



Building Capacity for Arctic Health Research:

The Nasivvik Centre for Inuit Health and Changing Environments

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The History of Arctic Environment and Health Research

Past

- Fly-in fly-out research
- Use of northern communities and people as laboratory

Present

- Aboriginal people working with researchers today
- Involved in some aspects of research direction and management

Future

- Aboriginal identified and directed research and communication
- Effective uptake and use of research results in Aboriginal communities





Centre for Inuit Health and Changing Environments



Centre pour la santé des inuits et des changements environnementaux

Director

Éric Dewailly

Co-Director

Chris Furgal

Coordinator

Susie Bernier

Investigators

Pierre Ayotte, Pierre Gosselin, Gina Muckle

Regional Inuit Advisors

Elizabeth F., Sammy T., Jenny I., Cathy C.

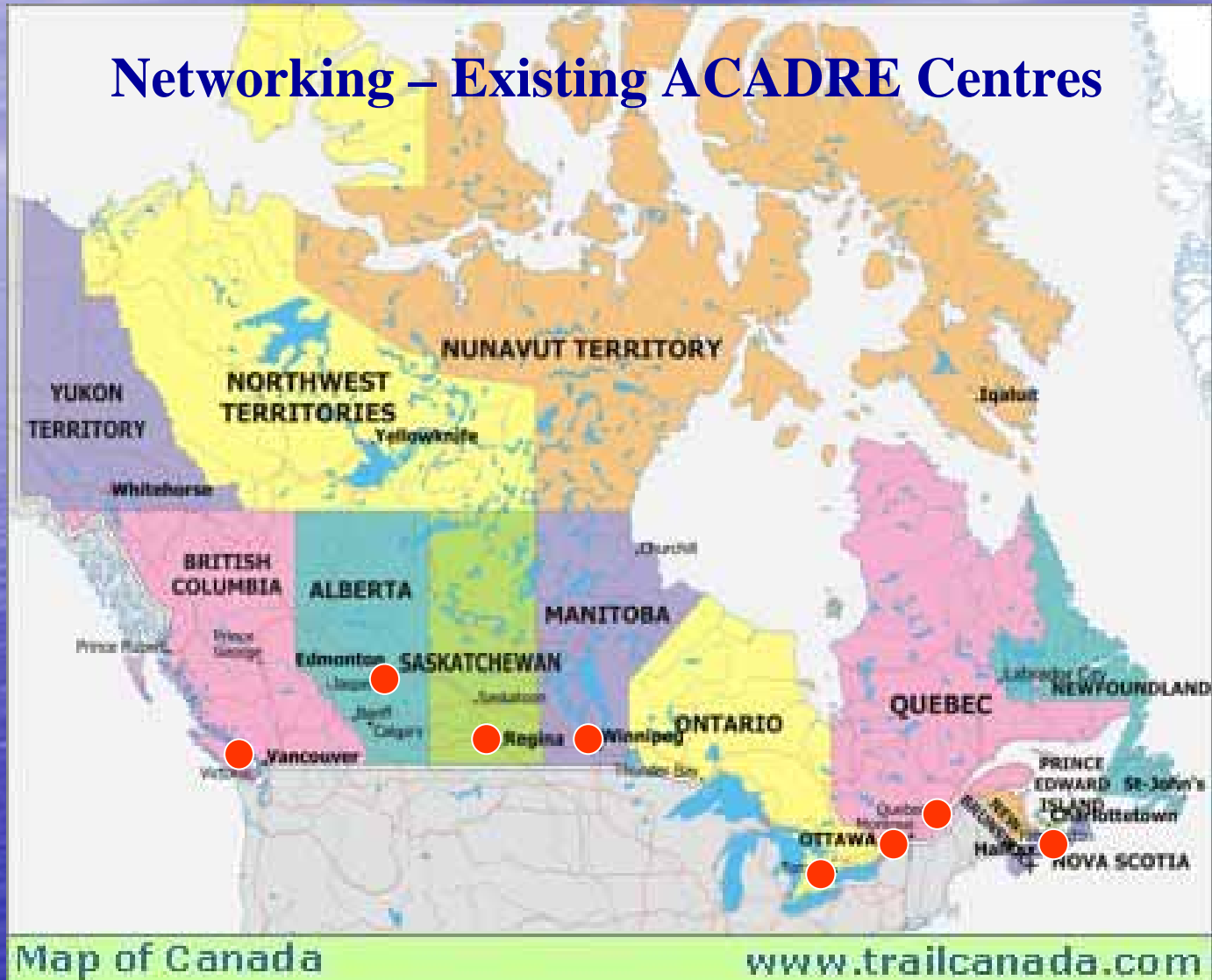
www.nasivvik.ulaval.ca

Our thanks to Eric Loring for photos.



NASIVVIK

Networking – Existing ACADRE Centres





Advisory Board of the Centre

Inuit Regional Partners



Labrador Inuit Association



Nunavik Nutrition and Health Cmte / Makivik Corporation



Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.



Inuvialuit Regional Corp.

Inuit National Partners



Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami – Environment and Health Depts.



NAHO – Ajunnginiq Centre



Inuit Circumpolar Conference – Canada

Chairperson

Mary Denniston, LIA

Director

Eric Dewailly, U Laval

Co-Director

Chris Furgal, U Laval



Objectives of the Centre

Research on Inuit ⇒ Research with Inuit ⇒ Research by Inuit

- In cooperation with communities, **identify priority questions for environmental health and conduct training and research** to help communities address these issues;
- Motivate students to **pursue post-secondary and graduate studies in the environment and health sciences** and encourage them to **become interested and participate as young researchers** to projects in their region;
- Support training initiatives and the **development of capacity in Inuit environmental health.**

Objectives of the Centre

Research on Inuit ⇒ Research with Inuit ⇒ Research by Inuit

- Train individuals as environmental health researchers in northern communities to support the identification and study of priority questions;
- Communicate, disseminate and support the understanding and use of the information and knowledge generated;
- Enhance Inuit capacity at the local, regional, national and international levels.

Science and Training Program of the Centre

THEME 1: Changing environments and Inuit health

- A. Inuit health and contaminants
- B. Inuit health and climate change
- C. Chronic diseases and environmental change



Science and Training Program of the Centre

THEME 2: Monitoring and surveillance for public and environmental health in Inuit regions

- A. Evaluation and enhancement of capacity
- B. Development and transfer of new technologies and tools



Science and Training Program of the Centre

THEME 3: Inuit knowledge and science in environmental health research

- A. Develop methods and conduct work bringing together Inuit knowledge and science



Education and Training

Secondary / Post-Secondary Training

Collège Marie-Victorin (Montreal)

Establishing research training course with students and promoting summer research opportunities

Nunavut Sivuniksavut (Ottawa)

Training students in research design and methods for independent research course

A three-module training course with second year students includes:

Introduction to Research and the Nasivvik Centre

Research design and methods

Data analysis and interpretation



Education and Training

Secondary-Science Camp

Nunavik Science Camp

Nasivvik funded the development of a module on water and health to be included in the Nunavik Science Camp

This provided the curriculum and delivered the course to 54 Inuit high school students in Nunavik

Weblink: http://www.kativik.net/science_camp/2004



Education and Training

Regional Researcher Training

Amundsen Shipboard training in Arctic environmental health

Designed and conducted a one-week course on environmental health research for 4 full-time Inuit Research Advisors on board the Amundsen during the Nunavik Inuit Regional Health Survey (in partnership with ArcticNet)

Instruction was given by researchers involved in the Inuit health survey and ArcticNet

Weblink: <http://www.qanuippitaa.com>

*** Soon to expand to landbased training camp via Atlantis**



Education and Training

Undergraduate and College Awards

Summer Student Intern / Research Assistantship Program

Student: Sarah Fraser, Psychology

Supervisor: Dr. Gina Muckle, Laval University

Project: The role of behaviour in the relationship between lead exposure and motor function in Inuit preschool children.

Student: Martha Nowdalk (3rd year nursing)

Supervisor: Dr. Laura Arbour, University of British Columbia

Project: The Study of Congenital Heart Defects in the Northern Population

Student: Marie-Christine Ross-Huot, 2nd year student, MD program at Laval U.

Supervisor: Dr. Pierre Ayotte, Laval University

Project: The Nunavik Health Study: Determination of dioxin-like compounds in plasma samples from Inuit adults using the DR-CALUX bioassay.

Student: Candace Cockney

Supervisors: Andrea Hoyt and Kevin Bill, Fisheries Joint Management Committee, IRC

Project: Fisheries Joint Management Committee student mentoring program – various research projects/placements

Education and Training

Graduate Awards

Masters Student Scholarships – 1 Yr renewable

Student: Jean-Luc Bernier, Laval University

Supervisor: Dr. Michel Bergeron, CHUL

Développement de tests moléculaires pour la détection d'adénovirus et calicivirus associés aux gastroentérites dans l'eau des régions éloignées

Student: Guylaine Charbonneau, McGill University

Supervisor: Dr. Grace Egeland, CINE, McGill University

Anthropometric determinants of underlying risk factors for type 2 diabetes mellitus among the Inuit

Education and Training

Graduate Awards

Doctoral Student Scholarships – 1 Yr renewable

Student: Andrée Maheux, Laval University

Supervisor: Dr. Michel Bergeron, CHUL

Development of rapid molecular microbiology methods for the detection of faecal contamination indicators and pathogens in drinking water

Student: Keith Chalk, Memorial University of Newfoundland

Supervisor: Dr. Bill Montevecchi, Memorial University of Newfoundland

Marine ecosystem monitoring in Labrador

Student: Shawn Donaldson, Carleton University

Supervisor: Nancy Doubleday, Carleton University

Inuit and Scientific Knowledge as Complementary Knowledge Systems: A Cooperative Approach to Managing the Risks and Benefits of a Diet of Fish and Wildlife in Cape Dorset, Nunavut, Canada

Education and Training

Post-Graduate Awards

Post-Doctoral Fellowships – 1 Year non-renewable

Student : Marie-Ludivine Chateau-Degat, McGill

Supervisor : Dr. Grace Egeland, CINE, McGill

Maladies chroniques et santé des inuit

Student: Pierrich Plusquellec, Laval University

Supervisor : Dr. Gina Muckle, Laval University

Effects of perinatal exposure to environmental contaminants on behavioural dimensions objectively measured in Inuit children

Research Projects Funding

MID-SIZED PROJECTS

Inuvialuit Ethnobotany: Exploring the Relationship between People and Plants in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR), Northwest Territories

Michael Salomons, (M.Sc., Conservation Biology) Manager of Research Programmes, Aurora Research Institute, Robert Bandringa, M.Sc.; Ethnobotany; Steven Baryluk, B.Sc.; Biology; Myrna Pokiak, B.A., Anthropology; and Raila Salokangas, Undergraduate Intern.



Community-based Research Projects

Program initiated 04-05

Nunavik

Nunavik muskox zoonosis, disease and contaminant monitoring during the experimental hunt in Kuujjuaq and Tasiujaq

Makivik Corporation

Climate Change in Northern Quebec: Land and Resource Access Issues

C Larrivée, M Barrett, M Tremblay, Kativik Regional Government

Nunavut

Food security project

Arviat Health Committee

Qikiqtani Monitoring Program

Environment Committee Municipality of Sanikiluaq

Healthy Land, Healthy Ice, Healthy Life: Understanding Environment-Health Relationships and Mapping Inuusiqartiarvit - "Sites for Health"

Ilisaqsivik Society, Clyde River, Nunavut

Community-based Research Projects

Program initiated 04-05

Inuvialuit Settlement Region

Assessing and reducing second-hand smoke exposure in Aklavik homes

Jerome Gordon, Inuvialuit researcher based in Aklavik, Dr Meryll Hammond and Mr Rob Collins of the Consultancy for Alternative Education (CAE) in Montreal.

Community monitoring of the Big Fish river

West Side Working Group, Moose Kerr School, Aklavik HTC and Elders, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada Fishery Management, Fisheries Joint Management Committee Resource Biologists, Inuit Research Advisor.

Labrador

Contaminants in Hopedale, Labrador

Judy Dicker, Labrador Inuit Association, Environmental Sciences Group (Dr. Ken Reimer, Dr. Barb Zeeb, Scientific Advisor)

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