elders (adults). Poor knowledge of hunting animals like butchering, respecting the animals (traditionally) and the ways of knowing the land itself, the weather predictions, the safety ways (avoid dangerous trails, routes, etc.)."
- "The younger generations get more knowledge from what they see and do when they are out in the land and sea."
- "They don't speak proper Inuktitut at camps anymore. "
- "The language spoken in the community can be different when out on the land, because of what we see, feel, eat, hear, etc... is sometimes not seen or sensed in the community as you do out on the land or the activities done out on the land are learnt easily because you learn by doing and keeping active every day."

- "I get more knowledge of being out in the land by being out in the land."
- "Old traditional ways are the best."
- "We get our own ways to survive by learning others ways that others do."
- "I find my kids are more accepting of how everything works out for them compared to the ones who don't practice hunting/camping."
- "There losing there culture sadly."
- "Languages are well used when we have been on the land. If we don't use the land with children/grandchildren we will start to see change or we will not pass on our knowledge."
- "Like a beluga, used to butchered in certain way to be given away, trying to take as much food to give away."
- "Health going down, not hunting as much."

Theme 4: Time on the land and on the water provides opportunities for youth to learn from elders, to make memories, and to reconnect with family and loved ones who have passed on. Hands-on learning can lead to happier, more fulfilled lives and can enforce bonds with family members and friends

- "I love beluga hunting , I love to take my family camping and fishing, I love to take my elder mom eider down picking."
- "Connection with your family who have passed away
- Helps you make decisions in life."
- "Creates stronger bond & time for family."
- "Our generations don't spend time on the land only few."
- "Spending time with family. Stories."
- "Families come closer through hunting/ camping."
- "families are not as close as they use to be."
- "Brings people closer."
- "People get closer to each other. Seen people being happier after they spent time out
- "Inuit way is very related to ad use and the environment. It is the only time that our children have time off, if they don't train they will end up with no food. Hunting has a lot to do with our food, if we don't do it we can't get food except the grocery store (prices are higher in the north).
- "Less hunters bring their children."
- "They are less family camping back then we use to have more families camping seasonally.
- "Relationship in camp and caring each other Pitching the tent, gathering water and wood
- "Brings back good memories Also visiting graves that used to live long ago."
- "As a family or with people, we interact more in land."
- "Less outing for elders and family less motivated."
- "All problems seem to dissolve more when thinking about the struggles that our ancestors went through and pushes me to become more active on the land."
- "Families don't camp anymore only few."
- "Eating together, camping as a family is then best."



PHOTO: FELIX WILLIE


PHOTO: MALAYA QAUNIRQ-CHAPMAN

- "Back in the 1970's and 1980's families used to camp for the month of July, practising traditional activities, hunting, gathering down, food gatherings. It was a time for family, nowadays most just go for the weekends, many are stuck in town living off social assistance with no means to practice subsistence, poorly educated and hook on alcohol and drugs. Really 2 classes of community members, some doing very well financially and some being left behind, addictions is a growing problem, the land is a real healer, so just saying times have changed a great deal. "

Theme 5: There is concern about how Inuit spend their days, often moving away from traditional practices and towards technology.

- "Less and less people go hunting and camping and we have internet connection while camping."
- "Most people are holding iPad, iPhone in front of them meaning less active now ."
- "Too much devicing/internet."
- "Too much internet games ."
- "Losing language, use iPhone too much."
- "In my opinion iPhone are taking over. So yes, it is affecting young also. "
- "...tradition and language use has declined due to high use of social media and television influence."
- "It had dramatically changed. They're more into internet, internet games."
- "We now own things we never did and these items do not have terms in Inuktitut."
- "... but tradition and language use has declined due to high use of social media and television influence."
- "No internet. GPS since 1994 (in a very good way) you can be lost and still get home. Communication has gotten better. Ex: sat phones, communication devices that are good. "
- "Adapting with modern technology is helping us in cases of communicating and navigating."
- "There are so many prospectors in the land looking for valuable metals. The young people are not aware because they face computer and having their faces looking down all the time."
- "Too much technology these days even our young ones."
- "This is when computers became popular. Kids now are playing video games, they are on their iPhones. They don't even go out sliding anymore."
- "Technologies have changed our children, iPhones computers and so on causes more less hunting to the younger people."
- "Younger generation are a lot more strapped in their homes probably most are just wanna be in their phones.."
- "These days young population are more into social media that is affecting their health very much instead of spending time in the land ."
- "Technology has taken over."
- "Way more... internet games (devices)."
- "Technology has changed everything, lost of language, no more knowledge on the land."

- “Technological changes that affect our behaviour as it relates to the use of the offshore.”
- “Since people have to work and pay bills, they are not hunting as much.”
- “They now have faster outboard motors so they don’t really do overnights.”
- “Growing of the community is also making people don’t get a chance to get outdoor compare to few years.”
- “People don’t go as far, issues with transportation.”
- “I am one to speak of, finding a way to change a lifestyle with many downfalls all because of the past I guess.”
- “Kid are eating from store bought food mix with high protein from south and they are a lot taller then the older generation.”
- “Younger generation don’t want traditional food and caring the catch’s fur.”
- “People are more active, more dwellings, and changes of environment, less hunting compared to the pasted life they were nomads once, one place to another.”
- “Some are too lazy to go out.””
- “More and more younger generation is active. More equipment available so much change, yes indeed!”
- “Less youngsters out on the land nowadays.”
- “Less people go out in land for days or weeks.”
- “Families don’t camp anymore only few.”
- “Areas that were occupied are no longer used by people. Even walking a short distance or enjoying being outside (you don’t see that anymore).”
- “Internet (is a barrier).”
- “Distractions today make it difficult to develop/sustain interest, and a few benefit but not the general population.”
- “like we have cabins that we used now that were used by tourist organizations.”
- “Inuit people are very traditional so they want to keep everything the way it is.”
- “…some are losing interest in their culture and traditions.”



NUNAMIINGAAQNIQ: THE WAY OF LIFE FOR THE PEOPLE OF NUNAVIK COMES FROM THE LAND AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND.

Theme 1: We are seeing warmer weather and changes in snow. Other comments.

- "The weather is getting warmer in the summer. It is warm now and the warm weather is rapidly increasing."
- "Our land had changed in short time."
- "weather is warmer and... less snow during winter but comes late in the spring."
- "The weather get warmer pretty early and thaws the land faster."
- "berry bushes and sizes, not as much snow than in the past."
- "Some lakes and ponds are drying up. More snow but not as compact - it melts right away in warm weather (not as solid as before)."
- "Everything is changing in the world we living and most of us from 1900 century must notice changing."
- "The weather changes many times a day and the snow is softer, it's not like many years ago it is more moist."
- "Less cold."
- "Snow takes longer to harden."
- "Very little snow ."
- "long summertime is warmer."
- "climate is getting warmer."
- "Weather is warmer in the summer and colder in the winter."
- "We are seeing less snow in areas."
- "Weather climate changed."
- "it took longer to get cooler in January."
- "The warmer weather has shorten our ability to be out on the land."
- "snow like powder, longer warm weather."
- "The black berries are significantly smaller in size. The blueberries also. Arpiks are not ripening as they once did. It takes a longer period of time for them to ripen."
- "Snow has changed, it is more difficult to travel on snow as it keeps melting on harsh winter months and more dangerous Weather is warmer, snow melts faster."
- "Berries changes depending on if the snow stays longer or melts faster. When snow stays, berries seem to be more abundant but when it melts, it comes and goes faster."
- "our salt water has more fresh water now from the La Grande dams causing the snow to melt earlier and our weather is warmer to."
- "less snow and ice. Snow melting faster and ice."
- "We've been having less snow but this winter we finally had enough snow but the weather is warmer. "
- "Less snow for seal birthing and others."
- "For the weather, we now often see the reddish sun & it seemed that the weather is warmer than before."
- "Permafrost is melting and it should be observed."
- "It is warmer. Clouds are whiter, they used to be blue."
- "3 weathers in one day, snow is more like powder, longer warm weather."
- "weather is warmer, plants are growing faster and hotter summer."
- "The earth is warming up a lot faster than before."
- "Unusual weather."
- "Really warm weather, raining in December and January."
- "Bigger berries from warmer summers."
- "The warmer weather has changed all of it."
- "lately summer have been a lot warmer."
- "Lack of snow and weather is warmer because of climate affect."
- "hot summer too long."
- "We had a hard time for the past few years without berries but last summer. Berries and plants finally grow healthy."

- “In the fall, animals has to DIG the ICE that froze before snow came 3 yrs now.”
- “weather is changing constantly, berries sometimes grow and sometimes not, plants are growing late, less snow in the winter but a lot during spring.”
- “Weather changes… mild spells thru the winter.”
- “Berries are burned from heat.”
- “Weather is warmer in the summer and colder in the winter.”
- “Warmer weather and branches overgrown.”
- “We get less snow now.”
- “Snow much more. It’s much less cold.”
- “and as a result due to the warmer weather, I like summer heat sometimes too so I see that a somewhat positive.”
- “Warmer and branches grow a lot.”
- “Every year we have longer summer.”
- “Shorter winters.”
- “Slower growth of berries.”
- “Less cold.”
- “Weather is warmer now then 20 years back.”
- “Climate change and less rain.”
- “Big delay in berries growing, animals aren’t afraid of humans anymore.”
- “I would a say global warming actively changing.”
- “Less snow today than 20 yrs ago.”
- “Every year is different even by the growth of plants and berries. Ice formed late and late snow.
- “Winter comes late.”
- “Weather is not as nice (unstable)… It becomes windy quickly.”
- “Due to weather changes, we have longer boating season and sorter snowmobile season. Lack of snow beginning of winter and more snow in near spring. “
- “Less snow on the land.”
- “warmer weather every year.”
- “Less snow.”
- “the weather is warmer these days not cold all the time anymore.”
- “Less snow so faster spring arrives.”
- “Snow, in some years is less and more in other years. Berries are barren when it rains less.”
- “The weather has gone warmer.”
- “Weather is warmer longer into the fall season which result in lakes freezing at least a month later. The snow is melting faster in the spring at least a moth earlier. The air quality is worse during summer due to forest fire in the region reducing visibility.”
- “lots of snow is hard for our machines, our traditional roads on the snow & ice aren’t as (the same) snow suddenly melts.”
- “More snow to go around (humid), winter gets warm (good for our dog).”
- “Nunavik has changed a lot some of our ways have been affected by the climate change.”
- “Nowadays our weather is getting warmer.”
- “warmer temperatures.”
- “We used to have a day or 2 of hot weather, we now have many more. The berries are bigger and juicier making them more delicious.”
- “warm weather every year. Less cold.”
- “what use to be the ice in Ungava bay disappears now in mid-summer, it always used to be cool and no bugs, it’s now hot and buggy, I instead moved and built another cabin at the estuary of the koksoak river. “



PHOTO: JOHNNY SMILER

- "It doesn't freeze as much, we get soft snow most of the year now used to be rock hard."
- "The sea level getting low for example the shallows are now small islands."
- "The warmer weather is good for the birds, more time to raise their chicks. More insects for the fish to eat. "
- "Let Inuit know first, they can observe the weather."
- "The stars have moved."
- "I used to see certain stars as a child that are way off its course, I try to look as much as I can through the whole year, but they are not aligned to my vision from childhood ."
- "Stars moved."
- "Time is changing that's why is changing."
- "Seeing less and less stars during the night."
- "Counter act the shifted compass."
- "I notice that land had land slide and notice vanishing or big changes."
- "There are less harvesters because of climate change."
- "In Nunavik it is getting delayed winter, it should be observed because there might be danger in some areas."

Theme 2: We are seeing changes in winds.

- "it's mostly windy now."
- "Erratic winds, sometimes stronger, less snow/ rain, During some seasons, affecting animals behavior."
- "The wind is stronger."
- "The wind seemed more intense than usual."
- "We now get constant East winds that impede our ability to travel safely on the water."
- "Much windier than before. Snow has accumulated much more but wind blow it away."
- "The wind is more noticeable."
- "The prevailing winds are now coming from the West compared to the North."
- "wind direction rarely changes."
- "Much more windy than before."
- "Winds are getting stronger....River is so weak at break up, used to thunder loud and in early june, now just cracks open usually in mid May, so boring and weak today."
- "...stronger winds..."
- "Weather is a lot warmer...and there seems to be a lot more winds these days ."

Theme 3: We are seeing changes in ocean currents.

- "since James Bay agreement our waters changed slower & lower."
- "Water is often aggressive later in the summer..."
- "The tide has maybe not changed but the water levels have in rivers."
- "Lower water level."
- "The tide is more high."
- "Water currents are weaker maybe due to river dams."
- "The ocean currents have changed, they use to be less currents out in the bay but are getting closer up the river The tide has changed dramatically has less water on the river, harder for us to travel down the marine."



PHOTO: FELIX WILLIE

- "Tides get very low and high in the fall. I'm not sure if that changed but we worked so hard to get in the water last fall."
- "Weather warmer cause salt ice cant freeze over."
- "Since they made the dam the shoreline has dropped by about 10m and the currents are different."
- "Low water level."
- "The water levels (sea) seem low in certain areas where we travel by boat. I'm concerned about all of the above. The fresh water even has a taste (like earthy taste) compared to before."

Theme 4: Ocean warming, ice-breaking, and open water shipping is affecting ice conditions.

- "Ice is more dangerous / melt faster Animals / insects shows more."
- "Less and less ice Climate change."
- "Ice is thinner."
- "Seen some documentaries of how they affect the ice, marine life, and the hunting routines of the Inuit."
- "Less sea ice getting frozen only later winter."
- "ice is thinner (by at least 3 feet less) and still dropping."
- "Ice melt earlier."
- "ice not forming as it use to."
- "There was no sea ice until mid December also, snow melted in spring before time."
- "The ice is not freezing in some parts."
- "I find sea ice is getting thinner each year."
- "Warmer weather affecting sea ice negatively, dangerous and thin. Ice where we never normally found it. Also earlier ice breakup affecting our seasonal hunting/fishing."
- "Global warming is changing the ice."
- "ice forming is late in the pass few years."
- "Ice condition are more thinner than 8 years ago ."
- "Global warming changing the ice."
- "Our ice doesn't stay long anymore, we can't go out by skidoo during ice breakage and that's when we used to be out by skidoo with our grandparents harvesting geese during spring
- "Later freeze..."
- "It takes longer to freeze and shorter to melt."
- "Ice forms later in the year, we used to have Christmas activities on our river before the 2000's.
- "Fall times change, more windy, warmer, not enough ice, more water."
- "...even ice is a lot thinner, and wintertime less ice every year."
- "Northwest passage is opening up, super ice breakers to get minerals from the mines."
- "We only have ice starting in December not like it used to before, the bay used to freeze in October not December."
- "Bay freeze up is delayed."
- "Winters are shorter, which is good in a way but it affects the environment."
- "We are on the water longer. The ice disappears much faster bringing constant waves sooner and affecting our ability to harvest and our safety. "
- "On our bay, ice forming was delayed big time."
- "Ice melts earlier than usual."
- "In Fall, the ice forms later and breaks up earlier."
- "The bay doens't freeze as early as it use to now. We are seeing less caribou around our area than before."
- "The ice is more dangerous cause of warmer weather."
- "Our winters are warmer and ice thickness is affected."
- "Ice condition change rapidly. Animals getting more sick (ducks, seals)."
- "River is so weak at break up, used to thunder loud and in early June, now just cracks open usually in mid May, so boring and weak today."
- "We have less days to camp now on springtime cause the ice breaks or melt from global warming."
- "It's ice most of the time, and windy when there is no more ice."

Theme 5: We are seeing new animals, insects, or bacteria; wildlife in new areas

- "Plus animals seems to be at the coast."
- "Geese fly early than usual."
- "Minke whales come earlier."
- "Difference animals Arriving."
- "New species such as Moose big game seen and harvested in new areas. "
- "Unusual bumble bee looking insects Salmon in rivers tat they weren't in previously."
- "We have new bed bugs and black bear."
- "I recently saw a lynx for the first time."
- "2023 summer sighted a gannet and pelican Walruses are coming back closer Southern insects are see more often."
- "I have noticed more hawks flying in/outside of the community. Red Breasted Robins are more frequent. There have been bugs from the south (windowsill bugs, spiders).Weasel have been more abundant. "
- "Bugs longer legs."
- "Black bear."
- "new species of insects or flies from south, southern mammals such as moose are seen or harvested in places never before like umiujak or Kuujjuak"
- "Warmer weather bringing new animals to the region."
- "New species: lynx, moose are more visible closer to town. Hopefully will not be invasive Animals behavior, we use to have caribous in town but are not as close as they use to be ."
- "Black bears."
- "Birds from south appear up north, black bear and new insects appear in Nunavik, like butterfly."
- "wildlife encounters frequent such as polar bears- insects, migratory routs, changed ok, delays. Food source depletion. "
- "I saw a hornet in June 2023."
- "Warmer weather affecting the wildlife in the region, new insects could probably change the ecosystem in the future."
- "Ex. in the summer we see only a few of caribou in the islands."
- "Ducks with purplish colours. Plants on the beach that are no longer there… They [berries] do not grow as much anymore. "
- "We see birds that we have never seen before."
- "Been seeing a grasshopper and we never had one before ."
- "Last year we saw a black bear."
- "Seeing black bears, polar bears have changed behaviour, weird bugs I don't even know
- "Black bear, lynxs."
- "We have been seeing some narwals in Wakeham bay and if this continues it will act as an additional food source."
- "Now days we hear sometimes about bed bugs being discovered around town."
- "There's some new bugs that are territorial."
- "Beavers going further north. And polar bears been seen a few time at the point."
- "Last summer yellow bird in a yellow in front & back grey came to the apartment (porch) and stay there overnight."
- "New birds, wasps are common now, weather is warmer."
- "Some species are in the north due to climate warmer."
- "Moose and beaver being seen further north. New waterfowl seen in inland Cree communities.
- "Seeing new insects I've never seen before. Beavers going further north. Not seeing caribou for at least 7 years and people going out more inland to harvest caribou."
- "My uncle saw a bird he never seen before."
- "We get salmon fish now, black and brown bears, wolverines, berries plants changing lots of red wasps now."
- "Weird bugs."
- "New species might affect other animals."
- "Animals seem to be hungry as example polar bears coming inside the town looking for food."
- "There has been new birds that are usually found further south. The tree and willows are growing further north."
- "There have been sightings of the mammals that look like dolphins, I forgot their names… different birds from the South."
- "Nastapoka river has no more beluga…Killer whales where they weren't before."



PHOTO: NELLIE AMIDLAK

- "Animals we never had around here have been arriving, and insects, for example, I have seen ducks with purplish colours once and never saw them again."
- "Giant Canada geese are more abundant for harvest. Moose + black bears are seen further north. Grasshoppers are more visible. "
- "New animals eating, have to travel far for caribous, weather a lot warmer."
- "New species example minky whales we starting seeing in our waters here in Tasiujaq Warmer summers affecting fish and marine mammals Stronger winds Animals arriving earlier or later in the seasons. Not getting enough snow for the seal to make dens in some areas."
- "There used to be lots of berries 2-3 years they don't grow like they used to so our bears got skinny."
- "As for the fish, we never seen Pike before and now we catch them in some lakes and rivers."
- "For example beluga migrate 1 month later than usual in fall or the other way around earlier in spring… some new birds arriving…. and we start seeing animals that we didn't used to see about 10 years ago."
- "Bats are seen, spiders are bigger."
- "Mammals are not the same."
- "other seals, other fish."
- "Geese used to very abundant with many nesting in lower Ungava, black bears are now expanding to the islands and the tundra, thus decimating the nesting grounds, geese are moving north, even to Baffin island and Greenland."
- "Moose are now closer, so this has created a new big game animal for harvesters. Muskox are expanding, they are spreading nutrients to the ground for berry pickers and more grass food for the geese."
- "black and brown bears, salmon fish… new insects every summer."
- "Animals are getting further away, like terns."
- "Not really a new specie but more and more common every year is the killer whales."
- "Wood pecker."
- "Black bear is harvesting eider ducks on the islands. They eat hundreds of nests in only a few areas. Following the caribou as well. People have been seeing moose too out of the tree lines. Birds have changed as well. Birds that used to be less have increased in number, they are eating off all the food. The birds we didn't see since not too long away – speckle belly goose, Ross goose is dying of seaweeds from polluted seaweeds from the great rivers. Eider ducks started having bird flu, cholera. They follow the weather, its always wet, humid so we are getting more worms in our food (parasites, bot flies, warble flies seems to be more)."
- "Too many polar bears."
- "new birds and insects showing up."
- "New animals like musk ox are here now in large herds, now occupying caribou's land and food, now we see less caribou's."
- "The rivers are drying up from the lakes, the fish are losing their migration routes."
- "Seeing more dolphins."
- "New bugs been seen."

- "The black bears are being seen as new species in our area."
- "There are different kinds of birds."
- "Less berries & animals. These changes have created more illness in animals, less to harvest
- "We recently found out it has a lynx and bugs we don't see during summer, and we now see different species of birds."
- "The river does not freeze anymore, caribou are further to hunt, eel grass for feeding the geese is getting scarce, not only for geese also other species have less food to eat."
- "We see less seals around our area."
- "We see weird bugs now."
- "Inuit in Ivujivik, Ivujivimmiut have seen change due to a large growing number of polar bears. Using land less due to the dangers of polar bear activity. Inuit can not use tents, for example."
- "(geese moving north) this has impacted us, they fly very high passing us most of the time."
- "Animal changing their migration routes further north and changing their behaviour."
- "Animal migration patterns are changing, we are seeing less caribou close to Kuujjuaq."
- "Migration coming in through town earlier. The great migration used to come through."
- "In fall, there are walrus in waters, and islands while they pass through. I think they're around 1000 and people just take pictures."
- "I had a cabin on an Island just outside of the Koksoak river, I sold it to the municipality few years ago. We enjoyed our summers there, But things changed, polar bears were coming around, even broke the window when we were not there, my wife was very stressed about the children being outside."
- "Less ice = polar bear prey on human."
- "How to know when animals arrive and where they go ie: caribou, fish, marine animals."

Theme 6: We are seeing changes in the distribution of plants and berries.

- "plants don't grow as much. "
- "hydro damming affected Nunavik Burnt land, dry ponds, overgrown willow shrubs."
- "Growing trees, shrubs growing a lot Vegetation has grown a lot Seaweed have grown Vegetation from land and salt water noticeably grown."
- "...algae growth, also in lakes thus not good for fish, depletes oxgen in winter. "
- "Trees in Kuujjuaq and the tundra are growing taller and more dense, brush growth along river banks is growing so much...."
- "For berries, we see more Arpik (Cloudberries) ."
- "more plants everywhere even branches are longer and there everywhere."
- "Also, the berries are getting scarce."
- "New type [of plants] for Ivyivik Few new plants, new & more animals."
- "The berries are bigger and juicier making them more delicious."
- "There are trees where there never used to be trees, going north. We counted 11 trees 25-30 years ago, no there is 50-60 trees. It doesn't freeze as much, we get soft snow most of the year now used to be rock hard. Seaweeds in great rivers, seeing new plants. Its natural to see new plants. Last season was very good for black berries and blueberries. They carry the seeds and drop it."
- "The amount of berries have changed, they come and go."
- "It was a good season for berries last year. There were so many there was no place to sit!"
- "this year blackberries didn't grow much. Some years are like that."
- "No more cloud berries because of river dam."

WHERE IS THEME 7?

Theme 8: Fish, waterfowl, and marine mammals are some of the most important areas for further learning. Learning should be shared in-person through organizations in the communities.

- "Results should shared to everyone including school children in classrooms. "
- "Research, science, knowledge should be open & available."
- "Need more scientific researches."
- "Some research is disruptive and should not be allowed to happen."
- "All research should decide what should be public and should be in a data base system controlled by an Inuit entity such as Atanniuvik. This organization is an important for NMRPC to make contact."
- "Research should always be done in partnering with communities and sharing data agreements should be in place."
- "All information should be shared to all locals and regional populations."
- "Question for academic is not an appropriate question because Inuit are the natural biologists, ecologists and experts of our own lands and waters. That question is very based off the white mans ways."
- "Yes- because some researchers are ridiculous and have ridiculous subjects. No- because the research is useless."
- "But also let the people do it instead of spending 20k for a week trip up here."
- "Research in the past were one side opinion meaning other party was not involved."
- "Any research done, all Inuit and communities should be consulted first and all results should be shared so everyone will know what's happening with the marine lands."
- "Research on ducks nesting."
- "No qallunaaq researchers."
- "No, know research for possible fisheries."
- "We have not started due to lack of research to see what is there."
- "Research to be done by local students and community members"
- "Watch how landslide changes the wildlife"



PHOTO: EMMA CAIN



PHOTO: MICHELLE VALBERG

Theme 9: There is concern with the ongoing use of fossil fuels, like gas and coal. More should be done to promote the use of alternative energy.

- "Climate change, all the deposit of fumes are probably affecting climate change."
- "The fuel ship that had a big spill changed our marine wildlife products such as sick mammals and clams and mussles (uviluk) were sick."
- "We see the oil, we smell it."
- "Is now polluted from cars/trucks and vehicles…gasoline… are ruining the ocean"
- "Need to see more exercises done with the off loading of the fuel ships and barges, I believe it would a ecological disaster if there is a spill in the waterways in the region."
- "Driving during evenings, the low-level waters and peninsulas should have blinking lights that are generated by solar power."

"Alternative energy would do a lot to help the people and environment."

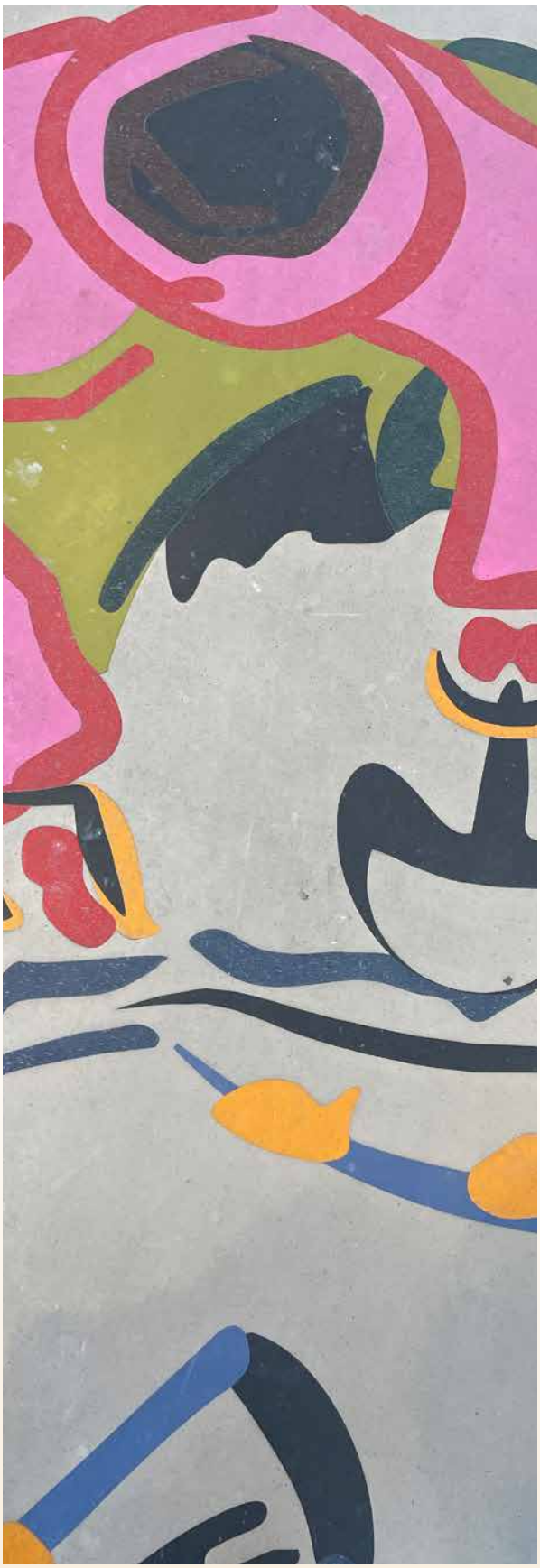
PIVAALLIQATIGIINNIQ/MAKITANIQ: THE PEOPLE OF NUNAVIK AND THE NUNAVIK MARINE REGION GROW AND PROSPER TOGETHER.

Theme 1: people are keen to see an increase in the sale of arts and crafts, hunting, tourism, and Inuit businesses moving forward.

- "Local artists would sell their creations to make extra money."
- "Depending whether the tourists enter town and purchase goods in the local communities or if the cruise ships have Inuit partners or hire local tour guides."
- "It depends if the ship lands into a community, it will create spin offs for art and stores. Also, if the village port is used for change over and Inuit airlines are used, there is an economic gain for Nunavik."
- "Tourist buys arts and crafts made by locals."
- "Rental of ATVs, sales of crafts."
- "Show traditional games and cultural clothings."
- "Tourist people bring money to local stores and sometimes buys arts and craft from locals and I noticed sometimes they used to hire locals to be guides that provides jobs."
- "Tourists are afraid to spend money in the community."
- "It helps like going to inland camps and having local helpers."
- "The money is primarily made by the tourist organizers. We do have tourist arriving by cruise ships and they are not interested in purchasing handicrafts."
- "It is not ideal to work off on the land and water for Inuit unless you go for food and you only take what you need at a time."
- "Lack of artwork to share with cruise ships."
- "It (cruise ships/tourism) could be good as a source of income, but it is not developed or utilized in our region."

Theme 2: There is a lack of opportunities for receiving formal education and job-specific training.

- "We have no barriers but we have to start over as a population."
- "Not much trainees here for that."
- "Many communities have a lack of job opportunities."
- "Not enough education received or completing, and not enough knowledge or access to the information to obtain these resources."
- "Education."
- "Lack of boats for fishing."
- "Cost of obtaining equipment such as snowmobiles and canoes/outboards."
- "Lack of opportunity and Lack of training".
- "Not enough training (e.g., train people to fish, like Greenland)."
- "It is a need to have driving instructors to teach every year."
- "Need more education Online video game."
- "No experience in the field, will need training 1st."
- "They hire people with diplomas, although some people without diplomas are good workers. Students work hard believing they will be hired after completing their diplomas, just to find out they won't be hired even if they complete their education."
- "Lack of education & training."
- "Lack of training…"
- "Lack of education."
- "Lack of western education. "
- "Not educated concerning marine Not enough (or none) of information Wasn't informed or never explained about marine."
- "Lack of education. Training people would be beneficial to securing employment."



- “The lack of on-boarding, mentoring, and lack of education and the promotion of it to have a positive effect on our lives as Inuit.”
- “Education, Experience.”
- “Education, less and less people learning on how to use it, so less interest for it.”
- “People from the south are being hired.”
- “No systems in place.”
- “poor education.”
- “There are not enough job availability and Inuit are not being tested for their abilities because as if white people are the only ones, probably because of training.”
- “Not enough education.”
- “Lack of training and lack of projects.”
- “Education is the key to better employment and earning employment.”
- “Work experience and not enough educated Inuit.”
- “Lack of education, we should find ways to continuously learn & improve our capacities.”
- “Some are not being qualified for shrimp fishing, need more Inuit sailors for the commercial sea-lift operations, most don’t speak French so a problem with team buiding by companies. “
- “Lack of education, certificates, diplomas, language barrier, training and criminal record.”
- “Lack of education.”
- “Good for students to learns outside world.”
- “They have to finish high school to work. “
- “We don’t have any training on how to deal with tourism.”
- “Not educated enough on how to run small scale fisheries.”

Theme 3: Self-employment can be difficult given the high cost of purchasing and maintaining equipment and getting the proper licences.

- "I would like to learn to make spices and edible substitutes from our seaweed and seafood."
- "...not know policies of getting licences to start."
- "Not having a license to be a guide as a regular hunter."
- "They don't have access to hunting equipment such as boats They are provided boats that are too small for the waves."
- "I think people are afraid to step forward to start business too expensive to start business.
- "Lack of knowledge and experience lack of working hunting gear."
- "Vehicle cost too high."
- "No equipment."
- "Licencing to be a guide."
- "There is not enough available resources to start these, and these are not focused on as opportunities. There is not enough education on this topic that would help to kickstart them into possibilities of creating jobs and make money off of."
- "Not enough equipment, such as vehicles."
- "To buy our own equipment (cost) jobs."
- "Funding and loans (is a barrier)."

Theme 4: Shipping companies and other industries often don't offer Inuit fair employment.

- "If it was Inuit owned, it would bring money, jobs and other opportunities. Jobs in these ships are mainly for non Inuit."
- "Only white people get income and Inuit don't get anything."
- "there is no one earning wage in these arena of businesses."
- "ship cruise, they don't offer jobs to Inuit."
- "They already have workers on board."
- "They don't hire locals."
- "Maybe too few works in boats."
- "One time I made $10,000 on a cruise ship."
- "Unless Inuit work in cruise ships."
- "I've never heard any cruise members giving any money or job to Inuit."
- "No Inuit staff."
- "Cruise ships could bring a lot of tourists and tourists = $ and those tourists need to be taken care of by employees."
- "Have heard a couple employee but don't see often that they are getting Inuit employees."
- "I have personally never seen any job opportunities for these cruise ships. Coming into the region without local knowledge."
- "I worked on a cruise before."
- "They don't offer any positions or opportunities."
- "Mostly foreigners are the workers so you rarely see Inuit benefitting."
- "Inuit that are staffed do not make much money, they should be paid more."
- "Not if we own the cruise ship."



PHOTO: ROBBIE NINGIURUVIK

- "They only employ people from the south. We could improve shipping if we had our own ships, like NEAS (belongs to Makivik), ships from Tiqanui (a family business). One big company in many communities with one big ship."
- "They bring a lot of materials to the remote communities, such as materials to build housing and some Inuit people for work constructions."
- "Not many Inuit work on ships. The one of the only benefits they bring to us it the cargo shipment to the community."
- "they (ships) just bring supplies for companies."
- "Inuit sealift workers and sealifting."
- "The sea lift brings more jobs for people."
- "Due to work related, we ship materials down south."
- "Everywhere, Inuit could not employment. The marine department don't value the Inuit."
- "Depends on the organizations. Some people don't like people working in the offices.
- "No job available."
- "Hiring non-Inuit employees."
- "Inuit not getting the same scale of non-Inuit. Or not enough benefits to secure income."
- "No enough jobs."
- "Not much jobs available."
- "Company not hiring beneficiary people who are qualified."
- "Not enough income to the local employees."
- "Opportunities lack."
- "People who have no jobs get to work a bit."
- "Young Inuit have jobs in ships and be allowed to follow, I like their actions."
- "Actually hold land like the nickel."
- "Banks. Funding. Auditoriums. Legal matters."

Theme 5: Cruise ships often pass by communities without landing.

- "They (cruise ships) do not bring in money."
- "They just pass by."
- "It does not pass by Kangirsuk."
- "There's no cruise ship."
- "Haven't heard of cruise ships in the north."
- "What cruise ships are you talking aout? We get them here? I only see fuel tanks and cargo ships."
- "I see them coming in close to Digs Island."
- "They can't come here because it's too shallow."
- "I see them when I go out on my canoe."
- "It brings money short term (just for the day) Can't make a living waiting for a ship. It comes once or twice a year."
- "They just pass."
- "They just come and go."
- "They rarely go to village."
- "They (cruise ships) just use our land and observing and not helping anyone."
- "we don't see cruise ships here."
- "Not really getting money into town."
- "They never come to my area."
- "I don't see money from those businesses."
- "I've never seen one here in our area."
- "I do not see the Cruise ship coming into the community too much."
- "Because we barely have cruise ships here."
- "They only visit for a short period of time."
- "They (cruise ships) never spend money here."
- "We never heard of it; sometimes they leave without landing."
- "They don't arrive to Tasiujaq."
- "They just pass by and never go into town, I don't think they are thinking of Inuit."
- "They (cruise ships) hardly ever arrive only once in a while."
- "Only to non Inuit organizations which is bull! Like they come into my backyard and use it to make money and not us? Does not make sense."


PHOTO: EMMA CAIN

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Theme 1: Employment, funding, and training opportunities

- "The mentality of the Inuit is not the same as it was yesteryear. Today the Inuit is give me, I don't want to work for it, I want it to be given to me for free."
- "Not enough older workers."
- "The people that used to be out of town, they get tired quickly and they don't work as hard."
- "People having no income…lack of education, no jobs for some, some lose hope because of not being able to hunt or fish."
- "Lazy, sometimes criminal records, too much drama and not wanting to get things done because they are just lazy."
- "They don't want to work."
- "No issues around finding employment."
- "I have not heard any barriers to Inuit employment. All seems good."
- "(Barrier is) People willing to work, to make a career."
- "I think the majority of the Inuit can't go due to work, or dangerous hunting conditions."
- "Not wanting to work."
- "Can't keep job (can't follow rules) Missing work because of weather."
- "We're always given a chance to work but maybe don't want to work."
- "I am satisfied with more job opportunities without endangering species or environment."
- "Give a chance to work for people with disability."
- "We heard that they would need to build more hotels."
- "Try to include the unemployed people."

Theme 2: Distribution of plants and wildlife

- "Open fish backing factories and country food butcher shops."
- "We don't have arctic char here in Chisasibi, so we get some from the north through the Inuit Hunters Support Program."
- "All kinds to hunter support to distribute to the community."
- "It is very limited these days compared to the past. On the Kuujjuaq river, there is tourism fishing and a very few pockets of selling char in the region. The biggest concern is the depletion of the numbers of Arctic char due to local consumption and the sale of them in the Coop stores."
- "They used to sell smoked fish down south, not allowed now without licence now. Its illegal for us to sell fish or any wildlife to non-Inuit. We used t like to sell good fish to restaurants in Montreal. Makavik is doing it small scale but if it would improve and grow more and more people would go fishing and sell it for our own improvement of services in our region."

- "We used to have five commercial salmon fishing licences for the community but were cancelled when the maritime provinces in the south cancelled their licenses due to lack of salmon in the south. "
- "Don't really believe in earning money in harvesting animals and fish. This would cause a faster depletion of our animals and pollution."
- "Animals we use from the land to have an income."
- "Keeping their culture but can sale if they want to."
- "For me I help ppl by selling country food to hop."

Theme 3: Land access

- "I don't see any concerns as the Inuit/hunters are able to secure funds through the hunter support program."
- "Working for Qimutjuit Men's Association, we take people out fishing, picnic when we can and if we have the funding for it. It helps our community a lot, especially for single mothers who can't teach their sons how to hunt on the land."
- "Just to add not everyone has the luxury to go out."
- "Without a boat and motor I am out on the coast less now than several years ago."
- "I can't always go hunting being an elder."

Theme 4: Safety

- "Not too sure if this applies, But the need for safer marina operations during annual sea lift. People doing their traditional boating activities during the short summer are sharing in the small break water areas with commercial sea-lift operations, thus very dangerous with front end loaders running around people, children and hunting equipment."
- "Ensure safety for Marine Transport including cargo and fuel transport by sea."
- "I have four cabins spread over the land, some by the sea. I don't lock it; people can go there in emergency."
- "So many cabins that are owned by qallunaaq in Nunavik Inland nastapoka river, qallanuaaq can't help Inuit in need."
- "Hydro electric damn flush more fresh water in winter and lots of open water from that, which makes ice unpredictable and dangerous."
- "The ice on the ocean…is more dangerous."
- "Snow/ice quality changing due to the river damming. Some areas have brittle ice now, unsafe for hunters."
- "Overall yes, But there can be very stressful situations out in the waters too. I was a young kid in a freighter canoe with another family of 7 people and we got caught amongst high tide currents in the ice pack, our boat nearly got crushed, we were in the jam for hours, I though I would die, we still had no communications back then, we survived, just barely, thus I do not like to go boating with ice around. Some have looked me down for that, I also know of others that had similar scares and they are not going to go too far offshore with ice around. "
- "There are more distractions on the land. You have to be careful and pay attention."
- *"No training on boating safety. No big boats that work properly."*
- *"Always consider the safety of thin ice I have fallen twice in the water and loosing my snowmobile."*
- *"The island should have kayaks available to get home since outboards break down sometimes."*
- *"like we have cabins that we used now that were used by tourist organizations."*



Theme 5: Traditions and history

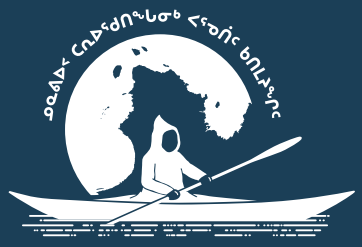
- "Things we use to do aren't the same it was important to have dog sleds. Killing dogs have affected Inuit and their way of life. Today they only use transportation we didn't get lost in the land dog sleds."
- "In the spring to go ice fishing, in May when the geese arrive, sometimes when going for a land-based retreat to help out with clients."
- "Winter season takes over to spend more inland."
- "I go by boat to the islands in summer, or on ice in winter, islands are important, can stay the night while ice is still moving. I am semi-retired, now I train by word."
- "I myself don't like old aged walrus but its my families favorites food but its not so available anymore for them anymore so they have to get it from other villages. So I wonder what can be done for them?"
- "The Offshore & marine region are important to my family. They hunt & provide for me so it is important to all of us. Also, I basically grew up in an island with my late parents, my siblings and neighbours."
- "We have cabins on the saltwater shore not particularly islands per se but we go to them every year as often as we can. But there's islands nearby our fishing camp that we visit often for eggs or duck down, and a good fishing spot."
- "i use the island for my dogs during summer to keep them away from mosquitos."
- "My parents were born on an island and were relocated because their children had to attend school. I know which island they were born on. This also seems to be dismissed."
- "We have a cabin on an island, we camp there all summer in July. We find the land comfortable, that is why we camp there."
- "The 1975 agreement gave the people of Chisasibi Inuit a swamp land, it is offensive to us.



- "Yes I have seen first hand the impacts of our health and wellbeing in regards to the industries that had transboundary negative impacts on our marine ecosystem including marine species, attached to the colonial system that affects us all, leading to strick management measures imposed on Nunavik Inuit subsistence way of living."
- "Before JBNQA passed, we had less after JBNQA, we have more."

Theme 6: Substance abuse

- "People seem to focus more on drugs and alcohol."
- "This would also be stronger if the knowledge of substance abuse on the land or water could actually take negative effect on these topics."
- "A lot of alcohol and drug abuse, suicide rate is high, health and social issues are rising, people need help but some don't know how."
- "Increase abuse of drugs and alcohol."
- "Too much alcohol abuse , hunting less."
- "more into alcohol and a lot less in the wild."
- "More drugs and alcohol …."
- "More suicide and drugs + alcohol."
- " And also alcohol is mostly the problem that change in the past 25 years."
- "They tend to stay home and drinking alcohol."
- "A lot of them are into drinking everyday and into harsh drugs and don't know what to do or how to handle their life decisions."
- "Too much alcohol and drugs."
- "Way more drugs and alcohol."
- "We have nothing to do with prevention, from drugs and alcohol. The law is in the hands of the provincial give."
- "Impaired driving accidents."
- "Alcohol and drugs"
- "Increase in addictions."
- "There are a lot more booze and drugs than before and have make big changes in our behaviour.
- "For younger generations 1990s early 2000s, more and more goes to jail maybe because of the availability of drugs and alcohol."
- "People who are constantly on drugs or alcohol People that don't do much."
- "Addictions has increased, alcohol and drugs."
- "Less hunting, more drinking, less gatherings, more conflicts with one another."
- "Excessive drinking (bad)."
- "More Substance abuse in the communities, leading to people not going out as much."
- "Too many alcohol and drugs available ."
- "Alcohol and drugs are a concern for most communities. With that, it is harder to buy hunting equipment due to high cost of equipment. Which make it harder to go out on the land to hunt for traditional food. "
- "Alcohol and drugs."
- "Alcohol and drugs."
- "The substance addiction."
- "Drugs + alcohol."
- "alcohol, drugs."
- "Drugs and alcohol. "
- "Drugs and alcohol."
- "Drugs and alcohol."
- "Promote healthy life styles to eliminate alcohol and drug abuse."



Nunavik Marine Region Planning Commission
Commission d'aménagement de la région marine du Nunavik

QUESTIONS? Contact the NMRPC or visit us online.

admin@nmrpc.ca 1-819-964-0888 nmrpc.ca