

# commonground



Bulletin of the Joint Secretariat  
Summer 2004 Vol 5-1

## FJMC STUDENT MENTORING PROGRAM

### CAPACITY BUILDING AMONG INUVALUIT YOUTH

Due to the technical nature of fisheries research and management jobs in the ISR, many requiring post-secondary education, the majority of these positions are held by individuals from Southern Canada, with few being Inuvialuit. FJMC's Student Mentoring Program, offered in partnership with Fisheries & Oceans Canada (DFO), is designed to encourage Inuvialuit youth to complete their high school education and continue on with their studies so they can become the ISR's future scientists and resource managers.



2003 Students Candice Cockney and Kyle Taylor preparing for a trip to Hendrickson Island. Photo Source: Angus Alunik

The summer of 2004 will be the program's eighth year. Through this multi-year program, Inuvialuit high school and university students will get a realistic introduction to the world of science and resource co-management by working closely over the summer with staff from FJMC, Joint Secretariat, DFO, Hunters and Trappers Committees / community-based research monitors and harvesters, Parks Canada, Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) - Department of Resources, Wildlife & Economic Development, and private sector environmental consultants and researchers, on projects on the land and around the office.

The program is implemented with the financial support of the FJMC, Joint Secretariat, DFO, GNWT Education, Culture, and Employment, Enbridge Inc., and Inuvialuit Regional Corporation.

If you are interested in learning more about the program, or know someone who might be, contact Andrea Hoyt or Kevin Bill at (867) 777-2828.

above right: from illustration by Justin Firth

## Environmental Impact Statement Draft Terms of Reference

Two community tours happened during March. Both community tours had to do with the Draft Terms of Reference for the Environmental Impact Statement that is to be written by the gas companies as part of their application to build the gathering system in the ISR and associated pipeline for the Mackenzie Gas Project (MGP). The first tour was an information tour to allow the people in the communities a chance to learn what the Environmental Impact Statement and its Terms of Reference are, and how they are used before the second tour came around to consult on those topics. Turnout was not as high as hoped, but this article is another chance to learn about this very important document and how you can make any concerns heard.

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be a very large report (a few thousand pages!!) that outlines what the gas companies (the "proponents") think the possible changes in the region may be as a result of the MGP. This includes changes to the physical environment (e.g. rocks, rivers, permafrost), the biological environment (e.g. caribou, birds, plants – the living things), and the socio-economic environment (e.g. increased traffic on the Dempster and the Mackenzie, stresses on local health care system, changes to traditional lifestyles, etc). These changes can be both positive and/or negative. An example of a positive change could be more jobs and more money available to residents of the Beaufort Delta, but a negative effect could be workers spending more time away from their families. All these possible changes are to be included in the EIS for review during an Environmental Assessment (EA) to be conducted by a Joint Review Panel (JRP) of seven people, of which two will be representing the Inuvialuit.

The Terms of Reference for the Environmental Impact Statement are

instructions to the proponents about what information needs to be included when they write the EIS. The Terms of Reference (ToR) covers many topics that are of concern to people of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region and along the proposed gathering system and pipeline route. The ToR is currently in a draft phase, and consultations

Environmental Impact Statement is written. If a concern is not included in the ToR then the impacts on that issue may not be included in the EIS, but if the concern is included in the ToR it must be discussed in the EIS. The EIS is a very important document because it is used when completing the environmental review for the MGP. It will



A group in Aklavik looks over some maps with Frank Pokiak (IGC) and Brian Chambers of the Northern Gas Project Secretariat (NGPS) during an EIS Draft Terms of Reference consultation. Photo Source: NPGS

have been done in each community to describe what information is in it right now and to find out what might be missing from it. These tours provided a chance to talk face-to-face about the draft ToR, but they will not be the only chance people have to comment on the content of this draft document. Anyone with concerns may contact the Community Support Unit at the Joint Secretariat and tell them what concerns they have, or what information they think is missing from the draft Terms of Reference. Copies of the ToR are available from the Joint Secretariat, and copies were left in each community with the HTCs and/or Community Corporations during the tours.

It is important to make sure all concerns you may have are included in the final draft of the Terms of Reference so that issues will be dealt with when the

be the main source of information for the Joint Review Panel. A team formed by members of the Joint Secretariat, the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA), and the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB) writes the Terms of Reference for the EIS, and the communities will have been consulted about its contents before the final draft is written. Right now a consultation has taken place in each community in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, and additional comments can be sent in during the next official public comment period in June through the Joint Secretariat. After that time a new draft of the Terms of Reference will be written. So pick up a copy of the Draft Terms of Reference and see if it addresses all your concerns before it is too late!

STEVEN BARYLUK [tech-rp@jointsec.nt.ca](mailto:tech-rp@jointsec.nt.ca)

## Executive Director Feature

The Mackenzie Gas Project continues to keep us busy with pre-hearing activities. These have included two Community Tours, as reported elsewhere in this issue. Some of us also took advantage of a TCPL field visit to Slave Lake, Alberta where 36" and 12" lines are being put in, similar to those proposed for the northern half of



EPPR Working Group

the Mackenzie Valley pipeline. The work was also being conducted under realistic Mackenzie Valley winter conditions of -42°C!

Inuvik sub-office of Brian Chambers' Northern Gas Project Secretariat (NGPS) was officially opened on April 22nd in the drugstore building, on the 3rd floor. On the same day, the announcement of the availability of participant funding for the first part of the joint hearing process was made.

The Arctic Council's Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response (EPPR) Working Group's annual meeting was also held in Inuvik during April. The last time Canada hosted this meeting was eight years ago in Yellowknife. At the conclusion of the visit the group flew out to the research vessel 'Amundsen' (frozen-in in Franklin Bay) where the crew and scientists provided a most enjoyable and informative visit.

NORM SNOW [execdir@jointsec.nt.ca](mailto:execdir@jointsec.nt.ca)



Photo Source: Parks Canada

Inuvialuit Game Council



## IGC News

### Meeting with RWED Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM)

On April 14, the Chairs of the IGC and the WMAC (NWT), along with JS staff, met with RWED Assistant Deputy Minister Bob Bailey. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss concerns and issues specific to the ISR and to work out a streamlined process for wildlife regulation



CCGS Amundsen, April 2004 Photo Source: Chuck Brumwell

amendments. In the past it has taken a considerable amount of time for some HTC-requested changes to their wildlife by-laws to be incorporated into the NWT Wildlife Regulations. As a result of this meeting it is hoped that the process will be more expedient and consistent for future proposed changes.

### Meeting of Inuvialuit Community Organizations on the Mackenzie Gas Project

During the December IGC meeting, the Council discussed hosting a meeting of representatives from all the HTCs, Community Corporations, and Elders Committees to discuss key issues related to the proposed Mackenzie Gas Project (MGP). In coordination with a MGP workshop in Inuvik, and with funding from industry, a meeting of all these organizations took place on February 2nd. It was considered to be a productive meeting and at the end of the day there were two key



IGC Members onboard the CCGS Amundsen. Those in the background are observing ringed seals swimming in the "moon pool" the researchers use to deploy their equipment. The seals seemed to like the heated room.

recommendations put forward. There was agreement by all organizations that they were opposed to the Marine Barge Option being proposed by Imperial Oil and Shell for the production facilities at Taglu and Niglingtgak. There was also agreement that the main gathering line should utilize the Ikhiil Right-of-Way as a means to minimize disturbance through an area that is regularly used by Inuvialuit harvesters. On April 16th, two letters with these recommendations, signed by all 18 community organizations, were sent to the Manager of Regulatory Affairs for the MGP.

### Visit to the CCGS Amundsen

On March 21st several IGC members visited the CCGS Amundsen at Franklin Bay. This research vessel is being used to conduct the Canadian Arctic Shelf Exchange Study (CASES), which is being funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC). The members talked with several of the researchers and saw first-hand many of the research projects as they were being conducted. To learn more, visit the website at <http://www.cases.quebec-ocean.ulaval.ca/>.

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Environmental Impact Review Board



## EIRB Update

### Review on Hold

On February 3, 2004 the Environmental Impact Screening Committee referred the proposed EnCana Corporation Corral Bay 2D seismic program to assessment and review under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement. When a project is referred, at the discretion of the Environmental Impact Review Board it can be directed into a Standard Public Review or a Small Scale Development procedure. To make this decision the following criteria are considered: limited spatial extent, short-term impact, limited community effects, insignificant cumulative effects, existing class assessment and previous review. The EIRB determined that the proposed Corral Bay project should be directed into the

Small Scale Development procedure. On March 1, 2004 EnCana Corporation advised the EIRB that they would be delaying the submission of their Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) until they had re-evaluated their interest in Corral Bay. Please contact the EIRB office if you would like to view more information on this file.

### Cumulative Effects

The EIRB continues to address the issue of cumulative effects. In March of this year the EIRB was represented at a workshop in Inuvik organized by the Cumulative Effects Assessment and Management (CEAM) Secretariat on the development of a Regional Plan of Action for the Beaufort Sea – Mackenzie Delta. The purpose of

this meeting was to review the accomplishments in the area of cumulative effects to date and to identify the next steps in developing a Regional Plan of Action. In May 2004 the EIRB will attend the 2nd Annual CEAM gathering in Inuvik. This meeting will be attended by various land claim and government organizations from across the NWT.

### Staffing

Charles Klengenber left his position with the EIRB in mid-February and was replaced by Robin Fonger in mid-April. Robin is not a stranger to the Joint Secretariat as she has worked as part of the Community Support Unit since 2001.

ROBIN FONGER, [eirb@jointsec.nt.ca](mailto:eirb@jointsec.nt.ca)

Environmental Impact Screening Committee



## EISC – Farewell to Linda

Linda Graf has recently left the EISC Resource Person position to pursue an employment opportunity in Calgary. That is the bad news. The good news is that she has accepted a position with Conoco-Phillips, a company with gas holdings in the ISR (Parsons Lake area) so we can expect to see her back in the Delta on a regular basis.

Linda had lived and worked in the Settlement Region for almost two decades, having come here to do a variety of biological surveys with LGL in the 1980s. She went on to work for RWED. Linda came to work with the Environmental Impact Review Board in 1995 during the Driftwood Lumber project review. During the next few years Linda was the Resource Person for both the EIRB and the EISC. Following the completion of the Kuññek review Linda became solely the EISC Resource Person early in 2001. The next several years were

extremely busy with a large and varied number of natural gas-related activities to be screened, including 2D and 3D seismic programs and drilling projects. Linda dealt with this increased workload with calm efficiency.

The EISC will miss the effective way in which Linda represented the Committee and the meticulous thoroughness with which she prepared for its meetings. The EISC's clients will miss Linda's cheerfulness and thorough knowledge of the IFA screening and review process. We will also miss her sense of humour. Linda was also active in the community and will be particularly missed for her participation in the volunteer fire department.

The EISC would like to thank you, Linda, for your years of capable and dedicated service to our Committee. We, and all with whom you worked

at the Joint Secretariat, wish you every success in your new position. We look forward to screening the next project description from Conoco-Phillips (and your presentation of it to the Committee!). We are sure it will be without error!

BILL KLASSEN, *Chair, EISC*, [wjk@yknet.yk.ca](mailto:wjk@yknet.yk.ca)



Linda (with her new qiviuk sweater) and Peggy at going away party

# Managing Fisheries Within The ISR

## New FJMC Resource Person

The Committee would like to welcome new FJMC Resource Person Andrea Hoyt. Due to increased hydrocarbon exploration and development in the Mackenzie Delta, the possible establishment of a Marine Protected Area, and the new *Species at Risk Act*, Committee members added a second full-time position to assist them in carrying out their responsibilities under the IFA. Andrea has been living in Inuvik for the past several years while working for Inuvialuit Environmental & Geotechnical Inc. Read more about her in our feature employee section!

## FJMC Research 2004-05

The Committee has held two meetings since our last issue, January 19th – 22nd, 2004 (Winnipeg)

and March 9th – 11th, 2004 (Inuvik). Each year the Committee allocates approximately \$500,000 for research relating to fish and marine mammals within the ISR. During these two meetings the Committee reviewed initial and full-length research proposals and made their final decisions for the 2004-05 fiscal year. Some of the projects approved include, among others:

- Monitoring of ringed seal reproduction status and condition – Sachs Harbour and Holman
- Long-term changes of mercury in Prince Albert Sound ringed seals
- Husky Lakes ecological assessment
- Study of beluga seasonal range and ecology with satellite-linked transmitters

## Committee Meets New DFO Minister

Committee members and staff traveled to Ottawa to meet with the new DFO Minister, the Honourable Geoff Regan, on April 27th, 2004. Topics of discussion with the Minister included:

- Marine Protected Area progress
- DFO preparedness regarding increased hydrocarbon exploration in the Mackenzie Delta
- Canada's signing of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and potential conflict with Inuvialuit harvesting rights
- Northern science funding and the IFA

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Fisheries Joint Management Committee



# WMAC (NWT) Activities

## Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) Research

Research within the ISR proposed by our government partners is reviewed by the Council annually. This year the Council approved seven of CWS' IFA funded projects (totaling \$144,000) and endorsed four others funded from other sources:

**King and Common Eiders, Long-tailed Ducks** – Victoria Island breeding pair survey, spring migration counts, satellite tracking to locate moulting, migration, and wintering areas

**Waterfowl** - habitat of declining Snow Geese and Brant at Anderson River, surveys of White-fronted Geese (yellowlegs) & other waterfowl on the mainland, Victoria Island Canada Goose survey, Banks Island Snow Goose banding

**Report Write-ups and Mapping, and Bird Harvest Data Collection**

## Wildlife Harvesting Season & Zone Changes

The Council reviewed harvesting seasons, zones and quotas throughout the year, and forwarded recommendations to the Minister of RWED. The Viscount-Melville polar bear quota has been changed to four bears annually for the community of Holman. We are waiting for RWED to accept and complete five regulation recommendations: western and eastern grizzly bear quotas; Peary caribou quota; Dolphin-Union caribou season; and wolf sport hunting. The HTC's will be notified when they are complete. The Council, IGC and RWED are also working to streamline and speed up the process including meeting with the RWED Assistant Deputy Minister.

## ISR Community Tour February & March 2004

The Council visited all six communities in February and March and presented information on wildlife research projects. Thanks to those who came and participated in the discussions! The Council hopes to make this a regular event.

## Welcome New Member

In March the IGC appointed Randall Pokiak from Tuktoyaktuk, to WMAC (NWT). As a co-management Council, both Inuvialuit and government participation in wildlife management issues are equally important.

KATHERINE THIESENHAUSEN, [wmacnwt@jointsec.nt.ca](mailto:wmacnwt@jointsec.nt.ca)



WMAC (NWT) alternate member Jim Hines with Pat Ekpakohak in Holman during the Council's ISR community tour.

Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)



# Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope)

## Yukon North Slope Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan Volume Two Completed

As part of the special conservation regime the IFA established, it requires the preparation of a Wildlife Conservation and Management Plan for the Yukon North Slope. The Plan is to provide direction to long-term wildlife conservation management consistent with the goals of the IFA.

WMAC (NS) completed Volume One of the Plan in 1996. This environmental overview provides an introduction to the land, its people and its resources, and has been distributed to over 700 agencies and individuals.

Volume Two of the Plan (Goals and Actions) was published by WMAC (NS) in the fall of 2003 after many years of consultation, review and revisions. This volume is intended for those with management, conservation and resource use interests in the area. It is a frame of reference against which the Council, the governments, the Inuvialuit, and other groups can assess efforts and activities on the Yukon North Slope to uphold IFA principles and objectives.

Volume Two presents six goals to guide the implementation of Section 12 of the IFA and other related provisions that affect the management and conservation of wildlife on the Yukon North Slope. These goals are:

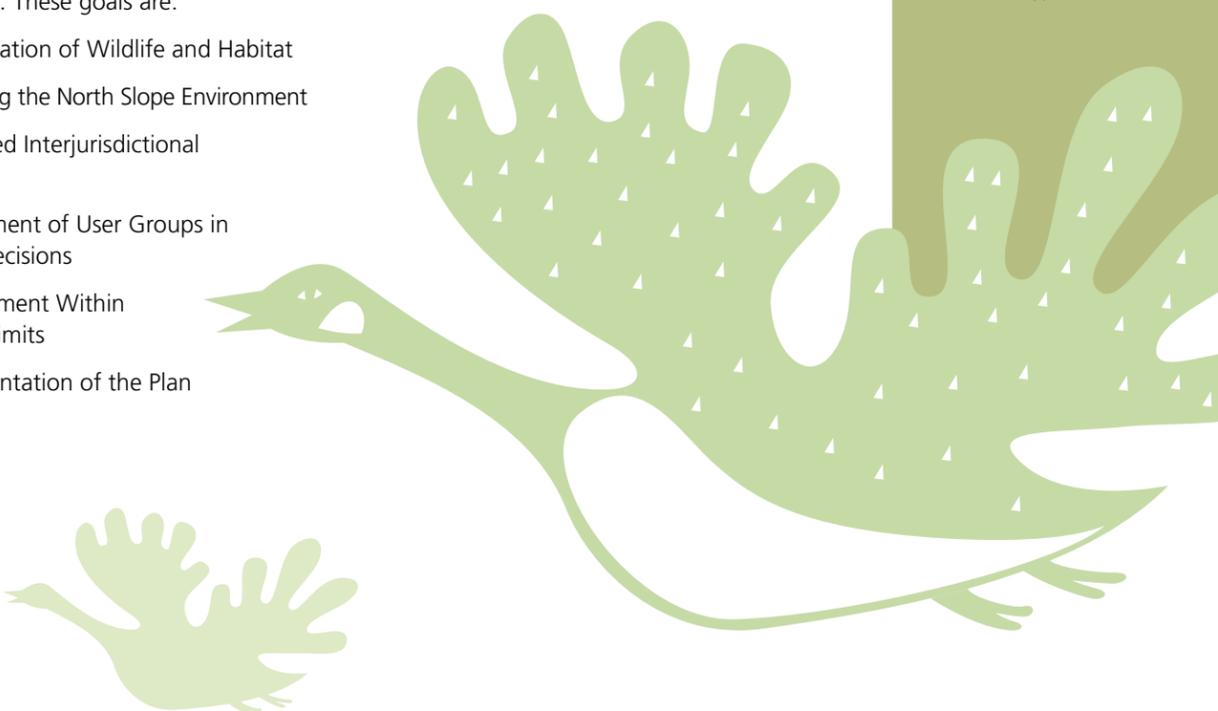
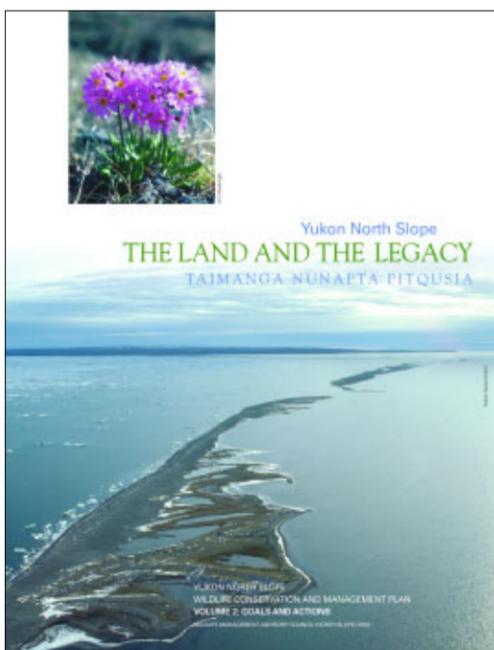
- Goal A: Conservation of Wildlife and Habitat
- Goal B: Protecting the North Slope Environment
- Goal C: Enhanced Interjurisdictional Cooperation
- Goal D: Involvement of User Groups in Management Decisions
- Goal E: Development Within Environmental Limits
- Goal F: Implementation of the Plan

For each of these goals, several objectives have been defined. A series of recommended action items accompanies each objective, providing detail and direction to government agencies, Inuvialuit organizations and co-management groups with management responsibilities on the Yukon North Slope. Volume Two can be found on the Council's website at [www.taiga.net/wmac/wcandmplans.html](http://www.taiga.net/wmac/wcandmplans.html)

Printed copies are available upon request from the office of the Council (867-633-5476).

AILEEN HORLER [wmacns@web.ca](mailto:wmacns@web.ca)

Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NS)





## Yukon North Slope Conference

The seventh Yukon North Slope Conference was held in Inuvik in November 2003.

The conference theme was "Meeting the Challenges of Conservation and Beaufort Development."

The conference is a requirement of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA). The IFA established the conference to "promote public discussion among natives, governments, and the private sector with respect to management co-ordination for the Yukon North Slope." Since 1988 there have been six other conferences that have addressed a wide variety of issues from different perspectives. The seventh conference was the first one held in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region.

The focus of the 2003 conference was to examine the key management issues associated with current and future Beaufort development that may affect the coastal zone of the Yukon North Slope and surrounding territorial areas. The conference also looked at the management tools that are available or required to address them. The Chair of the conference was Dr. S. Robert Blair. Dr. Blair came to the Western Arctic about 30 years ago as

President and CEO of Foothills Pipeline. He was an active and well-known participant in the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry on behalf of his company.

The current development interests in the Beaufort area are different in many ways from those that were active in the 1970s and 1980s. The environmental conservation regimes in the area have changed a lot over the last 20 years too. The three-day conference included several plenary presentations to familiarize participants with the historic and current context of development and resource management in the area. Traditional use, jurisdictional issues, planning for the future, and the requirements and challenges in the coastal zone and offshore were all considered.

A series of ten workshops were conducted to address the opportunities and challenges of Beaufort development, including priority issues and areas where efforts should be focused.

Workshop topics included:

- Corporate Stewardship and Best Practices in Hydrocarbon Exploration and Development

- The Invisible North Slope – Research Issues and Questions in the Marine Biosphere and Physical Ocean Environment
- The State of Wildlife Science and Research – What's Known, What's Needed, and New Approaches for Getting It
- Marine Environmental Quality (MEQ) - Measuring the Health of Ecosystems and Developing a Common Approach to Monitoring MEQ
- Community-based Research – Initiatives, Accomplishments and Future Directions
- Coastal Zone Development: Lessons Learned and Future Challenges from Community and Regional Perspectives
- Meeting the Challenge of Conservation and Development in Regional Planning
- Traditional Knowledge Research – Methods and Applications
- Adequacy of Regulatory Regimes and Regulatory Certainty in the North Slope Coastal Zone
- Community and Regional Planning for Conservation and Development in the Coastal Zone

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Joint Secretariat provides administrative and technical support to the wildlife and environmental co-management boards set up pursuant to the Inuvialuit Final Agreement and to the Inuvialuit Game Council.



Andrea Hoyt, new FJMC Resource Person Photo Source: IEG

Andrea Hoyt is new to the JS team, working with the FJMC. Andrea is originally from Whitehorse and graduated with her Masters (Natural Resource Management) from the University of Manitoba on management and land use in the Husky Lakes area.

## Upcoming Meetings 2004

**EISC**

June 9 – 11

July 14 – 16

September 1 – 3

October 4 – 6

November 8 – 10

December 13 – 15

**EIRB**

TBA

**FJMC**

June 21 – 24 Inuvik & Sachs Harbour

September 14 – 16, TBA

**IGC**

June 14 – 17, Tuktoyaktuk

September 20 – 23, Yellowknife

December 8 – 11, Inuvik

**WMAC-NWT**

June 10 – 11, Yellowknife

September 1 – 2, Tuktoyaktuk

December 6 – 7, Inuvik



Over 150 representatives from Inuvialuit and First Nations organizations, industry, and non-government and government agencies attended the conference. A summary will be distributed to participants. The summary can also be found at [www.taiga.net/wmac/northslopeproceedings/nslope\\_03.pdf](http://www.taiga.net/wmac/northslopeproceedings/nslope_03.pdf).

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Photo Source: GNWT by Tessa MacIntosh

## Community Support Unit (CSU) Report

With increased development of oil and gas resources in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR), the Community Support Unit (CSU) hired two new individuals in January to join Robin Fonger: Joe Thrasher and Steve Baryluk. The CSU provides technical support to the communities in the ISR.

In March the Community Support Unit traveled to the six ISR communities twice. During the first trip presentations were made to the public on the Draft Terms of Reference for the Environmental Impact Statement of the Mackenzie Gas Project. These presentations were to prepare the communities for the second trip, which was a public consultation on the Terms of Reference. People can still make comments on the Terms of Reference during the next comment period in early summer, possibly June. Contact the CSU to learn how you can get your comments and concerns to the appropriate people.

Aurora Research Institute's Sea Ice Monitoring is going very well in four ISR Communities (Paulatuk, Tuk, Sachs Harbour, and Holman). Data collected on a weekly basis by a team of two sea ice monitors is e-mailed to the Aurora Research Institute in Inuvik. The data will show the change in thickness and movement of the ice over a period of four months. This program will continue until ice break-up.

Data entering for the wildlife monitoring is going very well. To date the communities in the ISR have been very reliable in sending reports on the number of animals sighted in locations around the development work camps on a regular basis.

Meetings attended to date by the CSU consist of: MGP meetings, Terms of Reference tour meetings, IGC meetings, and Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board hearings.

Robin Fonger, formerly with the CSU, has moved on to the Resource Person position with Environmental Impact Review Board. We wish her well in her new job.

JOE THRASHER [igc-tech@jointsec.nt.ca](mailto:igc-tech@jointsec.nt.ca)



Joe Thrasher, Charles Pokiak, and Ryan Voudrach: Sea-ice monitoring near Tuk Photo Source: Sarah Kalhok, Aurora Research Institute



## IAlA Regional Award Winner

Inuvialuit elder Billy Day has served as a member for many years on EISC. The International Association of Impact Assessment voted to recognize Mr. Day's efforts with an award. On April 29, 2004 he received the regional award for outstanding contributions to the advancement of environmental impact assessment in northern Canada.

IAlA 04 conference, Vancouver. Award presented to Billy Day (ctr) by Richard Morgan (r), outgoing president and Peter Leonard (l), past president Photo Source: EISC