

Kivalliq

Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee



Fall 2012 Executive Summary

on

Sixth Kivalliq SEMC Meeting

Rankin Inlet, Nunavut: 16-17 October 2012

and

Kivalliq Socio-Economic Monitoring

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Executive Summary

Summary of meeting

The Sixth Kivalliq SEMC Meeting took place in Rankin Inlet, on 16-17 October 2012. The meeting proceeded well overall, and included presentations from the Government of Nunavut on some regional and territorial statistics, and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada on their roles in establishing the Nunavut General Monitoring Plan and on the monitoring of socio-economic impacts. Areva presented an update of its Kiggavik project, and Agnico-Eagle discussed some statistics of its Meadowbank mine and on interesting initiatives they are implementing in the Kivalliq communities.

Participants were engaged and asked many questions about the statistics presented, and raised the concern that some statistics were dated. Many of the statistics presented have been updated in this report as newer information was made available through sources such as the Nunavut Bureau of Statistics. Many participants also proposed a shift from discussing issues to actually doing something about them. While this enthusiasm to get things done was well-received, the primary function of SEMCs is to assess the health of our communities through discussing pertinent issues with community leaders and organizations so that participants can return to their communities and organizations well-informed to effect change. Nonetheless, in the spirit of collaborative action, the Government of Nunavut, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Agnico Eagle, and the Hamlet of Arviat have embarked in a new initiative that they hope to start implementing in the first half of 2013, and sharing more details with the Committee at the next meeting.

Highlights of indicators and associated data

This section briefly outlines some of the statistics associated with the valued socio-economic components below.

Demographics

- Population continues to increase in Nunavut and in the Kivalliq, growing by 2,432 and 607 respectively from 2006 to 2011.
- Arviat experienced the largest growth (258 new residents) and Rankin Inlet the largest decline (92 less residents).
- 54% of the Kivalliq 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 Kivalliq have decreased from 9 in 2010 and are currently at the same 2009 number at 5 suicides per year. 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 in the region from 50,345 in 2010 to 49,895.

Food security

- The Consumer Price Index for Iqaluit (only available in the territory) continues to go up, from 111.8 in 2010 to 113.4 in 2011.
- A Northern Food Basket is most expensive in Coral Harbour (\$442) in 2010, and cheapest in Whale Cove (\$408).
- Coral Harbour received the highest amount of Nutrition North subsidies at almost \$1,000 per person in the 2011-2012 fiscal year, whereas Arviat received the least, at around \$400 per person.

Education

- Graduation rates in the Kivalliq are higher than in Nunavut as a whole by approximately 8% in 2011.
- Grade 10 attendance continues to be the lowest in comparison with other grades, at less than 55% in 2010-2011.

Housing

- Public housing continues to be the dominant type of housing in the region, consisting of 60% of the total number of dwellings in 2009-2010.
- Dwellings were the most crowded in Repulse Bay, and least crowded in Chesterfield Inlet from 2009-2010.

Crime

- The number of actual violations is highest in Rankin Inlet, followed by Baker Lake at 49,245 and 38,854 per 100,000 people respectively in 2011.

Employment

- For the past four years, the Inuit employment rate has been just under 50%.
- Income support cases in the region have been steadily going down in all communities except for Coral Harbour and Whale Cove.

- Likewise, social insurance assistance caseload has been decreasing except for Coral Harbour. Arviat is still, by far, the community that has the highest number of cases, at 320 in 2011.