

Newsletter Issue: March 2025

The Secretariat looks forward to continuing to support Indigenous-led stewardship of the Hudson Bay and James Bay marine region through the collaboration of Inuit and Cree coastal communities and their many partners.

Updates from the Secretariat

New updates for this issue:

Update 1: Secretariat Leadership Change; Director of Operations transition

- The Consortium welcomes Billy Nicoll as the new Director of Operations. Billy
 has experience working directly with organizations and partners across Nunavik,
 Eeyou Istchee, Omushkego, west Hudson Bay, Kivalliq, Nunavut, and other
 Arctic regions. His background in environmental assessments, harvester safety,
 and community-led research will support the Secretariat's ongoing efforts. Please
 join us in welcoming Billy.
- The Secretariat extends its sincere appreciation to Jackie Kidd for her dedication and significant contributions, which have been instrumental in advancing the Consortium's collective work and wishes her the best of luck in her next endeavour.

Update 2: 2025 Roundtable; Reports and Presentations

- Driven by the dedication of community experts, knowledgeable partners, and engaged participants, the 2025 Roundtable held from Feb. 25 - 27, 2025 in Montreal emphasized the power of collective marine leadership and stewardship.
- The 2025 Roundtable final report capturing community priorities, presentation summaries and graphic illustrations, is in its final stages and will soon be

available on the Consortium website and be emailed out. A summary report will also be available on our website in Inuktitut, Cree and English. All three days of presentations are available on the <u>2025 meetings page</u>.

Update 3: The Consortium's new name: Tasiujaqiuaqmiut Sheewetaganapoi Consortium.

- Launched at the 2025 Roundtable in Montreal, the Hudson Bay Consortium officially became *Tasiujaqiuaqmiut Sheewetaganapoi Consortium*.
 - *Tasiujaqiuaqmiut* means "those living in the big bay" in Inuktitut, including the flora, fauna and people as one connected ecosystem.
 - *Sheewetaganapoi* translates to "saltwater" or generally *inland sea* in Cree, specifically the saltwater region, and all that is in it, of the bays.
- The **Secretariat's email domain** will now be **@tsconsortium.com**. To ensure a smooth transition, the old emails will be forwarded.
- The website has been refreshed, and the new address is <u>www.tsconsortium.com</u>.
- The new website also includes the much-anticipated **projects map**. This is still evolving and the Secretariat is accepting projects to include.

Update 4: Emergency Response Working Group met in person

 Directly following the Roundtable meeting, Emergency Response WG members met in person and meeting minutes are available at <u>tsconsortium.com/working-group/emergency-response/</u>. For any questions about working group activities, please email <u>info@tsconsortium.com</u>.

Update 5: 2026 Summit Planning Underway

• Following the 2025 Roundtable, the Secretariat has begun planning for the 2026 Summit, which will host 250 participants and discuss all Consortium themes. To participate in this planning, we are welcoming new members to our Working Groups and Steering Committee, which meet three times a year virtually. To join any of these groups, please email <u>info@tsconsortium.com</u>.

Update 6: The Consortium's 2025 Photo Contest

 Building on last year's success, the Secretariat is preparing for the 2025 Photo Contest. Roger Lamothe of Moose Factory won 2024's photo contest with stunning community and landscape shots. Roger also provided photography services at the 2025 Roundtable in Montreal, where his photography was featured on Consortium banners. The Secretariat welcomes theme ideas and looks forward to this year's inspiring submissions.

The Secretariat is working on streamlining access to past **Working Group meeting minutes**. Currently, the most recent Working Group meeting minutes are linked on each respective WG page. Explore at <u>https://tsconsortium.com/working-groups/</u>.

Community Highlights

Learn about the inspiring work being done by your peers and how you can get involved. If your community has something to highlight, please email details to <u>info@hudsonbayconsortium.com</u> so the Secretariat can include it in the next newsletter!

From **Churchill, Manitoba,** the Churchill Marine Observatory (CMO) is at the forefront of understanding how climate change is reshaping Hudson Bay. Their research focuses on how warming temperatures and melting ice are impacting marine mammals, polar bears, and the broader Arctic ecosystem.

CMO's work provides critical insights into the future of Arctic waters, marine transportation, and environmental changes that impact both wildlife and communities that depend on the bay.

Learn more about their research: <u>umanitoba.ca/earth-observation-science/facilities-labs-vessels/churchill-marine-observatory</u>

Opportunities

The Secretariat has compiled a list of new opportunities that may be of interest to your projects. Be sure to check the deadlines and application requirements.

Funding/Grants

From the Roundtable Presentations

Opportunity 1: Indigenous Community-Based Climate Monitoring Program

- Funder: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)
- Description: Supports First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities in tracking climate change impacts, using both Indigenous Knowledge and Western science.
- Deadline: First Nations: Next intake expected Fall 2025; Inuit: Ongoing until funds are allocated.
- Link/Email: <u>CIRNAC;</u> <u>surveillanceclimat-climatemonitoring@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca</u>

Opportunity 2: Climate Change Preparedness in the North

- Funder: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)
- Description: Funds projects that increase resilience in Indigenous and Northern communities, focusing on infrastructure, safety, and food security.
- **Deadline:** No deadline; Ongoing until funds are allocated.
- Link/Email: <u>CIRNAC</u>; <u>adaptnord-northernadapt@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca</u>

Opportunity 3: First Nation Adapt Program

- Funder: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)
- Description: Supports First Nations (south of 60°) in assessing and addressing climate risks like flooding, wildfires, and drought.
- Deadline: Ongoing until funds are allocated; however, 2025-2026 funding is limited.
- Link/Email: <u>CIRNAC</u>; <u>adaptation@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca</u>

Opportunity 4: Northern Contaminants Program

Funder: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)

- Description: Funds research on long-range pollutants affecting the Arctic and Indigenous communities. Focus areas include human health, environmental monitoring, and plastic pollution.
- **Deadline:** Next intake expected Fall 2025 for projects starting Spring 2026.
- Link: <u>CIRNAC; plcn-ncp@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca</u>

Other

- Bridging Indigenous and Science-Based Knowledge (BIAS-K) Web Portal BIAS-K highlights projects and case studies across Canada that bridge multiple ways of knowing. As a learning tool, BIAS-K helps to make key information accessible from published case studies and community-led projects. BIAS-K was developed by Fisheries and Oceans Canada with the vital collaboration of Indigenous Peoples and federal colleagues. Link to website here.
- Indigenous Community-Based Climate Monitoring (ICBCM) Program
 Newsletter

From Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), join the ICBCM Program Newsletter to stay informed about Indigenous-led climate monitoring initiatives across Canada. This newsletter features funding and training opportunities, upcoming events, and resources that celebrate success stories and showcase the work of other Indigenous-led programs. To join the mailing list, email the ICBCM team at

surveillanceclimat-climatemonitoring@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca.

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