

10 Ways the IRA can serve you.

1. Hear and address your research concerns at local, regional and national level committees, conferences and meetings.
2. Keep beneficiaries up to date on research with quarterly Health and Environment Newsletters
3. Advertise funding and training opportunities to community offices, people
4. Track and communicate local regional research needs and priorities
5. Monitor research projects in the ISR via work with licensors
6. Identify opportunities for community based research and involvement
7. Annual community meetings and Regional Research Working Group
8. Help to connect people to research through opportunities for individual and local economy during consultation
9. Recruitment of youth for mentorship programs (Schools on Board and IDC Youth Leadership)
10. Occasionally sponsor youth to attend scientific events of interest to them



Performer from the Arcticq Arctic Circus, Quebec City, December, 2008

Inuvialuit Regional Corporation

Community Development Division
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The IRA position is funded by ArcticNet, Nasivvik and the Northern Contaminants Program.



Inuvialuit Regional Corporation

Inuit Research Advisor

Monitors research, education and training opportunities for the benefit of Inuvialuit beneficiaries in the ISR.

IRA Roles & Responsibilities

The IRA position is found in all Inuit regions in Canada and funded by **ArcticNet, Nasivik and Northern Contaminants Program**. Each funding body oversees research and training in the north and seeks to involve northerners.

ArcticNet does research to create impact assessments, create national policies and adaptation strategies for climate change with northerners. **Nasivik** is a group that was established for education, training and research on Inuit health and changing environments, and who's main objective is to move from research on Inuit, to research with Inuit and ultimately research by Inuit. **Northern Contaminants Program** is a federal contaminants research funding body that provides information that assists individuals and communities in making informed decisions about food use. They also fund research projects that investigate the impacts of contaminants on the Arctic environment and people and subsequently provide contaminants information to Northern communities. The IRA is directly involved in each of these programs' initiatives but most importantly works with these programs to benefit Inuit people from across Canada and the circumpolar world who participate in research.



The Canadian Coast Guard ship the Amundsen used by ArcticNet

Communication tools

The IRA currently uses the following tools to communicate with beneficiaries in the ISR.

- Health and Environment Newsletters
- Community workshops and working groups
- IRC Website, community rolling channels, radio, meetings, presentations, surveys, questionnaires

IRA Network of Contacts

To keep in the loop, the IRA sits on many committees, working groups and attends numerous meetings throughout the year to build upon better communication of research in different local and national departments, programs and organizations.

- Northwest Territories Regional Contaminants Committee (NWT RCC)
- Nasivik Board or Directors (NBOD)
- Inuvik Interagency Committee
- Beaufort Sea Partnership
- Inuit Nipingit Committee (ethics committee)

For communities and researchers

The IRA is the community link between the research community and Inuvialuit. It is through the IRA that arrangements can be made to get involved with research, to become a researcher, to find training opportunities and funding, to find research partners or voice your concerns about your health and environment.

Researchers can approach the IRA to help them with community consultation, enlisting community members and services or for assistance in reporting research results back to the region. The IRA may also help a researcher to recruit people for training and other educational opportunities that come from the research.

arcticnet.ulaval.ca | nasivik.ulaval.ca | ainc-inac.gc.ca

Projects and Programs the IRA and communities have contributed to in 2008-2009:

- Inuit Health Survey
- "Finding a Balance" Inuit TV Series on APTN
- Health Canada's Climate Change and Adaptation Program
- Hendrickson Island Beluga Research with the Pokiak Family
- Young Leaders Summit on Northern Climate Change

Most if not all the projects and programs listed

above have been initiated by concerns raised at the community level. Many of the projects are being led by community people doing the work and utilizing partners from southern Universities and national Inuit organizations. These partners contribute researchers, administrative support and the logistics for a project such as training, travel dollars and help with disseminating research results.



Nellie Pokiak (center-right) at an Arctic Conference, December 2008

For more information contact the IRA
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