



Environment Division

Our Role

The Environment division coordinates regional environmental activities associated with Articles 11 and 12 of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* which deal with land use planning and development impact, respectively. We are also responsible for the coordination of environmental activities related to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, departmental policies, programs and legislative initiatives.

The Environment division works in partnership with other organizations, agencies, Institutions of Public Government and local government. Together, we improve the quality of life of Nunavummiut through sustainable economic and social development, sound environmental stewardship, and effective management of Canada's northern natural resources.

Our Activities

Environmental Assessment

The Environment division coordinates the department's input into the environmental assessment of projects under review in Nunavut. We work with other government departments and Inuit organizations to provide advice to the private sector, federal and territorial government/agencies and the public on resource development processes in the North.

We promote meaningful public participation in environmental assessments. A paper registry for major projects in Nunavut is kept by the division, as per our responsibilities under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*.

Land Use Planning

The Environment division works with the Nunavut Planning Commission to draft land use plans to protect and promote the well being of Nunavummiut and their communities. Other activities associated with land use planning include monitoring and collection of data from the ecosystem and socio-economic environments. We are also involved with the Nunavut General Monitoring Program.

Environmental Policy and Legislation

The Environment division works with territorial and federal government departments, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and other organizations to establish new policies and strategies to improve the quality of life in the North and to conserve Canada's northern resources. Some policy initiatives include implementing new legislation such as the *Species at Risk Act*, Cumulative Effects Assessment Framework, applicable use and collection of traditional knowledge, and Regional Environmental Assessment(s).

We are also developing new environment management legislation on cumulative effects assessment, heritage rivers, protected areas, caribou management, traditional knowledge, and public participation and consultation.

Contact Us

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