

Consensus Government

"Looking 20 years into the future, we see a strong and prosperous territory with Nunavummiut who have a positive outlook on life - as residents of the Arctic, as Canadians and as participants in the world economy." - Sivumut Abluqta 2014 - 2018

Nunavut has a public government, which operates within the principles of Canadian parliamentary democracy. All residents of Nunavut are entitled to run for office and elect Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) on an individual rather than a party basis.

Following a general election, MLAs meet to select a premier from among the elected members. Ministers are then selected, and the premier assigns portfolios. Government priorities are established among the ministers and the members based on the issues identified during the election.

A consensus government still requires majority support for measures it proposes. Ministers and the premier are required to be consistently accountable and responsible to members' concerns as they work through the legislative and budget processes.

The system blends the principles of parliamentary democracy with the aboriginal values of maximum cooperation, effective use of leadership resources and common accountability. Nunavut shares this system with the Northwest Territories, which also has a significant Aboriginal foundation for its public government.

Inuit qaujimajatuqangit

The government is committed to eight Inuit qaujimajatuqangit guiding principles. Inuit qaujimajatuqangit embodies Inuit traditional knowledge and values. It guides the government in framing decisions, policies and laws that reflect the key philosophies, attitudes and practices of Nunavut's Inuit majority. Applying this principle in the day-to-day governance of Nunavut represents a considerable challenge, but the practice of Inuit qaujimajatuqangit is a goal to which the Government of Nunavut (GN) remains deeply committed.



Sivumut Abluqta: 2014-2018 "Stepping Forward Together"

Sivumut Abluqta is the GN's mandate. It outlines the important priorities for the future of Nunavut. It sets a new vision, which includes a focus on priorities that improve the overall quality of life for Nunavummiut. Through Inuit societal values, we build a stronger cultural foundation and expand our economy.

The main priorities in Sivumut Abluqta 2014-2018 are:

- 1. Self-reliance and optimism through education and training.
- 2. Healthy families through strong and resilient communities.
- 3. Economic growth through responsible development across all sectors.
- 4. Good government through wise use of our resources.