



Crucial position
Canada as the Arctic
Council Chair



Arctic transportation
The potential of the
North-West Passage



December 2012

THE ARCTIC

3

THINGS YOU
DIDN'T KNOW
ABOUT CANADA'S
ARCTIC LAND



DEVELOPING THE NORTH

Discover the **opportunities**
in Northern Canada.

Sustainable development in the Arctic

Dear readers, Canada's North is home to world-class reserves of natural resources, representing tremendous economic potential not just for Northerners, but for all Canadians. Through its Northern Strategy, the Government of Canada is creating the conditions for Northerners to achieve the success and prosperity they seek through the sustainable development of those resources. The Northern Strategy is based on four pillars: exercising Canada's sovereignty, promoting social and economic development, protecting our environmental heritage, and improving and devolving northern government. We have taken concrete steps to realize each of these objectives.

Northern jobs and growth
To create a more stable investment climate for the development of northern resources, we recently introduced Bill C-47, the Northern Jobs and Growth Act. The Act builds



Hon. John Duncan
Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern
Development and Federal Interlocutor for
Métis and Non-Status Indians

on our Government's 2010 Action Plan to Improve Northern Regulatory Regimes, and fulfils legislative obligations flowing from land claims agreements. If passed, it will contribute to improving the conditions for investment, leading to jobs for Canadians, while ensuring the North's resources are developed in a sustainable manner so that the future generations can benefit from them as well.

An effective regulatory regime in the North is also essential to maxi-

mize the full benefits of Northern devolution, the goal of which is to provide Northerners with more control over their own economic and political destiny. Our commitment to improving and devolving northern governance will allow residents to better participate in decision-making concerning the use, management and conservation of natural resources in the North.

Land and resource management is considered the final significant area of responsibility to be transferred to Nunavut and the Northwest Territories. The transfer of these responsibilities would include the administration, control and management of land and rights in respect of water, which have already been devolved in Yukon.

We continue to make progress with respect to devolution in all three territories. This past August, we signed an amendment to the Yukon Devolution Transfer Agreement that brought the resource revenue sharing provisions into alignment with those under nego-

tiation in the Northwest Territories. In Nunavut, Canada appointed a Chief Federal Negotiator to work with the parties on the devolution process. And negotiations towards a final Devolution Agreement in the Northwest Territories are advancing quickly.

Canadians leading the Arctic challenge

As the North continues to grow in importance, we are building a world-class research facility in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut to ensure that Canadians will continue to lead the way in addressing the challenges facing Arctic. The Canadian High Arctic Research Station will enhance Canada's visible presence in the Arctic and be home to world-class scientists and research about the North.

Northerners have the same desire to build a sustainable economy that provides much needed infrastructure and benefits currently enjoyed by southern Canadians. That is why our government is committed to building strong, prosperous and healthy

communities throughout Canada's North and ensuring Northern Canadians have improved access to training and are better positioned to participate in the labor market. We are investing \$27 million over five years for adult basic education in the territories to increase education and employment levels in the North. And we are increasing access to healthy and perishable foods in isolated and remote communities through Nutrition North Canada.

Sustainable development

The responsible development of Canada's north will benefit not just Northerners, but all Canadians. We will continue to focus on measures that will improve the climate for business investment, leading to jobs and economic growth, providing opportunities for Northerners. Our government will continue to take concrete steps to ensure the North achieves its true promise as a healthy, prosperous region within a strong and sovereign Canada.

HON. JOHN DUNCAN
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CHALLENGES

Do the right thing: Giving back to the north

FACT

1

CANADA IS HOME TO OVER A QUARTER OF THE WORLD'S ARCTIC LANDS AND WATERS

Living in certain parts of northern Canada can be tough. The lack of employment opportunities combined with the high cost of food, clothing and other items means that everyday essentials most Canadians take for granted are often not obtainable.

Corporate Northern Social Responsibility
Some corporations and organizations have developed initiatives which enable them to make donations to northern communities. These donations are usually in the form of allotted company profits or much needed materials and supplies.

Kevin Spreekmeester, VP of Global Marketing, Canada Goose, explained that as well as monetary funding, empathy and understanding is required to make these initiatives work. “It’s important to have a symbiotic relationship and honor the traditions and cultures that have survived in the north for decades. Too often ‘giving back’ is predicated on southern values.”

Hunger and temperature issues in the Arctic
As in many poverty stricken parts of the world, hunger can be a big problem in Arctic communities. Food banks have been set up, sometimes with the help of donations from Canadian industry, and these play an important part in feeding low-income and at-risk families. Spreekmeester believes that the future will see more Canadian organizations become involved in philanthropic initiatives to help northern communities. “I think



PHOTO: MCKEIL MARINE LIMITED

the future is bright because many businesses are starting to see the north as an opportunity to do the right thing, in a very Canadian way.”
The freezing conditions of the Arctic mean that owning adequate clothing is imperative. Properly insulated outerwear and footwear can be expensive and when a person has to make a choice between buying food or clothes, food will usually come first. Canada Goose has set up three resource centres where local people can collect zippers, buttons and fabric in order to make their own clothing.
There is a growing awareness amongst companies operating in northern areas that having a prosperous, educated and healthy local community will be of benefit to everyone.

Employing the local community
Some organizations have policies in place that state that a certain percentage of their workforce must be from the local community. As well as bolstering local economies this creates important relationships and lines of communication between corporation and community. Some corporations also make an effort to source only local materials which helps to create sustainable and self-reliant Arctic economies.
The Arctic communities of northern Canada, just like those in Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal, require consistent education, healthcare and service infrastructures so that they can have a chance to play their part in Canada’s economy.

Working together to support our north
In many cases, people within northern communities just want the chance to be become educated and employed. The philanthropic initiatives that are set up to help northern communities are beneficial but, as Spreekmeester explained, they must be administered in a thoughtful and sensitive way. “Initiatives that are well thought out and executed can, and should, support the people of the north, let them know they are valued as Canadians and do so without diminishing their cultures and way of life.”

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WE RECOMMEND

Empowering the youth
Learn about the need to develop our future leaders

PAGE 5

MEDIA
PLANET

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NEWS

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CANADIAN LEADERSHIP AT THE ARCTIC COUNCIL

CANADA LEADING THE WAY

As Canada prepares to take the chair of the Arctic Council in May 2013, the effort to determine priorities for the two-year term is underway. The Arctic Council is a high-level intergovernmental forum to promote cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic States, with the involvement of the Arctic indigenous communities and other Arctic inhabitants on common Arctic issues, in particular issues of sustainable development and environmental protection. WWF is an accredited observer organization, and we contribute our expertise and perspectives to most meetings and working groups.

Upcoming opportunities

Canada's upcoming role as chair offers an invaluable opportunity to demonstrate leadership at a critical time for the Arctic. The incoming chair, the Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, is the Health Minister as well as the Northern Minister in the current government, which indicates how important this role is to Canada. Minister Aglukkaq has already shared

a framework of priorities for Canada's term as chair, focusing on the overarching theme of 'development for the people of the north.' In light of this theme and the associated priorities, WWF highlights a few specific areas in which Canada can provide leadership and help to stimulate circumpolar action on each of the priority sub-themes that she outlined.

Sustainable resource development

1 The first priority in Canada's framework is Arctic resource development. The rapid and accelerating climate change that is transforming the Arctic environment is also opening up new opportunities for resource development, with associated benefits and risks. Managing these new developments while supporting environmental stewardship will be a circumpolar challenge, requiring new and innovative approaches. One area where there's particular potential is in the Beaufort Sea, where a single ecosystem is shared by Canada and the United States. A pilot project to focus on transboundary col-

PROFILE

About WWF

WWF is one of the world's largest and most respected independent conservation organizations, WWF has over 5 million supporters and a global network active in over 100 countries.

WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the Earth's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by conserving the world's biological diversity, ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable, and promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption. WWF's Arctic vision is for effective international stewardship to shield the region from the worst effects of rapid change by promoting healthy living systems to benefit local peoples and wildlife.



laboration in this region could provide an important impetus to existing planning processes, such as the Beaufort Sea Partnership, ultimately resulting in enhanced predictability and investment security for future developments in the region.

Responsible Arctic shipping

2 The second priority is responsible and safe Arctic shipping, and this is also a timely topic. Shipping is the common denominator for virtually all planned developments in the region, but the Arctic has unique challenges, including unpredictable and dangerous ice, harsh weather, inadequate navigation charts, poor infrastructure, and few search and rescue facilities. Therefore it's imperative that all Arctic shipping adhere to standardized best practices so as to ensure both safe passage and minimal disruption to the fragile ecosystem. The Arctic Council can help to accelerate progress towards the development of a mandatory Polar Code for shipping, while at the same time encouraging voluntary actions that will help to set the bar for responsible Arctic development.

Helping our northern communities

3 The third priority is sustainable circumpolar communities. Canada's Arctic communities are facing challenges that are shared across much of the Arctic. They are all facing unprecedented, extreme and rapid climate change. As a result, the traditional patterns of wildlife movement are disrupted, the sea ice is an increasingly unreliable travel corridor, and community infrastructure is threatened by shoreline erosion and permafrost melting. What's needed is a concentrated focus on the tools needed to plan for both ecosystem and cultural resilience in this rapidly changing environment, which the Arctic Council can help provide.

Canada's chair comes at an opportune time, when the Arctic is in greater need of sound and informed governance than ever before. Canada can help set the Arctic on a sustainable course of responsible stewardship that will benefit the communities and conserve critical ecosystems for generations to come.

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INSPIRATION



FACT
2
OVER 70 PERCENT OF THE WORLD'S POLAR BEARS LIVE IN THE ARCTIC

FUTURE LEADERS Left: Chemistry experiments, Baker Lake NU . Right: Aviation science, designing an aircraft in Baker Lake NU PHOTOS: ACTUA

STEM takes flight in the north

A plane lands in **Baker Lake**, a hamlet in the Kivalliq region, in Nunavut, 320 kilometers inland from Hudson’s Bay. The aircraft’s cargo is packed with rock ID kits, engineering equipment, and supplies. Its seats are filled with **eager instructors and veteran mining engineers.**

Within a few hours, sealed boxes will be unpacked. Brightly colored t-shirts will be distributed. Helicopter parts and hydraulics kits will be unpacked. Plastic tubing, syringes, propellers and drive shafts will cover a table in the local community centre. The instructors will meet with the local Elders and other community leaders. All the while, the children of Baker Lake eagerly await another Actua Science Camp.

STEM for the youth

Actua camps shine a light on the science that exists at the very core of youth’s everyday lives. Participants engage in hands-on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) activities in a safe and positive environment. They begin to think critically and creatively. Their curiosity is piqued and their problem-solving skills flourish. As they build science knowledge, they build confidence.

Actua delivers these

life-changing STEM enrichment experiences across the country, reaching over 225,000 youth in over 500 communities, annually.

Engaging curriculum

Even before that plane landed in Baker Lake, much work and energy was invested into making the pro-

gram build linkages between their newfound love for science and the careers that await them in the resource-rich regions of the North.”

Preparing for the future

Part of this link is revealing the academic journey that will lead participants to science-related careers. While economic opportunities abound across the North, some communities still witness alarmingly high high-school drop-out rates. Actua’s camp programming helps youth envision a positive path of science studies that extends past elementary school, and beyond secondary school.

“Industry is definitely showing an interest in supporting the young, bright minds of the areas in which they operate and live,” says Flanagan. “This collaboration helps keep our content aligned with current innovations, career demands and infrastructure development opportunities of a particular region.”

As one of the world’s largest mining nations, Canada plays a significant role in the global market for mining products. The thriving industry will continue to pull from a skilled workforce — one that is comprised of individuals who have a solid base in STEM. It seems only logical, then, that a sig-

“Industry is definitely showing an interest in supporting the young, bright minds of the areas in which they operate and live.”

gramming locally and culturally relevant. No two camps are the same.

Actua’s members, located at universities and colleges across the country, collaborate with key community representatives and local industry to ensure the curriculum will be engaging and effective.

“The camps not only get campers excited about science — youth uncover career choices in their community,” says Jennifer Flanagan, President and CEO of Actua. “In one week, they

nificant investment be made to build science literacy among Canadians — all Canadians — to help meet the human resources demand in the field and as a means to encourage informed decision-making around the management of our natural resources.

National Mining Program

Actua’s new National Mining Program answers that call. Working with communities, volunteers, experts and the industry, the program promotes mining and related careers to youth throughout the North, where the country’s mining industry is most prominent.

To the young participants of the camp in Baker Lake, it is about discovering minerals and metals. Using simple chemicals and a UV light, campers marvel at the surprising properties rocks possess. They begin to see the earth they step on with a scientific lens. They begin to see themselves as geologists, as mineralogists, and as mining engineers.

To industry and to Canadians, it is about enabling the next generation to participate in the upcoming surge of STEM-based careers in mining. It is about building economic resilience. It is about bolstering a diverse and robust workforce that includes all Canadians.

Actua is a national not-for-profit organization with a twenty-year track record of developing and delivering unique STEM programming to youth ages 6-16 from coast to coast to coast.

ELIZABETH GRAY-SMITH
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Jennifer Flanagan
President and CEO, Actua



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INSIGHT

Uranium mining: A solid safety record

FACT

3

THE NORTH IS TWO-FIFTHS OF CANADA'S LAND MASS AND TWO-THIRDS OF ITS COASTLINE

Science has demonstrated that uranium mining is as safe for workers, the public and the environment as other types of mining in Canada. In fact, the uranium mining and milling industry is the only mining industry in Canada with a dedicated federal regulator.

Uranium mining in Canada is tightly regulated by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC). Canada is a world leader in responsibly regulating this resource. This is largely attributable to a solid safety track record.

Worker safety

Ensuring worker safety is a priority for the CNSC. Years of monitoring have ensured that the annual dose limits for miners are well below those established by the CNSC to protect workers.

In Saskatchewan, where Canada's operating uranium mines are found,

the province's Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety monitors all conventional health and safety issues for uranium mining. The reporting continues to show that uranium mining and milling sites are among the best performing facilities in accident prevention and lost-time incidents across the province's entire mining and industrial sectors.

Environmental protection

When it comes to protecting the environment, rigorous monitoring and reporting is in place. Both the CNSC and provincial environmental regulators closely monitor and analyze industry releases to ensure streams, lakes and rivers downstream of mining operations are safe for people, animals, fish and plants.

In addition, metal mining effluent data is reported to Environment Canada. This data demonstrates that uranium mining operations from



2007 to 2010 was 100 percent compliant with federal release limits for all seven types of contaminants. Uranium mining operations were the only type of metal mine to have 100% compliance during this period.

Proposed project in the Arctic

Looking ahead, proposed projects include a uranium mine in Nunavut. The proposed Kiggavik project falls under the jurisdiction of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, and is subject to the Nunavut Impact Review Board's environmental assessment process.

The CNSC is participating in this process by reviewing all submissions and providing technical advice to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. To be clear, the CNSC does not determine

if a new mine should be built; the province or territory is responsible for establishing mining development policies. However, if the CNSC receives and approves a licence application to construct and operate a uranium mine, it is our responsibility to ensure that these activities, including decommissioning, are carried out safely.

The CNSC is participating in this process by reviewing all submissions and providing technical advice to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. To be clear, the CNSC does not determine if a new mine should be built; the province or territory are responsible for setting policy about the construction of mines. However, if the CNSC receives and approves a licence application to construct and operate a

uranium mine, it is our responsibility to ensure that these activities, including decommissioning, are carried out safely.

The CNSC would never compromise safety by issuing a licence or allowing a uranium mine or mill to operate if it were not safe to do so.

For more information about the CNSC and its mandate to regulate the use of nuclear energy and materials to protect the health, safety and security of Canadians and the environment, and to implement Canada's international commitments on the peaceful use of nuclear energy, visit nuclearsafety.gc.ca.



Michael Binder
President,
Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

“Science has demonstrated that uranium mining is as safe for workers, the public and the environment as other types of mining in Canada.”

MICHAEL BINDER
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Marine Arctic transportation business is booming

The Arctic has garnered more attention than ever because of melting ice that scientists say is a direct result of global warming, but there is increased demand for shipping up there, and a bustling marine transport business to meet it.

Supplying remote communities

According to Statistics Canada, only one percent of Canada's road network lied in the country's three northern territories as late as 2003. That number

hasn't changed much, and the lack of rail and air transport makes it challenging to supply remote communities with minimal infrastructure.

Despite having only 0.3 percent of Canada's population, there has been a steady increase in demand for marine transport into these areas, says Steve Fletcher, President of McKeil Marine Limited.

“A lot of these remote communities we go to have no infrastructure at all,” says Fletcher. “There aren't even docks you can pull up to in many cases. You

might have a ship dock at Anchorage in Alaska, transfer cargo to a small barge, and then run it into small inlets.”

Tug and barge versatility

Though tugs and barges might seem a slow and old-fashioned mode of marine transport, they're the most versatile and indispensable for delivering large equipment because they offer plenty of space to work with and have no height restrictions, he adds.

“Much of the current development



“The further north you go, the shorter the sailing season you have.”

Steve Fletcher
President, McKeil Marine Limited

in the Arctic is mining projects, and they require very large pieces of equipment to be moved up there,” he says. “It usually makes the most sense to send it up on a big deck barge where you can roll it on at a staging area further south, and then when you get up to the Arctic, you can beach it and put a big ramp to roll it right off.”

Short Arctic transport seasons

Mining sites can take two or three years to develop in the Arctic, and with a reduced sailing season, timing and expertise can make a difference. Having an experienced crew that is well-prepared with all the critical spare

parts on board is a must, he notes.

“The further north you go, the shorter the sailing season you have,” he says. “You can maybe ship for up to six months or more to some of the southerly points of the Arctic, but go further north, and that can be reduced to three months or less.”

Fletcher says that he's optimistic that opportunity for marine transport in the Arctic will continue to grow. “Certain developments that we talked about years ago are now happening all the time,” he says.

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