

Tasiujaqiuaqmiut Sheewetaganapoi Consortium 2025 Roundtable Summary Report

The Tasiujaqiuaqmiut Sheewetaganapoi Consortium hosted a 2025 Roundtable in Montreal from February 25-27, 2025, focusing on enhancing research and monitoring collaboration across the regions of Hudson Bay and James Bay. The event brought together over 135 participants, including representatives from 29 coastal communities, regional organizations, government agencies, non-profits, academics, and researchers.



TASIUJAQIUAQMIUT SHEEWETAGANAPOI CONSORTIUM

CONSORTIUM UPDATES

The Roundtable opened with the official rebranding of the Hudson Bay Consortium as the Tasiujaqiuaqmiut Sheewetaganapoi Consortium, an Inuktitut/Cree name chosen to better reflect the Inuit and Cree connections to the waters of Hudson Bay and James Bay. Updates were provided on the Consortium's activities since its 2024 Roundtable, including the development of a project map, website, and social media presence, the new name and new logo, and formation of a new Emergency Response working group.



COMMUNITY-CENTERED DISCUSSIONS

Community representatives were central to the discussions, with a unique roundtable layout placing them at the forefront of the room. Key community priorities related to research and monitoring were highlighted, including:

- Changing regional biodiversity and the need for enhanced animal population monitoring.
- Impacts of climate change on community safety, wildlife habitats, and traditional food access.
- The importance of local capacity building, community safety, and environmental health.
- The need for modern policies that respect traditional practices and Indigenous governance.
- Concerns about development impacts on wildlife and traditional hunting grounds.
- The necessity of further water monitoring.

Find the complete list of community priorities in our <u>full report</u>.

COMMUNITY PRIORITIES AND CONCERNS

Through the discussions key themes emerged across the 29 coastal communities, including:

- Environmental Impacts: Concerns for the effects of mining, shipping traffic, hydroelectric projects, river diversions, pollution, and potential mineral extraction, and increasing awareness of climate change including rapidly changing water levels and ice conditions, shifts in wildlife migration patterns, increased storms, melting permafrost, shoreline erosion, and warming water temperatures.
- **Wildlife Health and Availability:** Concerns about animal health, declining populations of key species, changes in fish populations, and the impact of new or increasing species.
- **Research and Monitoring Needs:** Increased emphasis on community-driven research and data collection, long-term monitoring programs, integrating traditional knowledge with scientific research, baseline data collection, and water quality and contamination research.
- Traditional Knowledge and Cultural Preservation: Importance of passing on traditional knowledge, preserving traditional place names and language, concerns about the loss of traditional hunting and harvesting practices, and combining traditional knowledge with modern technology.
- Community Well-being and Food Security: Concerns about the safety and quality of traditional food sources, impacts of environmental changes on food security, support for hunters and harvesters, and the high cost of living.
- **Governance and Collaboration:** Desire for greater community involvement in research and decision-making, collaboration between communities, organizations, and governments, data sovereignty, data management agreements, and concerns regarding treaty rights and self-determination.

ROUNDTABLE OUTCOMES AND NEXT STEPS

- Regional organizations and groups reported on current research and monitoring initiatives and partnerships, while panel discussions and presentation topics spanned from improving data sovereignty and self-determination to collaborative co-development approaches and community fisheries. All presentation materials are available from the Consortium's website here.
- Participants emphasized the relevance of these in-person events for promoting knowledge exchange, encouraging collaboration efforts and strengthening connections between stakeholders. Participants were encouraged to consider joining the Consortium's Steering Committee or one of its Working Groups to stay involved.
- Planning has begun for the Consortium's next event: a 2026 Summit will be scheduled for early 2026 and will include up to 250 participants committed to the Consortium's vision of protecting, improving and stewarding the greater Hudson Bay and James Bay ecosystem!

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If you are interested in joining or learning more about the Tasiujaqiuaqmiut Sheewetaganapoi Consortium Working Groups and Steering Committee, please contact: info@tsconsortium.com