



TASIUJAQIUAQMIUT SHEEWETAGANAPOI CONSORTIUM

Formerly The Hudson Bay Consortium

2025 Montreal Roundtable Youth Delegation Background

The Tasiujaquiaqmiut Sheewetaganapoi Consortium was pleased to welcome the second ever youth delegation to the 2025 Montreal Roundtable (February 25-27, 2025). The goal of youth participation in the Roundtable was to ensure the next generation were actively engaged in the knowledge sharing and exchange from around Hudson and James Bays. This delegation builds off the momentum of the first youth delegation in attendance at the 2024 Winnipeg Roundtable and who provided the foundation for the second year of youth participation in the Roundtable. The youth delegation was originally conceived of during the 2022 Hudson Bay Summit in Montreal, where participants expressed a strong interest in youth involvement in Hudson Bay Consortium activities:

“As a collective effort bringing communities and regions together, the Consortium is well positioned to support both current and future community leaders in environmental stewardship. Additional steps should be taken to support youth engagement and participation in the Consortium moving forward.”

Youth delegation involvement was guided by the strategic planning priorities developed during the Strategic Planning Session of the 2022 Summit, which encouraged support of community leaders through:

- Creating opportunities for community leaders to connect and discuss strategies;
- Encouraging youth to be involved, create a space for youth not just at meetings but in Consortium work in a sustained way; and,
- Fostering mentorship relationships

Youth involvement was made possible in large part by regional organizations who provided funding and travel support for their identified delegates to attend.

Convening the youth delegation

Two (2) youth participants (ages 18-35) per region represented three (3) of the four (4) regions around Hudson and James Bays for a total of six (6) participants. The representatives selected by their respective organizations represented different communities including Rankin Inlet and Baker Lake, Nunavut; Kuujuak and Umiujaq, Nunavik; as well as Waswanipi and Chisasibi, Eeyou Istchee. In particular, while Cree Nation Youth Council was unable to participate in 2024 due to the Roundtable conflicting with local mandates and schedules, they requested to be kept apprised of future work and meetings of the Consortium and were able to send two delegates in

2025. While potential representatives were identified by Mushkegowuk Council, each of the five (5) nominated youth were unable to attend due to conflicting commitments. In addition to attending the meeting in Montreal, a preparatory session was held with five (5) of the six (6) delegates based on their availability to support their involvement and contributions to the event. Preparation included an overview of the Hudson Bay Consortium Code of Conduct, governance structure, and more information about the meeting itself, as well as travel logistics. The intention was also to have the youth meet and participate in an icebreaker session in advance of the meeting, but individual preparation sessions needed to be held with participants due to conflicting schedules. Following the Roundtable, delegates' feedback was solicited to inform future improvement and how to continue to engage youth, especially in advance of the 2026 Summit.

Youth feedback

A nine (9) question post-meeting survey was developed that built off the survey sent to 2024 Winnipeg Roundtable youth. The amended survey was sent to youth delegates following the Montreal Roundtable to gain insight into youth perspectives on the meeting. The survey received three (3) responses of six (6) possible responses.

The survey included the following questions, responses and comments:

Question	Response	Comments
How would you rate your Roundtable experience? (0 being worst possible and 10 being best)	10 (n= 1) 9 (n = 2)	
What could have made your Roundtable experience better?	More interactivity with other youth delegates (n=3)	Better communication from the regional government
How do you see your role fitting into the wider Hudson Bay Consortium in the future (ie are you interested in still being involved and how frequently)?	I am interested in being involved in a youth-specific arm of the Hudson Bay Consortium (n=3)	
What challenges (if any) might prevent you from being involved in Consortium work?		I think getting my high school diploma will prevent me from staying involved in consortium work

<p>How do you see the youth delegation looking in the future?</p>	<p>Continue with a 2 youth per region model (n=1)</p> <p>Pursue more delegates per region (larger delegation) (n=1)</p> <p>Have one youth participate per community around Hudson and James Bays (n=1)</p>	
<p>How do you plan to share what you learned at this meeting?</p>	<p>Word of mouth (n=1)</p> <p>Posts on social media (n=1)</p> <p>Upcoming meeting (n=1)</p>	
<p>Are there ways we could communicate more widely with youth about Hudson Bay Consortium work and interesting information from this meeting (e.g are there youth Facebook groups or Councils we should be aware of to reach youth better?)</p>		<p>Connected North Sessions with secondary and post secondary students</p> <p>Cree Nation Youth Council Facebook Page or CNYC@cngov.ca</p> <p>Consortium work/interesting information could be shared on community facebook groups such as public bulletin pages. I think more youth would reach out if there were posts being made about the consortium.</p>
<p>Are there ways we could tie your work on youth-identified priorities to the work of the Consortium?</p>	<p>N/A (n=3)</p>	
<p>Is there any additional feedback you would like to share?</p>	<p>N/A (n=3)</p>	

Summary of successes and challenges

Similar to the 2024 Winnipeg Roundtable, the main success of the youth delegation was the exchange between the youth and the other participants from communities around the Bays. Participants at the 2025 Montreal Roundtable expressed their appreciation for the youth

delegation being in attendance and the opportunity to share their knowledge of Hudson and James Bays with the younger generation who will eventually take on a leadership role. The 2025 delegates were engaged and keen to contribute information and questions to the discussion. This was also able to happen informally on the sidelines of the meeting as youth delegates were able to be introduced to potential mentors and build connections for future engagement.

The main challenge came from the limited time to build an awareness of the Consortium with youth in advance of the meeting. This year's delegation expressed more of an interest in being involved in Consortium activities despite this challenge and continued support to keep them engaged in Consortium work through a youth arm of the Consortium would help bring this to fruition.

Next steps

Given the positive reception to this year's youth delegation and their engagement in the Roundtable, there is a need to build off the momentum toward more consistent and deeper participation of the youth in Consortium work.

Suggested next steps include:

- Carving a role for the youth delegates within the structure of the Secretariat or creating a more stable youth delegation role throughout the year and between events.
- Creating a dedicated role for a youth coordinator to coordinate the youth roles above and in preparation for the next Summit (2026).
- Fully implement the recommended steps for youth involvement expressed in the Strategic Planning session of the 2022 Summit.

Given the support from the regional organizations and the interest from some delegates in continued engagement, these next steps are within reach for the Consortium and will help enable a stronger youth contingent in advance of, and at, the 2026 Summit.



The 2025 Montreal Roundtable Youth Delegation from left to right: Paulusie Papik, John Tookalook, Shannon Fireman, Nadine Oolooyuk, Lydia Angidlik [not pictured: Adrian Gunner]