Canada and the Arctic

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Canada’s Vision for the Arctic

A stable, rules-based region with:

• clearly defined boundaries,
• dynamic economic growth and trade,
• vibrant Northern communities, and
• healthy and productive ecosystems
# Canada’s Territories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Canada</th>
<th>3 Territories</th>
<th>3 Territories (% of Canada)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Area</strong></td>
<td>9,976,140 km²</td>
<td>3,748,718 km²</td>
<td>39.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Population</strong></td>
<td>33,930,800</td>
<td>110,000</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
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</table>
### Similar but also different

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yukon</th>
<th>Northwest Territories</th>
<th>Nunavut</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total population (2011 census)</td>
<td>33,320</td>
<td>40,795</td>
<td>31,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land – square km</td>
<td>483,610</td>
<td>1,171,918</td>
<td>2,093,190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State of devolution</td>
<td>Majority of responsibilities devolved in 2003</td>
<td>NWT responsible for managing public land, water, and resources as of April 2014</td>
<td>Negotiation protocol completed in 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal transfers to Territories, 2013-14</td>
<td>$817 million</td>
<td>$1.12 billion</td>
<td>$1.35 billion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Canada’s Northern Peoples

- Population spread across small, often remote communities with majority living in territorial capitals

- Over half of Northerners are Aboriginal* (Indigenous Peoples) with strong ancestral ties to land
  - Yukon 23% First Nation
  - Northwest Territories 52% Aboriginal
  - Nunavut 86% Inuit

- 46% of Aboriginal peoples and 40% of Northerners under 25 years old (compared to 30% for Canada)

*(Aboriginal people is the collective name for the original peoples of North America - three groups: First Nations, Métis and Inuit)
Canadian Inuit Communities

- Remote communities, far removed from major centres
- Nearly all lack road or rail access, and can only be reached by air and sea
• Main Theme: Development for the People of the North
  
  • Responsible Arctic Resource Development
  
  • Responsible and Safe Arctic Shipping
  
  • Sustainable Circumpolar Communities
Route to Riches

- The Northwest Passage as a pathway to elsewhere
The Fur Trade
HMS *Erebus* found – Sept. 2014
The Second World War: Allies

• Operation Gauntlet (1941)
  – Canadian-led Allied evacuation of Spitzbergen
    • Evacuate 2000 Russian miners to Murmansk

• Arctic Convoys (1941-45)
  – Murmansk Run
    • Canadian Merchant Navy and Royal Canadian Navy seamen sail into the Arctic Ocean to deliver war materials to USSR

• Northwest Staging Route
  – To allow Canada and US to ferry aircraft and supplies to USSR
Cold War Adversaries: A New Polar Perspective
Canada-US Arctic Relations: Status of Water Disagreements...
The United States’ view
“If the Manhattan succeeds other oil laden vessels will follow in her wake. Before that happens Canada must be ready to receive and control them; for it is Canada’s northland that would be devastated if the ice won and the tanker lost.”

Editorial, Globe and Mail, September 1969
Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act (1970)

- Canadian government statute to prevent pollution of areas of the arctic waters adjacent to the mainland and islands of the Canadian arctic
- Basis for Article 234 ("ice covered waters") clause in the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea
Polar Sea voyage (1985)
“Canada’s sovereignty in the Arctic is indivisible. It embraces land, sea and ice.... From time immemorial Canada’s Inuit people have used and occupied the ice as they have used and occupied the land. The policy of the Government is to maintain the natural unity of the Canadian Arctic archipelago and to preserve Canada’s sovereignty over land, sea and ice undiminished and undivided.”

Canadian Arctic Islands and Mainland Baselines

Territorial Sea Geographical Coordinates (Area 7) Order
P.C. 1985-2739, 10 September, 1985 (SOR 85-872, 10 September, 1985)

Schedule I: straight lines joining Points 1 to 163
Schedule II: 27 low-water line segments along coast
Schedule III: 5 low-water line segments of islands and low-tide elevations

Scale: 1: 13.5 million (approx.)

Baseline .......................................................... 78
Selected turning points ........................................ 78
Schedule III points ............................................. + III-5

Derived from "Maritime Zones of Canada" @ 1:6,750,000 (March, 2000), Chart M-400, by the Canadian Hydrographic Service, Fisheries & Oceans Canada

Point 163 (Schedule I), Cabot Island, is also Point 42 (Schedule I, Area 1, Labrador) of c. 1550, CRC 1978.
1988 Canada-US Arctic Cooperation Agreement

- bilateral agreement allowing for practical cooperation regarding matters relating to the Northwest Passage while affirming that the two countries agree to disagree about the status of the passage under applicable international law
Canada-Russia Northern Cooperation

• Began in mid-1960s; visits to USSR by Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and Minister of Northern Affairs Jean Chrétien in the early 1970s

• 1984 Canada-USSR Arctic Science Exchange Program (ASEP)
  – formal, bilateral protocol on cooperation in Arctic science
  – Research in sciences, including social sciences and issues concerning northern indigenous peoples
Composition of the Arctic Council

Arctic Countries
- Permanent Participants
- Observing Nations and Organizations

ARCTIC COUNCIL

- Arctic Council Action Plan (ACAP)
- Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP)
- Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF)
- Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response (EPPR)
- Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME)
- Sustainable Development Working Group (SDWG)
Gorbachev’s “Murmansk Speech” (1987)

- Outlines the Soviet Union's Arctic foreign policy, need to address environmental issues, and promotes the region as a “zone of piece”
  - Cites program of scientific exchange with Canada
  - Starts a rapid transition from confrontation to cooperation

- Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney visits Leningrad (Nov. 1989) and calls for an “Arctic Council”
A New Environmental and Human Focus

• Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy (AEPS, 1991)
  – Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF), Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME), Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response (EPPR) and the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP)
• Arctic Council (1996)
  – Ottawa Declaration: “The Arctic Council is a high-level intergovernmental forum to promote cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic States.”
Canada-Russia in the 1990s

- Mulroney-Yeltsin Declaration of Friendship and Cooperation
- 1992 Arctic Cooperation Agreement
- Arctic contaminants
- Institutional Building for Northern Aboriginal Peoples in Russia program (INRIIPP)
Aboriginal Land Claim Agreements

• Indigenous rights and self-government
The Northern Dimension of Canada’s Foreign Policy (2000)

Objectives:

1. to enhance the security and prosperity of Canadians, especially northerners and Aboriginal peoples;

2. to assert and ensure the preservation of Canada’s sovereignty in the North;

3. to establish the Circumpolar region as a vibrant geopolitical entity integrated into a rules-based international system; and,

4. to promote the human security of northerners and the sustainable development of the Arctic.
Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (2004)
Climate Change Impacts in the North

- Thawing permafrost
- Shifting biomes
- Changing sea ice patterns
- Reduction in sea ice thickness and cover
- Changes in freeze-up and break up
- Rising sea levels
- Rising temperatures
- Melting glaciers
- Extreme or unexpected weather events

- *Indigenous communities in the Arctic are particularly vulnerable*
“The Perfect Storm”? 

- From controlled military area to potential economic zone 
- Undefined boundaries 
- International Straits 
- Maritime Activities 
- “Race for Resources” 
- Trans-national crime
• Terrorism
• Inter-state conflict?
Extended Continental Shelf delimitation under UNCLOS
- Canada is preparing its submission to the UN Commission due in 2013

Hans Island & Lincoln Sea
- Canada and Denmark dispute ownership of Hans Island and delimitation between Greenland and Canada in the Lincoln sea

Beaufort Sea
- Canada and US dispute over maritime boundary
- Known oil and gas resources in the disputed zone

Northwest Passage
- Canada claims passage is part of internal waters, US argues it is international strait
- May see increased marine traffic as shipping season lengths
A Race for Resources?

USGS 2008: 30% global total of undiscovered natural gas, 13% of undiscovered oil
Record Minimum Ice Extent (2007)

- 3 Sept 2007
  - record low of 4.3 million sq km
- Previous record 2005
  - 5.3 million sq km
- Normal minimum
  - 7.7 million sq km
Canada and the Arctic 2006-15

- Expand and enhance the “Arctic” (Canadian) Rangers
- 6-8 new Arctic/Offshore Patrol vessels
- construction of polar class icebreaker (CCG)
- a deep water Arctic docking and refuelling facility in Nanisivik
- Launched RadarSat-2; design of RadarSat Constellation Mission
- construction of a Canadian Forces Arctic Training Centre
- Arctic Response Company Groups
Canada’s Military Investments in the Arctic

Persistent chokepoint surveillance (Northern Watch)
Canada, Denmark, Norway, Russia, US declare:

“…we recall that an extensive international legal framework applies to the Arctic Ocean”

“We remain committed to this legal framework and to the orderly settlement of any possible overlapping claims.”
Legal Regimes of Oceans and Airspace
Canada’s *Northern Strategy* (July 2009)

- Government of Canada’s vision for its North is based on 4 pillars that guide its actions.

**Statement on Canada’s Arctic foreign policy (2010)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sovereignty</th>
<th>Economic and Social Development</th>
<th>Environmental Protection</th>
<th>Governance</th>
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**DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION**

- **Exercising our Arctic sovereignty as international interest in the region increases.**
- **Encouraging social and economic development and regulatory improvements that benefit Northerners.**
- **Adapting to climate change challenges and ensuring sensitive Arctic ecosystems are protected for future generations.**
- **Providing Northerners with more control over their economic and political destiny.**

**SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY UNDERPIN ALL FOUR PillARS**
Canada’s Arctic Foreign Policy (Aug. 2010)

• “Our vision for the Arctic is a stable, rules-based region with clearly defined boundaries, dynamic economic growth and trade, vibrant Northern communities, and healthy and productive ecosystems.”

• “Canada does not anticipate any military challenges in the Arctic and believes that the region is well managed through existing institutions, particularly the Arctic Council.”
Arctic Foreign Policy Priorities: Sovereignty

• Seeking to resolve boundary issues with our Arctic neighbours
  – 2010 Russia-Norway maritime delimitation agreement as model
  – 2012 - Tentative Agreement on the Boundary in the Lincoln Sea

• Addressing Arctic governance and related emerging issues, such as public safety
  – eg. Arctic SAR Agreement (2011)

• Securing international recognition for the full extent of our extended continental shelf
  – Aug/2015 – Russian Federation submission to the UN Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf pursuant to article 76 of UNCLOS
Northern Strategy: Sovereignty

• Comprehensive mapping of Arctic seabed
  – “This process, while lengthy, is not adversarial and is not a race. Rather, it is a collaborative process based on a shared commitment to international law. Canada is working with Denmark, Russia and the United States to undertake this scientific work.”
  – Canada filed partial submission to UN Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf in Dec. 2013
Misconceptions about the extended continental shelf

- “Deadlines”?
- Not a zero-sum game
- Art. 76 has global application
- Coastal state establishes outer limits
- Sovereign rights exist now
- Resource potential beyond 200 M largely unknown and difficult to access
- No defence component

CCGS *Louis S. St.-Laurent* breaks ice for the USCGC *Healy*, September 2008
Security and Safety: Shipping, Tourism, and Resource Development
Sea Ice Retreat

Average Monthly Arctic Sea Ice Extent
September 1979 - 2012

Arctic Sea Ice Age
September 2007
September 2012

National Snow and Ice Data Center

NSIDC courtesy M. Tschudi and J. Markus, University of Colorado Boulder
Northern Sea Route

35 days via northeast passage

48 days via Suez canal
Northwest Passage

Findings
Regional Futures to 2020
Canadian Arctic & Northwest Passage

1] The Northwest Passage is not expected to become a viable trans-Arctic route through 2020 due to seasonality, ice conditions, a complex archipelago, draft restrictions, chokepoints, lack of adequate charts, insurance limitations and other costs, which diminish the likelihood of regularly scheduled services from the Pacific to the Atlantic.

2] Destinational shipping is anticipated to increase in the Canadian Arctic, driven by increasing demand for seasonal re-supply activity, expanding resource development and tourism.

3] In the Canadian Arctic, ice conditions and high operational costs will continue to be a factor into the future. Irrespective of the warming climate, ice will remain throughout the winter, making viable year-round operations expensive.
The Northwest Passage: Realities

- Lack of predictability
- Short and uncertain timing/duration of shipping window
- Important hazards:
  - dangerous ice;
  - poor visibility;
  - difficult communications
- Likelihood of delays
Canada is “Open for Business”

• Canada welcomes navigation in its internal waters, including the NWP

• Navigation will be instrumental to sustainable development

• Navigation must respect Canada’s regulation and controls relating to safety, security, the environment and Inuit interests
  – *Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act* (out to 200 nautical miles)
  – mandatory ship reporting to the Northern Canada Vessel Traffic Services Zone (NORDREG) for vessels destined for Canada’s Arctic waters
Safe Arctic Shipping

• Guidelines for sustainable tourism and cruise-ship operations in the Arctic

• Cooperation on the International Maritime Organization (IMO) mandatory Polar Code adopted in 2014-15
  • enters force 1 Jan 2017
Low Impact Shipping Corridors
US-Canada Joint Statement on Climate, Energy, and Arctic Leadership (10 March 2016)

– consistent policies for ships, taking into account important ecological and cultural areas, vessel traffic patterns, Indigenous and Northern Arctic input, and increased cooperation of our Coast Guards

– share assessments of navigation data quality and capacities for supporting safe and low-impact shipping in the Beaufort Sea

– with Arctic partners, address the risks posed by heavy fuel oil use and black carbon emissions from Arctic shipping
Canada’s Arctic Foreign Policy:
Economic and Social Development

• Taking steps to create the appropriate international conditions for sustainable development in the Arctic

• Continuing to seek trade and investment opportunities that benefit Northerners and all Canadians

• Encouraging a greater understanding of the human dimension of the Arctic to improve the lives of Northerners
Resource Development Potential

• USGS 2010: estimated 13% of the world's undiscovered oil and 30% of its undiscovered gas lie in the Arctic

• Canada’s North has one of the world’s most diverse series of mineral deposits (e.g., base metals, gold, diamonds, rare earths)
  • International corporations are investing in major natural resources projects and exploration in the North
Diamond Mining

- First commercial diamond mine (Ekati) began production in 1998
- 4 mines in operation today
- Aboriginal peoples about 30-40% of workforce at the mines
The 33 projects moving through the regulatory process could represent:
- over $27 billion in capital investment,
- over 10,000 long-term direct operating jobs
Mary River Project

• Baffinland owned 50% by ArcelorMittal and 50% by Nunavut Iron Ore
• ore grade of 67%
  – due to ore quality, no processing required before shipping to market, reducing environmental impact and keeping production costs low
• first shipment of ore in open water season in 2015
Resource Development Challenges

- **Investment Climate**
  - regulatory uncertainty, lack of infrastructure, and high cost of doing business

- **Skills and Capacity**
  - Northern workforce is small and does not always have the skills and expertise needed
  - importing skilled workers from the South can nearly double the labour costs paid by northern employers

- **Capital and Infrastructure**
  - significant gaps in community, economic, telecommunications, and transportation infrastructure
Current Northern Transportation Linkages

Possibilities for Future Northern Economic Infrastructure
Oil: The Most Prized Arctic Commodity?

- Led By Russian activity in Siberia and the Arctic offshore
- China the principal market for future production because of Western sanctions
- Hundreds of billions in gas/oil deals already signed between Moscow and Beijing
Arctic Oil

The price collapse...

Exxon/Rosneft: **On Hold** (Kara Sea-Russia)
Chevron: **Plans Cancelled** (Cdn Beaufort)
Imperial: **Plans Cancelled** (Cdn Beaufort)
BP: **Plans Cancelled** (Cdn/US Beaufort)
Statoil/Dong/Cairn: **Plans Cancelled** (Greenland)
Shell: **Plans Cancelled** (Chukchi Sea-US)
Statoil: **Plans Cancelled** (Chukchi Sea-US)
North American Production

- extensive lease holdings
- no offshore production and minimal exploration in Canada
- activity limited by lack of infrastructure, an uncertain regulatory regime, and local opposition
Circumpolar Inuit Declaration on Resource Development Principles (2011)
Responsible Resource Development

• Agreement on Cooperation on Marine Oil Pollution Preparedness and Response in the Arctic (2013)
• Arctic Council Action Plan to prevent marine oil pollution
• Science-based approach; “commercial activities will occur only when the highest safety and environmental standards are met, including national and global climate and environmental goals, and Indigenous rights and agreements” (Can-US Statement, 10 March 2016)
Responsible Resource Development

Arctic Economic Council (2014)

- Flagship accomplishment in this area
- Cooperative effort to create a new circumpolar business forum
  - independent body, officially founded in early September 2014
  - venue for industries and indigenous businesses operating in the Arctic to advance Arctic-oriented business interests, share best practices, forge partnerships and engage in deeper cooperation
  - working to ensure that businesses of all sizes across the Arctic region work together to facilitate Arctic-to-Arctic trade and investment, and to do so in a responsible and sustainable manner
Fisheries

• No commercial fishing in North American Arctic or Central Arctic Ocean basin
  – Need for additional scientific investigation; build on a precautionary, science-based principle to commercial fishing

• March 2014 - Arctic-5 coastal states agree to moratorium on high-seas fishing in the Arctic Ocean
  – Interim precautionary measures until appropriate regulatory mechanisms in place

• 17 October 2014 - Canadian Beaufort Sea Fisheries Management Framework

• 10 March 2016 – US-Canada Joint Statement
  • Calls “for a binding international agreement to prevent the opening of unregulated fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean to preserve living marine resources and promote scientific research in the region”
Protecting the Arctic Environment

Action to protect and manage the unique and fragile ecosystems and wildlife of the Arctic:

1) Promoting an ecosystem-based management approach;
2) addressing climate change in the Arctic;
3) strengthening international standards for environmental protection; and
4) strengthening Arctic science
Science and Technology

Canadian High Arctic Research Station

Cambridge Bay
Environmental Challenges

Coastal Erosion

Permafrost Degradation

Flash flooding in Kugluktuk, 2008
Climate Change

• Addressing short-lived climate pollutants
  – such as black carbon and methane
  – are contributing to warmer temperatures and can also cause local health effects

• Local and regional efforts to adapt to climate change in the Arctic

• Global efforts to mitigate climate change

• Increasing focus on clean energy
US-Canada Joint Statement on Climate, Energy, and Arctic Leadership (10 March 2016)

• Conserving Arctic biodiversity through science-based decision making
  – protect at least 17% of land areas and 10% of marine areas in Canadian and US Arctic by 2020
  – leadership role in engaging all Arctic nations to develop a pan-Arctic marine protection area network

• Incorporating Indigenous science and traditional knowledge into decision-making
  – environmental assessments, resource management, understanding and managing effects of climate change
Sustainable Circumpolar Communities

- Protecting Arctic traditional ways of life
- Promoting traditional and local knowledge
- Enhancing scientific cooperation
- Promoting mental wellness, education, Indigenous languages, and skill development, particularly among Indigenous youth

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## Canadian Arctic Health & Social Indicators

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yukon</th>
<th>NWT</th>
<th>Nunavut</th>
<th>Canada</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core Housing Need</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
<td>37.3%</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household Food Insecurity</td>
<td>11.6%</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>32.6%</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incidence of Heavy Drinking</td>
<td>28.4%</td>
<td>31.1%</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violent Youth Crime (per 100 000 people)</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuberculosis (per 100 000)</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>25.1</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life expectancy at birth (years)</td>
<td>76.8</td>
<td>76.2</td>
<td>68.7</td>
<td>79.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlamydia (per 100 000 people)</td>
<td>669.1</td>
<td>1727.3</td>
<td>3486.3</td>
<td>224.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung Cancer (per 100 000 people)</td>
<td>73.2</td>
<td>57.2</td>
<td>247.8</td>
<td>47.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant mortality (per 100 000 people)</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Canada’s Northern Territories and Aboriginal Groups

• Climate change is having major effects on infrastructure, resource economy, species, food supply, and traditional lifestyles

• The challenges and opportunities of development

• Education and social issues

• Importance of meeting basic needs first: shelter, food, safety
  – Rising costs of energy, especially diesel

• Building basic infrastructure seen as priority for development
Northerners are Canada’s Foremost Arctic Priority

- Actions to better the lives of Northerners by enhancing sustainable economic development, promoting mental wellness, and empowering them through improved governance

- Enhancing the capacity of the Indigenous Permanent Participant organizations at the Arctic Council, and charting a course to ensure the traditional and local knowledge of Arctic communities is always included in the work of the Council
Arctic Foreign Policy Priorities: Governance

• Providing opportunities for Northerners to actively participate in shaping Canadian foreign policy on Arctic issues
The Arctic Council

• From policy-shaping to policy-making role?
  ➢ eg. SAR Treaty; Marine Oil Pollution Preparedness and Response Treaty

• Need for an “Arctic Treaty” to give the Arctic Council are “hard law” basis? -- Not the view of the Arctic states

• Should the Council mandate be expanded to include defence and security issues?
  ➢ “The Arctic Council should not deal with matters related to military security.” – 1996 Ottawa Declaration
  ➢ why it should not expand to include military issues
Strengthening the Arctic Council

- has been a priority of the Council since its inception
- improve administrative processes (eg. Permanent Secretariat)
- enhance the profile of the Arctic Council
  - better reporting on its work; increasing collaboration and coordination with other international organizations; improving cooperation and coordination amongst the Working Groups and Task Forces
- enhance Permanent Participant capacity (eg. funding)
Canada’s Vision for the Arctic

A stable, rules-based region with:

- clearly defined boundaries,
- dynamic economic growth and trade,
- vibrant Northern communities, and
- healthy and productive ecosystems
Canada’s Domestic Arctic Priorities

- Exercise our Arctic Sovereignty
- Encourage social and economic development for the benefit of Northern Canadians
- Mitigation and adaptation to climate change and ensuring the protection of the Arctic environment
- Providing Northern Canadians with more control over their economic and political destiny
Canada’s Arctic Foreign Priorities

• Continue to implement the Northern Strategy
• Encourage sustainable growth and development
  • Northern development for the benefit of Northerners
• Reassure Canadians that sovereignty is well in hand and reiterate our positions internationally
• Security and safety issues – human and environmental security issues are the most pressing
• Enhance key bilateral relationships
• Pursue and contribute to a strengthened Arctic Council
• Continue to work through relevant multilateral institutions
Areas for Arctic Cooperation

• Stronger partnership in science and research
  – eg. cold weather construction technologies; transportation technologies, sustainable economic development, potential fisheries in the Centre Arctic Ocean, indigenous peoples’ issues

• Marine transport and safety

• Emergency preparedness, prevention and response

• Measures to address air pollutants (including black carbon), oil pollution, and protect biodiversity

• Ensure that Arctic Council remains the primary high-level forum for dialogue on Arctic issues

• Ensure that Arctic coast state sovereignty and sovereignty rights are respected internationally
Questions and Discussion
Arctic Waters: Summary

• The Canadian approach to protecting Arctic waters:
  – has been in place for four decades, without major incident
  – includes precautionary and risk-based measures
  – is intended to keep vessels out of trouble (e.g. access control systems, additional equipment) or help them if in trouble (mandatory reporting)
  – is accepted and supported by Canadian industry

• Canada maintains an active international presence in advocating for safety, secure and environmentally responsible Arctic shipping through international fora like the IMO and the Arctic Council
Development of Guidelines/Best Practices for Arctic Cruise Ships

- Project coordinators: Canada (TC) & United States (NOAA)
- Organized through the Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME) Working Group
- To be *circum-Arctic* in scope
- What the project could potentially address:
  - Wildlife interactions
  - Disembarkation/embarkation on ice
  - Coastal community engagement
  - Invasive species avoidance
  - Elements of tender or small craft operations
- What the project will *avoid*:
  - Topics that fall under the recognized competence of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)
  - Duplication of existing regional/industry association guidelines
• covers the full range of design, construction, equipment, operational, training, search and rescue and environmental protection matters relevant to ships operating in waters surrounding the two poles

• Dec/2014 – IMO Maritime Safety Committee adopted the safety-related requirements of the Polar Code and related amendments to make it mandatory under the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)

• May/2015 - Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) adopted the environmental provisions

• The complete Polar Code, encompassing the safety-related and environment-related requirements, is expected to enter into force on January 1, 2017
A Circumpolar Inuit Declaration on Sovereignty in the Arctic

2. The Evolving Nature of Sovereignty in the Arctic

2.1 Sovereignty is a term that has often been used to refer to the distinct and independent authority of a community or nation both internally and externally. Sovereignty is a concept that has been applied to the Arctic for many years, but it is often misunderstood. The concept of sovereignty in the Arctic is evolving and is complex and multifaceted.

2.2 Recognition and respect for the right to self-determination are developing as a response to the needs of the people living in the Arctic. The rights of the Indigenous peoples of the Arctic are recognized under international law, and their rights to self-determination are protected by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

3. Inuit, the Arctic and Sovereignty: Looking Forward

3.1 The actions of Inuit peoples and states, the interactions between them, and the conduct of international relations must be achieved in the rule of law.

4. A Circumpolar Inuit Declaration on Sovereignty in the Arctic

4.1 So we propose that the Inuit of Nunavut be declared as a people with the right to self-determination. The Declaration outlines the rights and responsibilities of Inuit peoples in the Arctic, and it is the first step towards achieving sovereignty in the region.