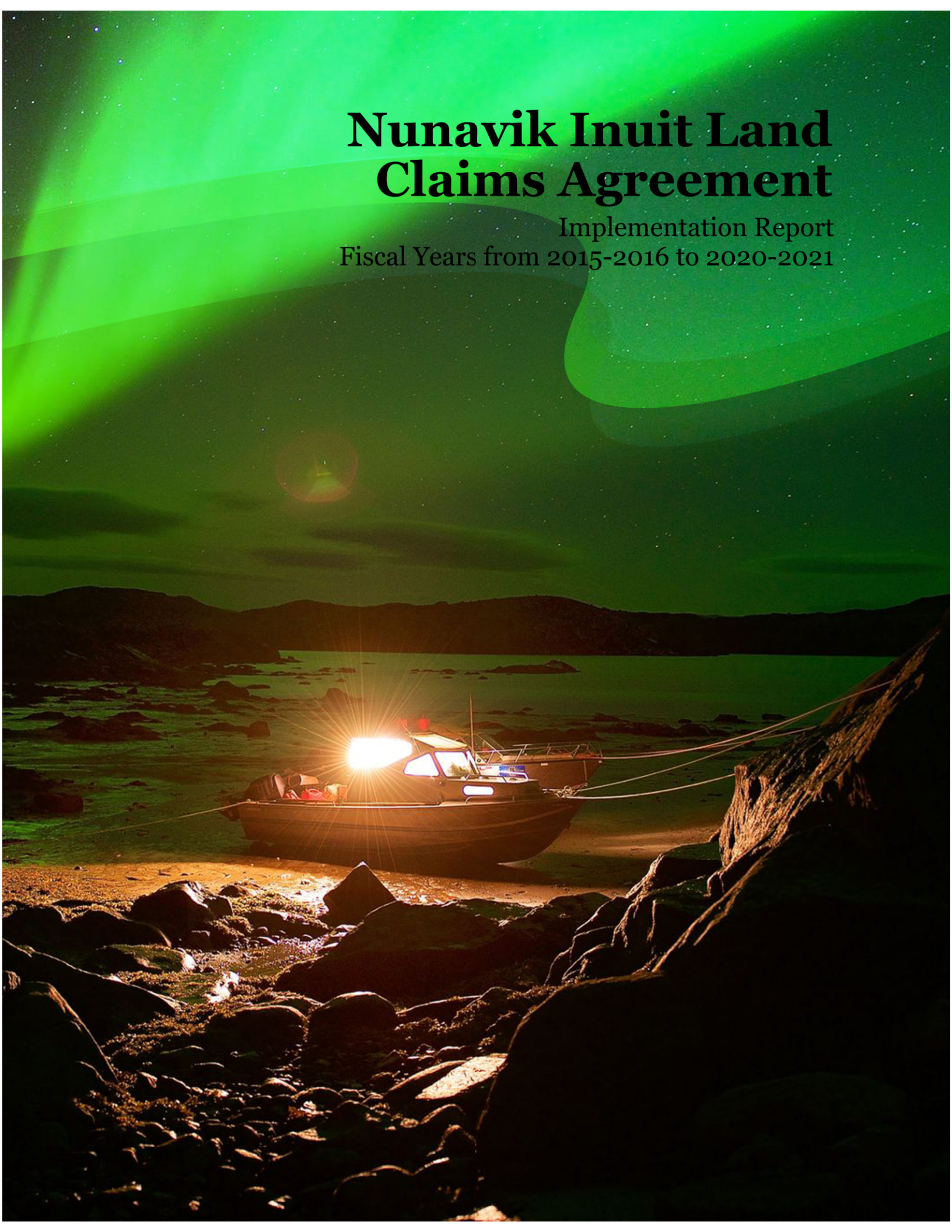


# Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement

Implementation Report  
Fiscal Years from 2015-2016 to 2020-2021



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## FOREWORD

The Implementation Committee (IC) for the Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement (NILCA) is pleased to present a report on the implementation of the NILCA, as required by Article 23.3.3 e) of the NILCA. This report covers the period of the April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2021, and provides readers with an overview of the NILCA, its funding and the various activities undertaken by the different implementation partners and bodies during this period.





## LIST OF ACRONYMS

AGM – Annual General Meeting

CIRNA – Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs

CMB - Cooperative Management Board

ECCC-CWS – Environment and Climate Change Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service

DFO - Department of Fisheries and Oceans

GN – Government of Nunavut

IPGs – Institutions of Public Government

LILCA – Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement

LNUKs – Local Nunavimmi Umajulivijiit Katujaqatigininga

NAO – Northern Affairs Organization

NILCA – Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement

NMR – Nunavik Marine Region

NMRIRB - Nunavik Marine Region Impact Review Board

NMRPC – Nunavik Marine Region Planning Commission

NMRWB – Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board

PCA – Parks Canada Agency

RNUK – Regional Nunavimmi Umajulivijiit Katujaqatigininga





## OVERVIEW AND KEY FEATURES OF THE NILCA

On December 1, 2006 in Kuujuaq, Nunavik, Makivik Corporation and the Government of Canada signed the NILCA with the Government of Nunavut (GN) signing under Canada. Prior to signing, the NILCA was approved by a large majority (78%) of eligible Nunavik Inuit voters during a ratification vote held in the fifteen Nunavik communities and in Montreal, Quebec. The NILCA came into force on July 10, 2008 following the adoption by the Parliament of Canada of the Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement Act (S.C. 2008, c.2). The NILCA is a modern treaty and is constitutionally protected within the meaning of section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982.

The NILCA addresses the use and ownership of lands and sub-surface resources by Nunavik Inuit in James Bay, Hudson Bay, Hudson Strait and Ungava Bay, known as the Nunavik Marine Region (NMR), as well as a portion of northern Labrador and an area offshore of Labrador. Pursuant to the NILCA, Nunavik Inuit own, either solely or jointly, a total of 7,530 islands which constitute an approximate area of 8,307km<sup>2</sup>. The NILCA also establishes three institutions of public government: the Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board (NMRWB), the Nunavik Marine Region Impact Review Board (NMRIRB) and the Nunavik Marine Region Planning Commission (NMRPC). Finally, the NILCA con-

tains three separate overlap agreements between the Nunavik Inuit and the Nunavut Inuit, the Crees of Eeyou Istchee, and the Labrador Inuit. It also created three Institutions of Public Government (IPGs) which are responsible for wildlife management, land use planning, and monitoring the impact of development. The Implementation Committee (the Committee) for the NILCA consists of representatives from Makivik Corporation, the GN, and the Government of Canada. As per 23.3.3 of the NILCA, the Committee meets to oversee and monitor implementation issues and priorities and to resolve any implementation disputes that may arise. The frequency of meetings depends on the number of action items and implementation decisions required to be discussed in a given year. Over the six years covered by this report, the Committee met on average three times a year.

### Enrolment List

As per Article 4 of the NILCA, any person who is enrolled as a beneficiary of the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement, as amended from time to time, is eligible to be enrolled as a beneficiary under the NILCA. In order to be entitled to benefit from the NILCA, a person must be enrolled on the NILCA Enrolment List.

## FUNDING OF THE AGREEMENT

Between 2015 and 2021, CIRNA transferred a total of \$23,229,506.80 to the three Institutions of Public Government (IPGs), the Regional Nunavimmi Umajulivijiit Katujaqatigininga (RNUK), and the Local Nunavimmi Umajulivijiit Katujaqatigininga (LNUKs), for the implementation of the Agreement.

	2015-2016		2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
NMRWB	2,760,832		2,862,705 <sup>1</sup>	2,846,067.82 <sup>2</sup>	2,997,712 <sup>3</sup>	2,948,140 <sup>4</sup>	3,005,562 <sup>5</sup>
	Board operations	1,515,832	1,533,255	1,551,743	1,569,047	1,600,892	1,629,832
	RNUK	170,000	171,998	174,072	177,405	181,005	184,278
	LNUKs	975,000	986,457	998,353	1,010,248	1,030,751	1,049,400
	AGM	100,000	101,175	102,395	103,541	105,462	107,552
NMRPC	853,205.71 <sup>4</sup>		559,523	566,270	573,017	584,646	595,218
NMRIRB	381,672.09		386,031	390,686	395,341	403,365	410,659
Makivik Corporation – Loan Repayment							551,403

<sup>1</sup>Includes a supplementary funding of \$69,820.00

<sup>2</sup>Includes a supplementary funding of \$19,504.82

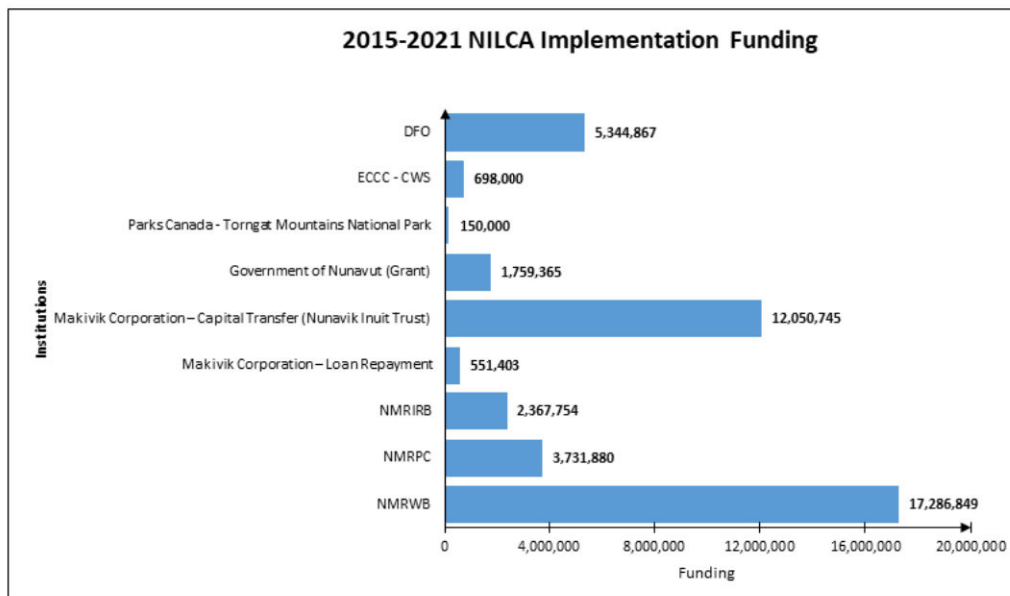
<sup>3</sup>Includes a supplementary funding of \$137,471.00

<sup>4</sup>Includes a supplemental funding of \$29,850

<sup>5</sup>Includes funding of \$34,500 for climate change adaptation and clean energy projects

<sup>6</sup>Includes a supplementary funding of \$300,000.00

Makivik Corporation – Capital Transfer (Nunavik Inuit Trust)		5,259,855	6,790,890			
Government of Nunavut (Grant)		433,216	435,837	440,684	449,628	
Parks Canada - Cooperative Management Board meeting costs - Torngat Mountains National Park		75,000				
ECCC – CWS	107,000	145,000	115,000	120,000	109,000.00	102,000
DFO	916,070	826,070	888,892	909,189	902,323	902,323





## IMPLEMENTATION HIGHLIGHTS

### Implementation Committee

The 2015-2021 implementation period of the NILCA had many successes that speak to the effective partnership of the Committee and its members, as well as challenges that required problem solving and reassessment of the implementation process.

In 2016, the Committee broadened the scope of the Marine Protected Areas Project after discussion with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) and other partners, and renamed it the Protected Areas Project.

Discussions were also had on changing the format of annual reports and shortening them for quicker publishing, including a reduction in printing paper copies.

One of the main endeavours during this implementation period was the renewal process undertaken by the implementation plan working group for the second 10-year implementation plan (2021-2031), which resulted in clarified activity sheets in the implementation plan

that better reflect the obligations in the NILCA. This was supported by proposed increased funding for the NMRWB, the LNUKs and the RNUK. As well, the GN was included as a full party to the renewed implementation plan, which better reflects its role as a government with implementation obligations under the NILCA, and allows it to partake in nation-to-nation relationship building.

In terms of overseeing governance of the three IPGs, discussions were held by the Committee regarding:

- Improving board capacity and support to ensure that deadlines are met and work plans are accomplished,
- Increasing honoraria to the top end of the scale as an increased incentive for board participation and to reflect the standards in the North,
- Adding Elders to LNUKs to serve an advisory role and integrate traditional knowledge with scientific information, and
- Changing the board and staff dynamic so that staff are held accountable to board members.



The Committee also faced some challenges. There were ongoing difficulties with the appointment process for the boards of the three IPGs, which hindered the IPGs from functioning effectively. Additionally, the Committee provided support in the resolution of staffing challenges with the NMRPC and NMRIRB. The Committee collaborated to ensure timely succession planning for its members and for the IPG members. Lastly, the Committee managed and resolved funding matters for the IPGs.

## **Government of Canada**

### **Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs**

CIRNA participated in the Committee to ensure proper and timely implementation of the NILCA.

CIRNA worked with the NMRPC to develop a Land Use Planning, Use and Occupancy Mapping Project .

CIRNA funded and collaborated with its partners to resolve funding and capacity issues for the IPGs, and assisted in the development of the IPGs' work plan and budgets. For instance, CIRNA provided support to the NMRPC with the Broad Planning Policies, Objectives and Goals.

CIRNA monitored members' appointments to the IPGs as well as members' appointments to the Committee and provided assistance to address IPG board appointment challenges when necessary.

### **Environment and Climate Change Canada**

During the reporting period, ECCC worked closely with the three IPGs on the implementation of the wildlife management regime and the impact review process for proposed development projects in the NMR, as specified under the NILCA.

ECCC and the NMRWB have collaborated actively on questions related to the protection and management of migratory birds and species at risk. ECCC staff was present at NMRWB meetings to ensure that the NMRWB was provided with the information it needed to fulfill its mandate.

The Committee also reviewed the work plans of the three IPGs. As well, an independent financial review was undertaken of the NMRPC, and in 2018, CIRNA's Northern Affairs Office (NAO) began assisting with the land use planning process. An independent review of the operations of the NMRPC and NMRIRB was also undertaken under the supervision of the Committee to provide recommendations for improving operations.

In terms of board funding, in 2018, the Committee approved funding to support the addition of a second biologist to the NMRWB for the 2018-19 year. As well, following the approval of the NMRPC's work plan, a funding agreement was signed with the NMRPC and NMRIRB in support of the plan.

In addition, the Committee provided monitoring support to the NMRPC in the development of a Land-use Plan and a Marine Protected Areas Project.

Polar bear management is an important issue for ECCC and the NMRWB. ECCC worked with the NMRWB on:

- The decision process for the establishment of Total Allowable Take of polar bear from the Southern Hudson Bay population.
- Participating in discussions on polar bear issues through the Polar Bear Administrative Committee (PBAC) and the Polar Bear Technical Committee. The PBAC provides a forum for cooperation between provincial, territorial and federal jurisdictions to manage polar bears and the Polar Bear Technical Committee is composed of experts from Canadian jurisdictions and co-management partners, in both TK and science, responsible for advising the PBAC on technical matters.

ECCC also kept the NMRWB informed of its decisions and activities concerning polar bear management, in particular:

- The development of the Polar Bear Management Plan for Québec, the Eeyou Marine Region and the Nunavik Marine Region;
- The implementation of Total Allowable Take by Inuit in the NMR, and;
- Polar bear population management in Canada and internationally.

ECCC consulted the NMRWB regarding activities stemming from the Species at Risk Act relative to migratory birds and terrestrial species that are present in the NMR, including:

- The development of the red-necked phalarope management plan;
- The listing of the Hudsonian godwit and status changes for common nighthawk, olive-sided flycatcher, peregrine falcon, transverse lady beetle, evening grosbeak, and monarch butterfly.

ECCC also kept the NMRWB informed of the Challenge Fund for the creation of protected areas and the eventual funding of a feasibility study for an Indigenous protected area in the Arqviit islands.



With regard to migratory birds, ECCC and the NMRWB collaborated in a number of ways. The NMRWB supported The Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) proposals for bird monitoring by agreeing to funding and access requests to the NMR. ECCC kept the NMRWB up to date on progress to create a Sea Duck Atlas and amendments to the Migratory Bird Regulations.

ECCC also provided information on important bird habitat to the NMRPC.

### **Parks Canada Agency**

The Torngat Mountains National Park (Park) continued to be cooperatively managed with Inuit partners, and the Cooperative Management Board (CMB) members. Parks Canada Agency (PCA) positions are staffed entirely by beneficiaries of the NILCA and the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement (LILCA), thus facilitating Inuit stewardship and use of those lands and promoting the transmission of Inuit knowledge and practices in ways that provide significant meaning for Inuit beneficiaries.

After over 10 years of operation, the CMB has become a mature and engaged Board, with a desire and focus to carry out activities related to its priorities such as helping Inuit beneficiaries maintain and strengthen their connection with their traditional homeland and assist in preserving their history and culture. This focus has successfully allowed the CMB to continue to attract outstanding and committed members to the Board.



in Nunatsiavut harvest for food. PCA, in partnership with Makivik Corporation, Nunatsiavut Government, the CMB, Torngat Wildlife and Plants Co-management Board, Nunavik Parks, the Government of Quebec, and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, is supporting the completion of a population survey.

There is strong support among Inuit of Nunavik and Nunatsiavut to develop an Inuit-led management strategy and have Inuit stewardship for the Torngat Mountains caribou population, and this initiative is being led by the CMB.

### **Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada**

DFO continued its collaboration with the NMRWB, namely by supporting its management mandate for several species. As such, DFO has consolidated its research programs and maintained its efforts to implement the NMRWB's management decisions.

### **Stock assessments**

DFO scientists have conducted population assessments for a number of species found in the NMR, including the Atlantic walrus, beluga, narwhal, bowhead whale, Northern shrimp and striped shrimp. These assessments have enabled DFO to provide the NMRWB with profiles of species abundance and to support harvest advice issued for some species.

### **Integration of traditional practices and technologies**

As part of its research work, DFO has implemented collaborative approaches with its Nunavik co management partners to improve its knowledge of the species DFO studies. For example, the Nunavik beluga research program now combines conventional scientific practices with leading-edge technologies and traditional knowledge to model populations of beluga, a marine mammal that is fundamental to the Inuit of Nunavik. For many years, the program has been conducting aerial surveys and collecting samples for genetic analysis. More recently, the beluga research program has begun incorporating cutting-edge genomic methods (2019), analysis of environmental DNA (2019) and traditional ecological knowledge from hunters (2017).

PCA convened an Economic Summit in 2019 with Inuit partners to explore future opportunities and partnerships in the Park. This resulted in a shared vision and priorities for the Park being identified and endorsed by Makivik Corporation, Nunatsiavut Government, the CMB and PCA.

Over a 10 year period PCA contracted Nunavik Inuit businesses and individuals 106 times. The Inuit businesses included fixed wing aircraft and helicopters, Inuit cultural performers, elders, interpreter/translators and labourers.

PCA continues to base its operations and administrative office during the summer season at the Torngat Mountains Base Camp and Research Station, located on the southern boundary adjacent to the Park. This site is integral for providing the opportunity to showcase traditional cultural events and workshops, youth and elders programming, supporting research and ecological integrity monitoring for the park, and hosting the CMB annual face to face meetings.

Until recently very little information has been collected about the Torngat Mountains caribou herd, a herd that the communities of Kangiqsuallujaq in Nunavik and Nain

DFO researchers and co-management partners from Nunavik communities, the NMRWB, Makivik Corporation and the RNUK have also worked in close collaboration on research related to the ringed seal and walrus, once again combining traditional knowledge with scientific research.

### **Strengthening collaboration with local partners**

To effectively implement the NMRWB's decisions, DFO has ensured that mechanisms are in place to foster collaboration and the strengthening of ties with Nunavik communities. To do so, DFO has favoured an adapted approach consisting of creating working groups that bring together co-management partners around specific objectives. This collaborative approach has been used for, among other things, the renewal of beluga management measures. Furthermore, DFO's Conservation and Protection team, which is responsible for enforcing the Fisheries Act, has established a community-based approach aimed at strengthening ties between DFO officers, the network of Uumajuit Wardens, and as many local actors as possible during patrols (mayors, hunters' associations, etc.).

Lastly, in 2018, DFO created a stand-alone Arctic Region for Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Canadian Coast Guard to advance reconciliation with Indigenous peoples as well as to ensure that Northerners are at the heart of DFO's decisions in the region. Although the creation of this region will be implemented in stages, DFO has been responsive to requests to include Nunavik and the NMR in this new region. Above all, DFO wishes to strengthen collaboration by actively liaising with communities.

## **Makivik Corporation**

Makivik Corporation is responsible for managing entry and access to Nunavik Inuit Lands which comprise approximately 80% of the islands in the NMR. An on-line entry and access application system has been developed in Inuktitut and English. The French version will be available soon. Applications from governments, researchers and the public continue at a pace similar to the previous planning period, ranging from 5 to 10 per year.

A funding proposal has been presented to the Government of Nunavut to complete the important place names project. Currently, over 8000 Inuktitut place names have been compiled in a database. To receive official recognition, the place names will be submitted to the Geographical Names Board of Canada. Prior to submission, travel to all the communities will be required to verify the names and precise locations.

The development of the second ten-year Implementation Plan was a major activity. Makivik Corporation staff worked closely with the NMRWB and the RNUK to create a funding proposal that more accurately reflects the RNUK and LNUKs needs. Included in this proposal was the establishment of a Nunavik Marine Region Secretariat to provide support in policy development and administration.

Makivik Corporation staff also continues to provide assistance and support to the three IPGs, particularly for the Makivik Corporation-appointed members. Staff attend meetings, hearings and



### Capital Transfer Payments to Makivik Corporation during reporting period

	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Loan repayment to Makivik Corporation						551,403
Capital Transfer to Makivik Corporation / Nunavik Inuit Trust		5,259,855	6,790,890			

engages directly in the development of policies, plans and programs. Much effort was placed over the past several years to ensure that the NMRPC was fulfilling its responsibilities. A new Executive Director has been engaged and work will begin on the development of a land use plan for the NMR.

Makivik Corporation has worked with the Committee to resolve important disputes to ensure that the rights of Nunavik Inuit are respected concerning access to their lands and priority for government contracting and services.

### Government of Nunavut

The GN has several implementation obligations under the NILCA, many of which are on an as needed basis, for example, it undertakes activities associated with nominating members to NILCA IPGs, consultation requirements, and potential travel and translation costs related to obligations. Legal obligations include land titles registration in Nunavik Inuit lands and the potential for dispute resolution costs arising from NILCA.

Environmental obligations include licensing, harvesting related information collection, enforcement of wildlife legislation, general environmental monitoring and land use planning where it overlaps and affects both provincial and federal jurisdictions, enforcement of development project certificates and related activities, and activities associated with the future appropriate permanent wildlife and land and water management regimes for the Areas of Equal Use and Occupancy between the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement and the NILCA.

Finally, there are other obligations related to places names, archaeological and ethnographic resources, legislation, and resource royalty related activities (calculations, proposals, legislation, etc).



## Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs

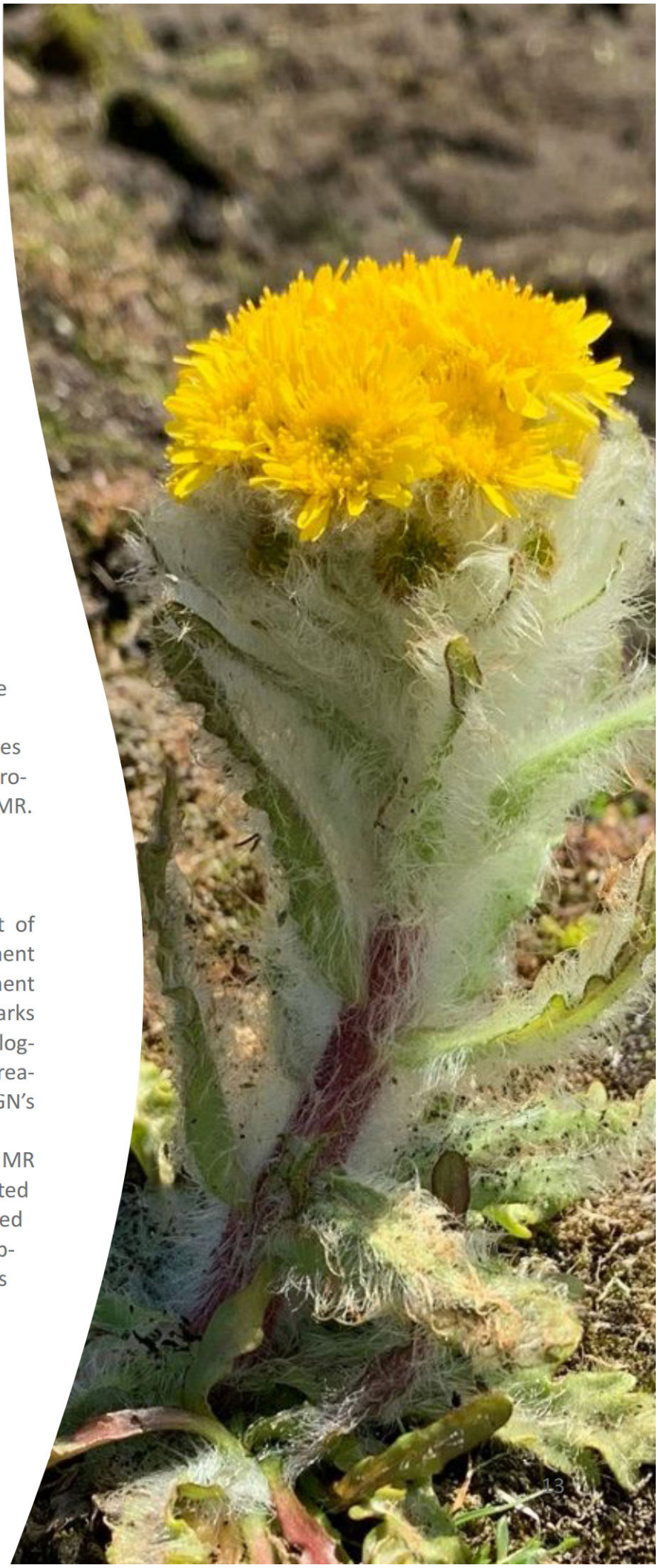
The Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs holds the trans-boundary claims files and works to coordinate and monitor implementation of the NILCA by government departments.

- Costs related to implementation management include ongoing membership on the Committee and related activities, including among other things: reading and drafting letters to and from the Committee; guiding the implementation of the NILCA, including feedback to the three IPGs on budgets and work plans; and chairing Committee meetings on a rotational basis.
- The GN member to the NILCA Implementation Plan Working Group participated in the review and drafting of the second NILCA Implementation Plan (2021-2031) to which the GN is now a party.
- Intergovernmental Affairs addressed issues with Nunavut-Quebec boundaries and protected areas as they arose related to the NMR.

## Department of Environment Protected Areas

Article 11 of the NILCA assigns the Department of Environment the responsibility for the establishment of a Protected Area Impact and Benefit Agreement and joint management committee for territorial parks and other areas of particular significance for ecological, cultural, archaeological, research or similar reasons under shared jurisdiction or solely under GN's jurisdiction.

No Protected Areas were established in the NMR during this reporting period; therefore, no Protected Area Impact and Benefit Agreement was negotiated and no joint management committee was established. The Department of Environment continues to review the current proposal by the Arqviiliit Committee regarding an Indigenous Protected Conservation Area in the Ottawa Islands.



## Land and Resources

With the jurisdictional responsibility to protect the land and people of the territory, the GN has a very tangible interest in the outcome of Land Use Planning (Article 6) and the Development Impact (Article 7) process.

- The GN Department of the Environment appoints GN representatives to the NMRPC and the NMRIRB, including involvement in the chair appointment process for each IPG.
- The GN Minister and GN departments will be involved in the development, review, implementation and monitoring of the future land use plan. Department of the Environment staff began participating in trilateral work toward the development of the NMR land use plan, including work on the plan's Broad Planning, Policies, Objectives and Goals.
- The GN Minister and GN departments are also involved in screening, reviewing, monitoring, decisions and amendments of development project proposals.
- The GN will continue to work with its partners to develop a general environmental monitoring plan for the NMR.

## Wildlife Research and Management Division and Wildlife Operations Division

Under the NILCA, the responsibility for management of terrestrial species is shared between the GN Department of Environment, the NMRWB, and the LNUKs/ RNUKs. These organizations work collectively and independently on their respective responsibilities as outlined in the NILCA.

Responsibility for wildlife management initiatives falls to the GN's Wildlife Research and Management division and Wildlife Operations division of the Department of Environment. The Wildlife Research and Management division participates in the decision-making process by bringing the Department's management recommendations forward to the NMRWB. The GN Department of Environment may also seek advice from the NMRWB on wildlife management issues. The GN Minister of Environment can refer matters to the NMRWB where appropriate.

- The Wildlife Operations Division has increased contact with the NMRWB, most recently on legislation and regulations, and will continue to build on that relationship.





- The Department of the Environment appoints a GN representative to the NMRWB, including jointly appointing the chair with the Minister for DFO and the Minister for ECCC.
- GN initiated discussions with Makivik Corporation related to Nunavut’s Wildlife Act and its regulations.
- The Department of Environment works collaboratively on shared wildlife populations. The current focus is on Polar bear research and management of shared polar bear sub-populations (Southern Hudson Bay, Fox Basin and Davis Strait sub-populations)

**Department of Justice**

Legal obligations include land titles registration and surveys of Nunavik Inuit lands, and potential dispute resolution costs.

- The Legal and Constitutional Law Division provided legal advice to other GN departments about their NILCA obligations during the period in question.
- The Legislative Drafting Division assisted government departments and agencies in developing regulations and legislation that are consistent with the NILCA.
- The Legal and Constitutional Law Division also provided legal advice on and a review of the second NILCA Implementation Plan.
- The Land Titles Office administers the Land Titles Act (Nunavut) and provides guaranteed titles under a modern legal regime.

**Department of Culture and Heritage**

The protection of archaeological and paleontological heritage in the NMR in Nunavut is a shared responsibility of the Government of Nunavut and Government of Canada. As per the NILCA Article 20, the GN Department of Culture and Heritage is the Designated Agency responsible for archaeology, ethnographic resources and archival records, including: permitting for archaeological investigations, joint management with Avataq Cultural Institute of archaeological specimens found in the NMR; and place name changes.

- The Department of Culture and Heritage drafted an exemption agreement for consideration by the NMRIRB to exempt academic archaeological research from the impact review process.
- In 2021, the Department of Culture and Heritage awarded Avataq/Makivik Corporation \$25,000 towards Inuktitut traditional place names research.

Funding to the Government of Nunavut during reporting period						
	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Grant to the Government of Nunavut		433,216	435,837	440,684	449,628	

## INSTITUTIONS OF PUBLIC GOVERNMENT

### Nunavik Marine Region Wildlife Board

The NMRWB is the main instrument of wildlife management in the NMR and the main regulator of access to wildlife. Its primary responsibilities are to ensure the maintenance of healthy wildlife populations while protecting Inuit harvesting rights. The NMRWB holds regular meetings to discuss and make decisions on wildlife management, including polar bears, beluga whales, narwhals, bowhead whales, and walruses, and fisheries management.

The NMRWB is comprised of seven members, three appointed by Makivik, one by the DFO Minister and one by the ECCC Minister as well as one by the GN. Members select one Chairperson, jointly appointed by the GN Minister, the Minister of DFO and the Minister of ECCC.

The NMRWB is committed to participating in the Polar Bear Administrative and Technical Committees, the Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program, and the National Marine Mammal Peer-Review Committee, and acts as an observer on numerous regional and local consultative bodies.

Between 2015-2021, the NMRWB passed critical resolutions on:

- Integrated fisheries management plans for northern shrimp in the NMR/Davis Strait;
- Annually, Total Allowable Catch levels for the shrimp fisheries;

- Exploratory fishing of Greenland halibut;
- Conduct of an Inuit Knowledge research project on beluga in the Mucalic Estuary;
- Beluga Total Allowable Take and Non-Quota limitations for the purpose of protecting the Eastern Hudson Bay beluga in both 2017 and 2020; and
- Total Allowable Take for the Southern Hudson Bay population of polar bear.

### Wildlife Research Fund

Under the NILCA, the NMRWB received a \$5 million Wildlife Research Fund from CIRNA for research projects that inform critical management decisions on wildlife issues. Potential projects are assessed based on their importance to the NMRWB mandate, their involvement of Nunavik Inuit, and various knowledge systems, including both science and Inuit Knowledge. Between 2015-2021, the Fund was an effective way to involve Inuit in research and has contributed to valuable research and monitoring in the NMR. Funded research projects include:

- Stock discrimination and abundance of walrus study;
- Survey and biopsies of Southern Hudson Bay and Davis Strait polar bears;
- Community based monitoring of wildlife and sea-ice in Eastern Hudson Bay;
- Biopsy darting of beluga whales;
- Study of ballast waters and arctic invasive species;
- Shorebirds and breeding bird surveys in Inuit communities; and
- Inuit Knowledge of Arctic Terns.



## RNUK and LNUKs

The LNUK is a local hunting, fishing and trapping association where membership is open to all Nunavik Inuit in a community. The LNUK provides a forum to gather the views of Nunavik Inuit in a community from a resource-user perspective, and makes recommendations on wildlife management measures, regulation of harvesting practices, and the management of harvesting among members in general. There are 15 LNUKs in the NMR established under the NILCA.

The RNUK provides the same type of information on a regional basis, by providing a forum for representatives of LNUKs to gather and express their views.

The RNUK and LNUKs support and act as a consultative body to the NMWRB and ensure that wildlife management decisions account for and respect Nunavik Inuit harvesting rights and needs.

Since 2015, the LNUKs have worked with the NMRWB on surveys to identify high priority issues for research including: beluga, polar bear, ringed seal, and arctic tern; environmental changes; development impact on marine and coastal ecosystems; and invasive species.

RNUK and LNUKs members also take part in the Eastern Hudson Bay Beluga Working Group.

Funding to NMRWB during reporting period <sup>7</sup>						
	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
NMRWB	2,760,832	2,862,705 <sup>8</sup>	2,846,067.82 <sup>9</sup>	2,997,712 <sup>10</sup>	2,948,140 <sup>11</sup>	3,005,562 <sup>12</sup>
	RNUK	170,000	171,998	174,072	177,405	181,005
	LNUKs	975,000	986,457	998,353	1,010,248	1,049,400

<sup>7</sup>This amount includes Final Domestic Demand Implicit Price Index (FDDIPI) as prescribed in the text of the Agreement

<sup>8</sup> Includes a supplementary funding of \$69,820.00

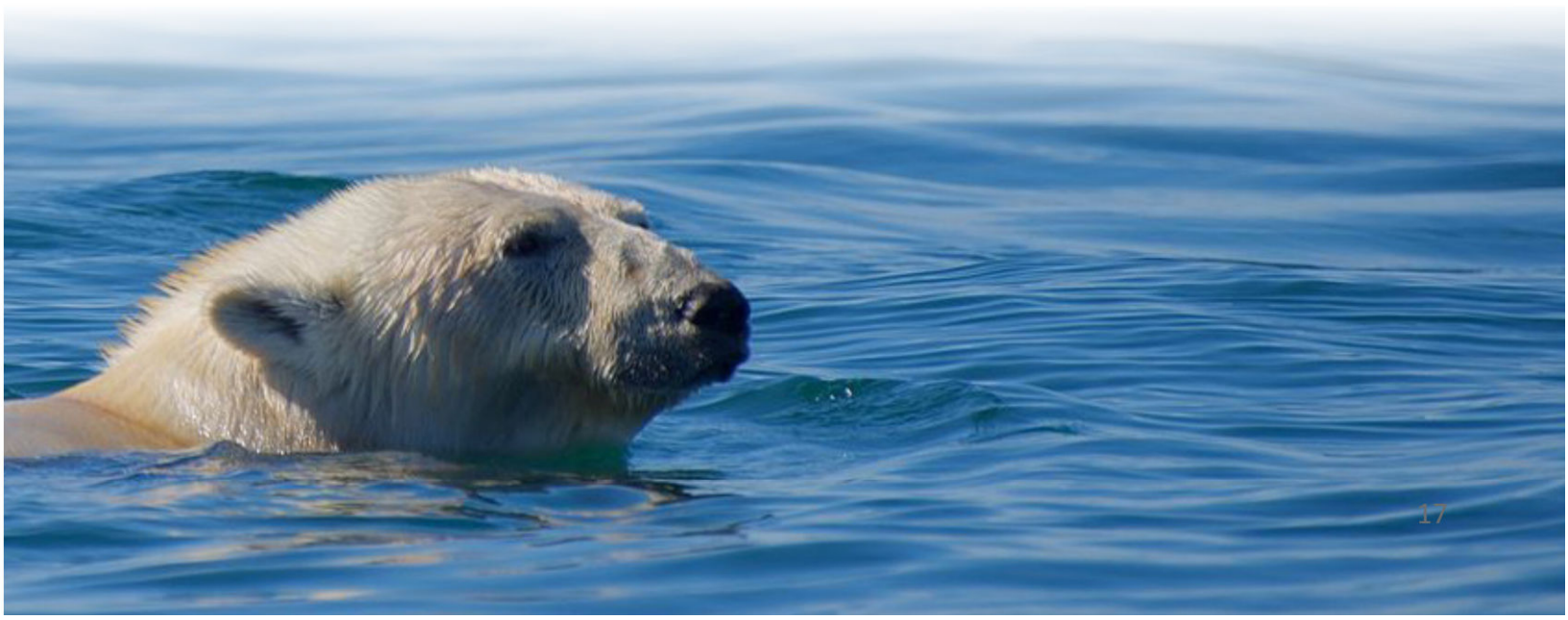
<sup>9</sup> Includes a supplementary funding of \$19,504.82

<sup>10</sup> Includes a supplementary funding of \$137,471.00

<sup>11</sup> Includes a supplemental funding of \$29,850

<sup>12</sup> Includes funding of \$34,500 for climate change adaptation and clean energy projects

<sup>13</sup> "land" as per section 6.1.1 of the NILCA includes water, resources, and wildlife; starting in 2021 the NMRPC will use the term "marine" in reference to any plans, policies or strategies related to the Nunavik Marine Region. It is implied that this includes water, resources, wildlife and islands within the NMR.



## Nunavik Marine Region Planning Commission

The NMRPC is mandated to establish broad planning policies, priorities and objectives for the NMR, and to develop and implement an NMR land use plan. The NMRPC is tasked with identifying planning regions, contributing to the development and review of Arctic policy, conducting consultations, and developing an NMR land use plan that guides resource use and development in the NMR. Once a draft plan is complete, the NMRPC consults the public on the plan and determines if project proposals in the NMR are in conformity with the land use plan.

The NMRPC consists of five commissioners. The Government of Canada and the GN recommend at least one member each, Makivik Corporation recommends at

least two members, and the Minister of CIRNA appoints these members, as well as an additional member, who is nominated by the members as Chairperson and appointed by the GN Minister and the Minister of CIRNA.

The purpose of developing land use plans for the NMR is to protect and promote the existing and future well-being of those communities adjacent to or using the NMR, and where necessary, to restore the environmental integrity of the NMR. Per NILCA 6.2.1(b), special attention is devoted to promoting well-being of Nunavik Inuit.

### Funding to NMRPC during reporting period<sup>10</sup>

	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
NMRPC	853,205.71 <sup>11</sup>	559,523	566,270	\$573,017	584,646	595,218

<sup>10</sup>This amount includes Final Domestic Demand Implicit Price Index (FDDIPI) as prescribed in the text of the Agreement

<sup>11</sup>Includes a supplementary funding of \$300,000.00



In 2015, the NMRPC launched the Marine Protected Areas Project. Activities included a knowledge exchange workshop in 2016, and another workshop on marine protection options in the NMR in 2017. Over 2015-2018, the NMRPC concluded interviews in Nunavik communities and completed a Land Use and Occupancy Mapping Project. In 2019-2020, data gathered through the Project were analyzed to identify community use patterns, and community engagement and validation of results commenced.

Since 2018, the NMRPC has worked to prepare broad planning policies, objectives and goals and launched associated consultations with Nunavik Inuit in 2019, though Covid-19 measures have postponed completing this work. Additionally, the

NMRPC has worked on various elements necessary for the land use plan, including defining planning sub-areas, reviewed ecologically and biologically significant marine areas , valued ecosystem components , and Valued Socio-Economic and Environmental Components documented in the NMR.

Other activities have included the ongoing participation of the NMRPC on matters related to marine transportation, marine conservation and a full redesign of its website.

**Funding to NMRIRB during reporting period<sup>12</sup>**

	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
NMRIRB	381,672.09	386,031	390,686	395,341	403,365	410,659

<sup>12</sup>This amount includes Final Domestic Demand Implicit Price Index (FDDIPI) as prescribed in the text of the Agreement



## Nunavik Marine Region Impact Review Board

The NMRIRB is the institution responsible for assessing the environmental and socio-economic impacts of development projects proposed in the NMR. The NMRIRB consists of four members, two nominated by Makivik Corporation, one by the Government of Nunavut, and one by the Government of Canada. The Chairperson is selected by the members of the NMRIRB and all members are appointed by the Minister of CIRNA.

The NMRIRB screens project proposals to determine if a review is required, conducts formal reviews to analyze the extent of the regional, ecological, and socio-economic impacts of proposed projects, provides recommendations to the appropriate Minister on the projects, and monitors the projects that proceed. NMRIRB meets on average twice per year.

The NMRIRB took part in the organization of a workshop on marine protected areas in 2017, identified oil and gas development projects that could be proposed for

Baffin Bay and Davis Strait and held consultations for community input and feedback, and conducted interviews for the Use and Occupancy Mapping Survey Project in 2016.

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, the NMRIRB had to move its operations online to allow easier remote collaboration and virtual meetings. The NMRIRB also started working on a new upgrade of its site to a content management system and developed a framework to move toward an online, proponent-based application process.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the NMRIRB only received one screening application for geologic work on Long Island (in the Joint Inuit/Cree zone of the NMR) in 2020. A Screening Decision Report was updated in 2020 so that the proponent could conduct the planned work in summer 2021.

Total funding to the IPGs during reporting period				
	Core Funding		Supplementary Funding	Total
NMRPC	3,431,879.71		\$300,000	3,731,879.71
NMRIRB	2,367,754.09		N/A	2,367,754.09
NMRWB	Core	17,129,873	291,145.8	17,421,018.8
	RNUK	1,058,758		
	LNUKs	6,050,209		

## WEB LINKS

Links to the NILCA and Implementation Plan can be found on CIRNA's website.



