



The Clyde River Protocol

governing working relations

*between the Government of Nunavut
and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated*

Recitals

WHEREAS representatives of the Inuit of Nunavut insisted, from the early 1970s, that a comprehensive land claims agreement with respect to the Nunavut area could only be concluded if accompanied by commitments to create a Nunavut territory and government;

AND WHEREAS the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut, representing the Inuit of Nunavut, secured commitments to create a Nunavut territory, with its own Legislative Assembly and public government, in Article 4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, 1993* ("the Nunavut Agreement");

AND WHEREAS Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI) is the corporate successor to the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut;

AND WHEREAS the Nunavut Territory and Government of Nunavut came into existence on April 1, 1999, with the coming into force of relevant provisions of the *Nunavut Act*;

AND WHEREAS the Inuit of Nunavut assert an aboriginal right to self-government which may be expressed in Nunavut through a public government model;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Nunavut and NTI acknowledge that the timely and effective implementation of the Nunavut Agreement and the expression of Inuit self-government rights in Nunavut will be facilitated by the establishment and maintenance of good working relations between NTI and the Government of Nunavut;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Nunavut and NTI are committed to ensuring that Nunavut's governing institutions and political culture operate so as to sustain, and to strengthen, the confidence and optimism of all citizens of Nunavut, Inuit and non-Inuit alike.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Government of Nunavut and NTI agree to conduct their working relations in accordance with this Protocol.

Part A:

Mutual recognition

1. The Government of Nunavut recognizes that NTI occupies a special place in the affairs of Nunavut as the primary Inuit organization with the mandate to speak for the Inuit of Nunavut with respect to the rights and benefits of Inuit under the Nunavut Agreement. The Government of Nunavut further acknowledges that NTI's mandate, as expressed in its incorporating documents, embraces additional responsibilities designed to protect and promote the interests of the Inuit as an aboriginal people.
2. NTI recognizes that the Government of Nunavut, in exercising its jurisdiction as a democratic and responsible public government, must serve the needs and priorities of all citizens of Nunavut, in a fair and equitable manner.
3. The Government of Nunavut and NTI recognize that it will be to the benefit of all citizens of Nunavut, Inuit and non-Inuit alike, for the Government of Nunavut and NTI to structure and pursue their working relations in ways that
 - *are cooperative and constructive;*
 - *acknowledge respective and overlapping roles and interests;*
 - *build public confidence by:*
 - *being clear on how the Government of Nunavut and NTI operate and make decisions,*
 - *exchanging information as freely as possible, and conducting relations in an open and transparent manner,*
 - *encouraging public participation and input,*
 - *generating new ideas and stimulating policy debates,*
 - *focusing on real problems and seeking practical solutions, and*
 - *ensuring the best use of resources and avoiding duplication;*
 - *build on work and initiatives already started, where possible;*
 - *allow the government and NTI to work together on new initiatives as may be determined from time to time; and*
 - *find common ground in presenting Nunavut's special place and interests to those outside Nunavut.*

Part B:

Matters requiring particular focus and priority

1. The Government of Nunavut and NTI agree on the desirability of identifying, from time to time, projects of mutual interest and high priority. The Government of Nunavut and NTI agree to seek to identify an initial list of priority projects, and strategies for dealing with them, by March 1, 2000.
2. Without limiting the desirability of close cooperation on other topics and acknowledging the roles of the Government of Canada, other Inuit organizations and Nunavut institutions of public government, under the Nunavut Agreement, the Government of Nunavut and NTI recognize a particular need to maintain close, ongoing working relations with respect to the following matters:
 - (i) the implementation of obligations under the Nunavut Agreement,
 - (ii) matters that overlap with the exercise of Inuit rights and benefits under the Nunavut Agreement, such as
 - *hunter income support, and income support programs more generally,*
 - *jurisdiction over Crown lands, including mineral rights, and*
 - *economic development within Nunavut;*
 - (iii) the status, protection and promotion of the Inuit language and culture within Nunavut, and the status of minority linguistic and cultural groups in Canada as a whole;
 - (iv) the status and substance of aboriginal and treaty rights in Nunavut and in Canada as a whole; and
 - (v) Nunavut's place in Canada and the world.

Part C:

Relations with other governments

The Government of Nunavut and NTI are committed to conducting their relations with the Government of Canada, with the governments of the provinces and other territories in Canada and with governments in other countries in ways that balance, and build upon, both the status of the Inuit of Nunavut as an aboriginal people of Canada and the jurisdictional competence and administrative capacity of the Government of Nunavut.

Part D:

Relations with Inuit Organizations based outside Nunavut

The Government of Nunavut and NTI agree on the desirability of conducting their relations with Inuit organizations based outside Nunavut on as collaborative and cooperative a basis as possible.

Part E:

Information sharing

The Government of Nunavut and NTI agree to share information with respect to matters of mutual concern and interest on as free and as timely a basis as possible, within the constraints set by legal and budgetary considerations.

Part F:

Meetings: Premier and President

Meetings of elected leaders of the Government of Nunavut and NTI, namely the Premier of Nunavut and the President of NTI, shall be convened on an as needed basis, to address issues of interest to one or both parties.

Part G:

Meetings: senior officials level

1. Officials level meetings shall take place regularly between the Government of Nunavut and NTI, including meetings arranged by the Deputy Minister of the Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs for the Government of Nunavut and the designated Executive Director of NTI.
2. Meetings of the Deputy Minister and Executive Director are anticipated to follow a quarterly pattern during any calendar year. Notwithstanding, a meeting shall be convened as soon as practicable following a request from the Deputy Minister or Executive Director.
3. The Deputy Minister and Executive Director may direct the establishment of any standing or special purpose staff level working groups that they consider helpful in facilitating interorganizational collaboration and cooperation

Part H:

Review

The Government of Nunavut and NTI agree to review this Protocol, with a view to its refinement and reinforcement, within twelve months of its signature.

Signed on this _____ day of _____, 1999, at _____, Nunavut.

**Paul Okalik,
Premier,
Government of Nunavut
Incorporated**

**Jose A. Kusugak,
President,
Nunavut Tunngavik**

