

Qikiqtaaluk

Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee



Cape Dorset and the Kinngait Art Studio. © 2013 Gustavo Oliveira

Fall 2013 Report

on

Seventh Qikiqtaaluk SEMC Meeting

Cape Dorset, Nunavut: 4-5 December 2013

and

Qikiqtaaluk Socio-Economic Monitoring

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Executive Summary

The Qikiqtaaluk Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee (SEMC, ‘the Committee’) and the Mary River Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee met in Cape Dorset on 4-5 December 2013. The Regional meeting was well-attended by a variety of organizations, including 11 of the 13 Hamlets in the region. Although the meeting was affected by logistical complications, the meeting still allowed participants to sustain an engaging discussion.

The Committee heard about government roles in monitoring socio-economic impacts from the Government of Nunavut and from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, as well as project-specific updates from Baffinland and Qulliq Energy Corporation. In addition, the Nunavut Bureau of Statistics provided a quick summary on some key statistical figures, and the Nunavut Housing Corporation provided an update on the new rent scale system. The Committee had opportunities to ask questions and discuss topics relevant to each presentation. Discussions focused mostly on training and access to jobs at the Mary River site, environmental impacts of the proposed hydroelectric dam, and housing allocation by the local housing authorities.

At the end of the meeting, participants ranked the top three issues of concern in the region. According to participants, housing, education, and employment are key themes that they would like to focus on at the next meeting. Partner organizations are encouraged to come prepared to discuss these themes at the next meeting, scheduled to take place in Iqaluit in April or early May.