

Kitikmeot

Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee



Fall 2012 Executive Summary

on

Fourth Kitikmeot SEMC Meeting

Cambridge Bay, Nunavut: 27-29 November 2012

and

Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring

Produced by the Government of Nunavut
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Executive Summary

The Kitikmeot Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee and the Doris North Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee met in Cambridge Bay on 27-29 November 2012. This meeting and key statistics are summarized below.

Summary of meeting

The Government of Nunavut, Government of Canada, and Newmont met on the 27th of November 2012 to discuss the socio-economic impacts of the Doris North project in the region. In this meeting, 41 indicators were discussed, with a particular focus on those that are directly related to Doris North, such as employment and contracting.

The next two days were focused on a more regional approach, with representatives of Kitikmeot Hamlets, the Government of Nunavut, Government of Canada, Kitikmeot Inuit Association, RCMP, and proponents (Newmont, MMG, and Xstrata Zinc). All previously mentioned organizations briefly presented on the role of their organizations as related to the SEMC and, in the case of proponents, updates on the status of their projects and their socio-economic work (e.g. metrics in the case of Doris North or approaches to the environmental assessment process).

Following the presentations, the Government of Nunavut and the Government of Canada led a panel discussion with participants, where statistics were presented tailored to answering questions raised at previous meetings (some of these statistics are summarized below). A general discussion followed, and participants largely engaged in identifying education as a key need in communities in the form of cooking classes, budgeting courses, on the job training, retention of traditional skills, etc. Participants also agreed that SEMCs are a good forum that provide a rare opportunity for all organizations to meet and discuss the impacts of development that they are experiencing in their communities and organizations.

Highlights of indicators and associated data

The Kitikmeot Fall 2012 SEMC Report contains detailed information on several indicators that aim to assess the state of the socio-economic environment in the Kitikmeot Region. The key indicators are highlighted below.

Demographics

- Population continues to increase in Nunavut and in the Kitikmeot, growing by 2,432 and 651 respectively from 2006 to 2011.
- Gjoa Haven experienced the largest influx of people (215 new residents) and Kugaaruk the lowest (90 new residents).
- 51% of the Kitikmeot population in 2011 was under the age of 25.

Health and well-being

- Nunavut women are more fertile at ages 20 to 24 – in 2012 the fertility rate was 200.3 live births per 1,000 people, compared to the second highest 25-29 at 147.
- The value of sales of spirits and wines has increased from 2010 to 2011 by \$553,000 and \$323,000, while the sales of beer have decreased by \$777,000.
- Suicides in the Kitikmeot increased from 3 in 2010 to 5 in 2011. The suicide rate in the Kitikmeot dropped significantly from 2006, at 161 suicides per 100,000 people, to 50.9 per 100,000 people in 2010, and increased again in the subsequent year standing at 84.8 suicides per 100,000 people in 2011. Suicides in Nunavut have increased by four from 30 in 2010 to 34 in 2011.
- Suicide still continued to affect the Inuit (100%) and male population (79.4%) in 2011.
- Community health centre visits have decreased steadily in the region from 42,236 visits in 2004 to 29,143 in 2010.
- The number of children receiving child and family services increased from 78 in 2009 to 114 in 2011.

Food security

- Consumer price index has increased by over 13% from 2003 to 2011 in Iqaluit (only Northern community with a consumer price index)
- Costs of a food basket in 2009 almost twice as expensive in Nunavut community (e.g. \$429 in Cambridge Bay) than Southern communities (e.g. \$239 in Yellowknife) for the same products
- Nutrition North:
 - Dollar value of subsidies per person highest in Taloyoak at \$955, and lowest in Cambridge Bay at \$420
 - Nunavut received 57% of the total dollar value of subsidy, and 43% of the total weight of goods transported by the program. In the Kitikmeot, these numbers are 8% and 7% respectively
 - The top three product categories were vegetables and fruit at 29% of the total subsidy dollars, meat, poultry and fish at 17%, and milk at 15%

Education

- Highest enrolment numbers in Grade 10, perhaps due to repeats, at around 10-11% of the total number of students in all grades.
- Grade 10 attendance, in contrast, is the lowest at 54% in 2011.
- Graduation rates of 17 and 18 year olds in the Kitikmeot were 14% lower than in Nunavut as a whole, at 22%
- 48% of the Kitikmeot population has not completed high school
- 7.5% of the population has only a high school diploma

- 45% of the population has degrees higher than high school (apprenticeships, CEGEP, or university bachelor's and graduate)

Housing

Housing continues to be an issue, particularly in Gjoa Haven, Kugaaruk and Taloyoak, where half or more of the total dwellings are crowded.

Social housing still makes up the vast majority of the total amount of houses in the region. The rental scale for people in public housing has changed to encourage people to work. However some people living in public housing may still think that their rent will go up substantially if they start working.

Crime

The rate of actual crimes increased until about 2006, and for the most part has been decreasing since, with the exception of Taloyoak. Cambridge Bay has experienced the largest decrease, from about 78,000 to 58,000 per 100,000 people from 2008 to 2011. However, Cambridge Bay continues to be the community with the highest rates of actual violations.

Employment

Employment has been increasing from 10860 to 11767 from 2008 to 2011 (Inuit from 6920 to 7575). Seasonality doesn't seem to be a factor that changes employment characteristics as anecdotally noted. Employment rates in 2011 were quite steady between 54.8-57.1%, a 2.1% difference between the months with highest (August) and lowest (November/December) employment numbers.

The number of social assistance cases steadily increased from 2003 to 2009, but has since then shown a decreasing trend.

Traditional activities

- Overall participation in traditional activities increased between 2001 and 2006. Data will be updated in 2012 for next report.
- Participation in traditional activities in the Kitikmeot region is higher than in Nunavut as a whole
- Statistics Canada has collected some data as part of the 2001 Inuit Children's Leisure Time Activities Report. This data showed that:
 - In 2001, 73% of Inuit children participated in sport activities at least once per week (compared to 64% of all children in Canada).
 - In 2001, 19% of Inuit children indicated that they participated in arts and/or music at least once per week (compared to 23% for all children in Canada).

- Some 18% of Inuit children participated in clubs or groups with a traditional focus (e.g. youth groups, drum groups, dance groups) in 2001 (compared to 23% for all children in Canada).
- In 2001, 21% of Inuit children reported participation in cultural activities at least once per week (compared to 17% of all Inuit children in Canada), and 57% of Inuit children in Nunavut were reported to have spent time with elders once per week.
- It is unclear when data on these issues will be collected again, some elements may be included