



News About Nunavut's Poverty Reduction Action Plan

7 June 2011

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Welcome to the eighth edition of the Nunavut Roundtable for Poverty Reduction Newsletter!

Kitikmeot Regional Roundtable for Poverty Reduction

The Kitikmeot Regional Roundtable for Poverty Reduction took place in Cambridge Bay from May 17 to 19 at Arctic Islands Lodge. NTI Vice President Jack Anawak and the Honourable Keith Peterson, Minister of Finance, chaired the meeting. Participants traveled from across the Kitikmeot region and many also came from Cambridge Bay. Thank you to all of the participants who contributed to the first regional roundtable for poverty reduction!



The group worked very hard to develop options for action to reduce poverty. We concluded the meeting with a draft "Options for Action" report, which is now being translated and distributed to participants for review.

Photo: Participants in the Kitikmeot Regional Roundtable for Poverty Reduction, 2011. Back row (left to right): Ed McKenna, NTI Vice President Jack Anawak, Alex Buchan, Don Moors, Minister Keith Peterson, Jillian Code, Dave Crockatt, Theresa Adamache, Kim Crockatt, Sarah Jancke, Lori Kannak, and Jasmine Redfern. Middle row: Helen Tologanak, Mary Rose Maksagak, Elizabeth Kaosoni, Amelia Komak, Iona Maksagak, Anna Ziegler, Nanci Kadlun, and Leona Krejunark. Front row: Jimmy Maniyogina, Susie Maniyogina, Aiolah Takolik, Sarah Takolik, and Brenda Jancke.

Kivalliq Regional Roundtable for Poverty Reduction

The Kivalliq Regional Roundtable for Poverty Reduction took place in Rankin Inlet from May 23 to 25 at the Singiittuq Complex community hall. NTI Vice President Jack Anawak co-chaired the meeting again, this time with the Honourable Peter Taptuna, Minister of Economic Development and Transportation. Many elders from across the region participated in the gathering, along with representatives from Government of Nunavut departments, municipal governments, the local business community, and community members who have faced the challenges of poverty.

Again, the group worked very hard over two days, producing the contents of a draft "Options for Action" report. As with the Kitikmeot draft report, the Kivalliq draft report is now being translated so it can be circulated to all participants for further input.

Back row (left to right): Pelagie Sharp, Sadie Kataluk, Minister Peter Taptuna, NTI Vice President Jack Anawak, Hilu Tagoona, Don Moors, Joyce Lahure, Kwedjo Forsen, Ed McKenna, Joe Karetak, Tim Stiles, Darrin



Nichol, Ceporah Mearns, Robert Connelly. Middle row (left to right): Kerri Tattuinee, Hannah Benoit, Anna Ziegler, Elizabeth Kreealak, Dorothy Ningeocheak, Quluaq Catherine Pilakapsi, Jennifer Wakigijig, Alexina Nanordlook, Rita Kadluk, Sarah Flynn, and Susan Nuluq. Front row: Joe Issaluk, Annie Napayok, Peter Ipkornerk, Louis Angalik, Honore Agkukaq, Annie Tatty, and Jacqueline Tulugak.

Loud and Clear! Five Key Themes for Poverty Reduction Emerge

The following five themes have emerged loudly and clearly from community dialogues across Nunavut. These five themes have been the starting place of the regional roundtable meetings.

To reduce poverty in Nunavut, dialogue contributors have said that we must address short and long-term aspects of:

1. Healing and wellbeing for individuals, families, and communities;
2. Education and skills development, including Inuit societal values, knowledge, and core life skills;
3. Food security and access to country foods;
4. Improvements to the housing and income support programs, so that they don't function as a "welfare trap"; and,
5. Community economic development and access to jobs and other opportunities.

The theme of **healing and wellbeing** has emerged as the most predominant. At the regional roundtable meetings, participants developed creative and practical options for action to support healing and wellbeing in our communities. Many of the options for action would involve increasing support for community-based practices that are already helping, recognizing the wisdom and skills capacities within communities. Participants in all community dialogues have also called for residential addictions treatment programs that are based in Nunavut, along with pre- and post-care support within each community.

One common idea from both regional roundtables is to ensure that every community has inviting and inclusive **wellness centres** and other community gathering spaces.

Participants proposed that such centres could support community-driven programs for wellbeing and skills development that bring all generations together, such as land programs, traditional skills programs, women's and men's groups, life skills groups, and more formal wellness counseling services.

Some participants discussed how such community gathering spaces would also support



training and skills sharing, and could support community harvests and food sharing. Participants have also pointed out successful wellness centres that could serve as models, such as the Cambridge Bay wellness centre and the Tukisigiarvik Centre in Iqaluit.

The "Options for Action" reports from each regional roundtable address all of the themes listed above, with practical solutions created from a community perspective. The reports will be available on our website after the participants have had an opportunity to make changes and additional suggestions. We look forward to the online dialogue that these documents will surely spark.

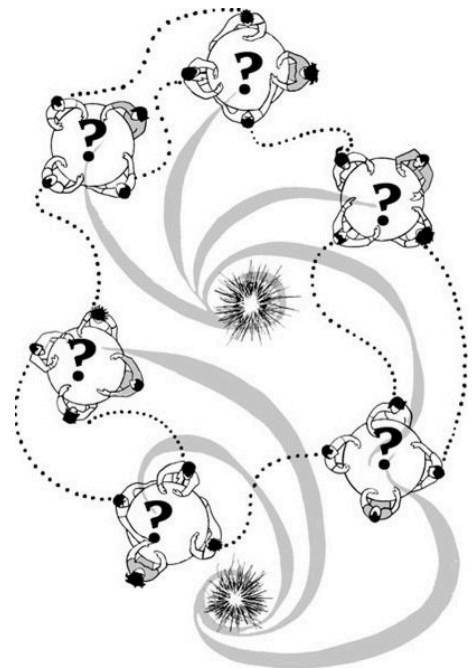
Photo: Kivalliq Regional Roundtable for Poverty Reduction participants hard at work! May 24, 2011, at the Singiittuq Complex in Rankin Inlet.

Building on Our Collective Knowledge

As a group, the regional roundtable participants have a wealth of perspectives, skills and knowledge. To tap into this collective wealth, the regional roundtables involve small-group work and brainstorming. Participants move between different groups, building on the ideas developed at each table.

This method of collaboration is sometimes called the "World café" model, which is a problem-solving tool used around the world to address complex issues. The model supports participants to share, learn, and build on each other's perspectives. (Check out [the World Cafe community website](#).)

Working together, we are developing creative, proactive and sustainable options for action to reduce poverty--options that are based on our values and everyday life experiences.



Upcoming Roundtables: North and South Qikiqtani

We look forward to the next two regional roundtables, which will be held in **Pond Inlet** from June 13 to 15 and in **Iqaluit** from June 22 to 24.

Reminder: Call for Submissions

A call has gone out to all Inuit organizations, municipal and territorial government bodies, non-governmental organizations, community groups and individuals to share their knowledge and contribute to *Nunavut's Poverty Reduction Action Plan*. Share your knowledge! Your perspective is needed. For submission guidelines and more information, visit www.makiliqta.ca and contact Kerri Tattuinee at (867) 975-7807 (ktattuinee1@gov.nu.ca). **Deadline: July 15, 2011.**