



**TASIUJAQIUQMIUT
SHEEWETAGANAPOI**
CONSORTIUM
Formerly The Hudson Bay Consortium

Newsletter

Issue: June 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

Update 1: Save the Date - 2026 Summit

- The 2026 Summit will take place February 24-26, 2026, in Ottawa, ON. Information regarding registration and programming will be shared as it is finalized.

Updates will be provided via email, this newsletter, the Consortium website, and social media (links can be found at the bottom of the newsletter).

To participate in planning, the Consortium is welcoming new members to its Working Groups and Steering Committee, which meet virtually three times per year. To join, please email info@tsconsortium.com.

Update 2: **Working Groups (WG)**

- **Communications:** Reviewing and assessing how to improve communications materials for community and youth outreach for the Consortium's 2026 Summit.
- **Emergency Response:** Secretariat drafting Terms of Reference (TOR) based on discussions and feedback to enhance and mobilize the region's emergency response. Next meeting will review the draft TOR.
- **Community-Driven Research and Monitoring:** Developing a work plan for the WG to guide its efforts. The WG will focus on the Project Map hosted on the

Consortium's website to enhance accessibility and awareness of regional projects, and will further refine its objectives and criteria for the map.

- **Indigenous Stewardship and Protected Areas Working Group:** Discussing recent developments in Indigenous Stewardship, including the new SINAA agreement. The WG is actively planning programming for the Summit to help share these developments and facilitate interconnectivity of stewardship in the region.

Detailed **Working Group Meeting Minutes** are linked on each respective WG page.

Read them at <https://tsconsortium.com/working-groups/>.

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

info@tsconsortium.com to include it in the next newsletter!

From **Sanikiluaq, NU**, Lucassie Arragutainaq, co-chair and founding member of Tasiujaquiaqmiut Sheewetaganapoi Consortium, has been honoured with the King Charles III Coronation Medal. Lucassie has spent decades advocating for Inuit knowledge, environmental protection, and community-led governance across Hudson Bay and James Bay.

This recognition reflects his profound dedication to the land, waters, and people of the region. Lucassie's leadership continues to inspire and guide the work of the Consortium and its many partners across Inuit and Cree communities. Congratulations to Lucassie!

Watch the moment Lucassie received the medal on Arctic Eider Society's [Facebook](#) page.

From the **Cree Nation of Waskaganish, QC**, students at École Wiinibekuu School are deepening their connection to the Rupert River through the Mission eDNA project. In a recent classroom visit, Noémie from Génome Québec shared results from water samples collected last fall, revealing an incredible picture of the river's biodiversity.

Using environmental DNA (eDNA) analysis, students explored which fish and land animals leave traces in their local waters. The session sparked curiosity, built scientific awareness, and grounded learning in the lands and waters students call home.

Now in its third year, this partnership between Eeyou Marine Region, Génome Québec, and the Wildlife Board continues to make science meaningful and accessible for Cree youth, laying strong foundations for future stewardship across the James Bay region.

Learn more from Génome Québec: <https://genomequebec.com/en/edna/>

From the **Cree Nation of Chisasibi**, Eeyou Istchee College of Science and Technology is the first post-secondary institution based in the region. The college offers bilingual (Cree and English) academic and continuing education programs grounded in Cree culture, language, and values. Founded in 2024 as a not-for-profit Indigenous-led institution, it focuses on science, technology, and community wellness. It marks a major step forward in Indigenous-led education and capacity-building across Eeyou Istchee.

Learn more at <https://eeyouistcheecollege.ca/>

Opportunities

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

Funding/Grants

NEW

Opportunity 1: 2025 Arctic Species Conservation Fund

- **Funder:** WWF Canada
- **Description:** Supports stewardship and research initiatives focused on wildlife and habitats in the Canadian Arctic.

- **Deadline:** No application deadline; Proposals are accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis throughout the year.
- **Link/Email:** [WWF Canada](#); Questions can be emailed to Missy MacLellan at mmaclellan@wwfcanada.org

REVISIT from previous newsletter

Opportunity 2: 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:** [CIRNAC](#); surveillanceclimat-climatemonitoring@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca

Opportunity 3: 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:** [CIRNAC](#); adaptnord-northernadapt@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca

Opportunity 4: 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:** [CIRNAC](#); adaptation@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca

Opportunity 5: 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:** [CIRNAC](#); plcn-ncp@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca

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