

## **Community-Based Monitoring in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region**

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The six communities in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR) of the Northwest Territories, Canada, are involved in a variety of monitoring programs. To better coordinate these activities, and to better incorporate traditional knowledge into these efforts, the ISR has begun to develop a community-based monitoring (CBM) program for the region. The program will also serve as a mechanism for bottom-up driven research programs and priorities for the region. This program is expected to provide full-time monitors in each community, to determine how best to address community interests and needs and to work with scientists visiting the region who share similar interests and a willingness to work in partnership with ISR communities. Effective and secure data management is a critical component of the program. Community members want to share information, but they are also wary of how unrestricted access to community information may lead to using that information in ways that do not help the community. They also recognize that access restrictions may vary depending on the kind of information being considered. Furthermore, they are eager to get scientific data back in ways they can understand and use. The development of the data management system will take time and effort. By participating in the ELOKA workshop, we hope to learn from the experiences of others around the Arctic.

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