



# Climate Change and Communities in the NWT Forum

March 29 and 30, 2011

Explorer Hotel, Yellowknife, NWT

## Hosts:



## Funders:



Indian and Northern  
Affairs Canada

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## Partners:



**Dennis Bevington**  
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## DRAFT Agenda

### Day 1 March 29 Explorer Hotel

Time	Activity	Details	Location
8:30 am – 9:00 am	Participant sign -in	Coffee and tea	Lobby
9:00 – 10:00 am	Welcome and Introductions Opening Prayer	Organizers and dignitaries	Katimavik A/B
10:00 – 10:15 am	Icebreaker		Katimavik A/B
10:15 – 10:30 am	Break		Lobby
10:30 - 11:00 am	Plenary: Climate Change in the NWT	Overview of climate change science by Heather Auld, Environment Canada	Katimavik A/B
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Climate Change Research in the NWT	Pembina; NWTAC; INAC; NRCan	Katimavik A/B
12:00 - 1:00pm	Lunch	Story wall introduced Film: Climate Change and Great Bear Lake (12 minutes)	Katimavik A/B
1:00 - 2:30pm	Breakout Sessions	1) Implications of permafrost change for municipalities	Katimavik A
		2) Climate change impacts on water and waste water	Katimavik B
		3) Emergency management and climate change	Katimavik C
		4) Energy efficiency for buildings	Janvier Room
2:30 - 3:00pm	Break- Sponsored by FSC Architects & Engineers		Lobby
3:00 - 4:30pm	Breakout Sessions	1) Community energy planning and renewable energy	Katimavik A
		2) Impact of climate change on transportation	Katimavik B
		3) Adaptation planning- tools and funding	Katimavik C
		4) Infrastructure standards	Janvier Room
4:30 - 5:00 pm	Wrap-up and Closing		Katimavik A/B
5:00 - 6:30 pm	Resource Fair	Appetizers and bar service	Katimavik A/B

## Day 2 March 30 Explorer Hotel

Time	Activity	Details	Location
8:00– 8:30 am	Participant arrival	Coffee and tea is served	
8:30 – 9:15 am	Plenary : "Alaska Planning for Climate Change Adaptation: Reflections for the NWT"	Terry Chapin, University of Alaska Fairbanks	Katimavik A/B
9:15 am - 10:00 am	Case studies of adaptation planning in the North	NWT, Yukon, Nunavut	Katimavik A/B
10:00 - 10:30 am	Break- Sponsored by EBA Engineering Consultants		Lobby
10:30 am - 12:00 pm	Breakout Sessions (duplicated from day 1)	1) Implications of permafrost change for municipalities	Katimavik A
		2) Adaptation planning- tools and funding	Katimavik B
		3) Emergency management and climate change	Katimavik C
		4) Energy efficiency for buildings	Janvier Room
12:00 - 1:00pm	Lunch- Sponsored by Northwest Territories Power Corporation		Katimavik A/B
1:00 - 2:30 pm	Breakout Sessions (duplicated from day 1)	1) Community energy planning and renewable energy	Katimavik A
		2) Climate change impacts on water and waste water	Katimavik B
		3) Impact of climate change on transportation	Katimavik C
		4) Infrastructure standards	Janvier Room
2:30 - 3:00 pm	Break		Lobby
3:00 - 5:00 pm	Regional Action Planning		Katimavik A/B
	Summary of Forum		
	Closing prayer		

Forum Hosts:



## **Breakout sessions descriptions**

### **Implications of permafrost change for municipalities**

How will climate change and melting permafrost impact on infrastructure in the communities? What are your ideas about the support and tools that are needed by your community to protect your infrastructure? How can we work together to protect infrastructure in the NWT from permafrost deterioration? Here is your chance to hear from and ask questions of a panel of permafrost experts from both the scientific and engineering fields as well as establishing the needs of the communities.

### **Infrastructure Standards**

Standards and Codes are important tools in tackling climate change but they are not one-size fits all solution. It is now clear that the rate and impact of climate change will continue to be most pronounced in the North. Given the recognized acceleration of climate change in the North versus the rest of Canada, development of Northern Based Standards becomes critical. After establishing the current standards and codes situation, the communities will have an opportunity to dialogue with and provide suggestions to those currently involved in standards and codes work for the North.

### **Emergency Management and climate change**

There is much more to emergency management than just response. Other aspects such as prevention and loss reduction become even more critical as the NWT is impacted by climate change. As communities are starting to experience more flooding, storms, forest fires and coastal erosion, it is important to hear about how to reduce the impacts and losses associated with these events for the community and its residents and businesses.

### **Energy efficiency for buildings**

How can you improve the energy efficiency of your buildings? What do you feel are the biggest challenges to greater energy efficiency? The energy efficiency breakout session will look at how energy efficiency planning and practices can impact comfort, health, savings and GHG emissions. Presentations will focus on energy efficiency standards, recommended practices, resources and case studies.

### **Impact of climate change on transportation**

What is the impact of climate change on how we move around in and out of our communities? What are the impacts on highways, winter roads, airports and more? In this session we will discuss the risks to the transportation sector associated with climate change and how communities can best participate in the

adaptation planning process. The Department of Transportation will share its work on a climate change adaptation plan and related stakeholder engagement process.

### **Community energy planning and renewable energy**

Communities engage in energy planning as a way of setting goals and evaluating energy use. What have we learned to date? How well are energy plans being implemented? In this session we will reflect on the successes, challenges and lessons learned from community energy planning in the NWT. Case studies of energy projects will be discussed.

### **Climate change adaptation-tools and funding**

At this session you will learn about the basics of climate change adaptation planning. What are the benefits? What are the risks, if any? This session will include one main presentation to be followed by a group discussion. To aid the discussion, there will be a group of experienced climate change planners to help answer your questions. After this session we hope that you will have a better idea of what good adaptation planning looks like, how to fund and coordinate it in your community, and how to get it started.

### **Climate change impacts on water and waste water**

Managing water and wastewater is important in every community, and climate change may have impacts on the current systems and infrastructure. At this session, we will discuss the management of water, wastewater, and waste water, and what implications climate change may have. Topics include sourcewater protection, sewage lagoons, municipal water infrastructure and water monitoring.