

Gwich'in Research Priorities Study

Gwich'in Council International is carrying out a study to identify the areas that are a priority for research among the Gwich'in nation. The outcomes of the study will be shared with international researchers, governments, and will help to shape GCI's priorities within the Arctic Council.

Please help us to identify which areas research priorities for Gwich'in by completing this survey in writing or by interview.

| 1. | Have you participated in research within your community? | 3. | How often have you been asked to participate in research? |
|----|--|----|---|
| | a. Yes | | a. Frequently - More than 3 times a year. |
| | b. No | | b. Often - Between 1-3 times a year. |
| 2. | If so, how have you participated (please circle all that apply)? | | c. Rarely - Once every couple of years. |
| | a. As a researcher. | | d. Never. |
| | a. As a researcher. | 4 | Why do you think people ask you to |
| | b. As an environmental monitoring. | 1. | participate in research? Do you have a specific skill-set that they are trying to learn |
| | c. As a community liaison. | | from? |
| | d. As an interviewee. | | |
| | e. Other (please describe): | | |
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| 5. | | verall, have your experiences participating research been: | | d. G | overnments, such as: |
|----|----|---|----|--------|--|
| | a. | Positive | | i. | Agencies, such as Environmental Protection Agency, Fish and Wildlife etc. |
| | b. | Negative | | ii. | Territory/State |
| | c. | Neutral | | iii | . Municipal |
| 6. | | ho normally asks you to participate in search (please circle all that apply)? | 7. | Are tl | here any best practices for doing |
| | a. | Gwich'in organizations, such as: | | appro | rch that you would like researchers paching you or your community to more about? |
| | | i. Renewable Resource Councils; | | | |
| | | ii. Co-Management Boards; | | | |
| | | iii. GTC/VGFN/CATG | | | |
| | | iv. Gwich'in Steering Committee | | | |
| | | v. Gwich'in Council International | | | |
| | b. | Researchers from my community, such a youth. | | | |
| | c. | Universities or colleges, including (please circle all that apply): | | | |
| | | i. University of Alaska | | | |
| | | ii. Aurora College | | | |
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| | | iii. Yukon College | | | |
| | | iv. Southern Canadian Universities | | | |
| | | v. Universities/Colleges in Lower 48 | | | |
| | | vi. International | | | |

| a good way? What sets them apart? | |
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| That are the main practical barriers for | |
| esearchers to do studies in your | |
| ommunity? (Example: people are too busy, | |
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| ot enough staff to evaluate research, cost, anslation, etc.) | |
| alistation, etc.) | |
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| | What areas do you think are most in need of research? | | Specific wildlife species (please identify which one(s)): |
|----|---|-----|---|
| a. | Caribou | | |
| b. | Migratory Birds | | |
| c. | Oil and Gas | S. | Economic Indicators |
| d. | Freshwater Quality and/or Quantity | t. | International Peace and Security/ |
| e. | Climate Change Prediction | | Geopolitics |
| f. | Climate Change Adaptation | u. | Reconciliation |
| g. | Cold Climate Technologies | V. | Meteorology |
| h. | Renewable Energy | W. | Hydrology |
| i. | Emergency Preparedness | х. | Pollutants |
| j. | Wildfires | у. | Food Security |
| k. | Solid Waste Management | z. | Health |
| 1. | Gwich'in Language and Culture | aa. | Mental Health and Addictions |
| m | . Indigenous Language Revitalization | bb. | Environmental Regulations |
| n. | Indigenous [Traditional] Knowledge | cc. | Constitutional Issues |
| 0. | Indigenous Rights | dd. | . Land Claims |
| p. | Governance | ee. | Other (please identify): |
| q. | Specific Flora or Fauna species (please identify which one(s)): | | |
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| . Are there areas that you think are being over-researched? | | r. | Specific wildlife species (please identify which one(s)): |
|---|---|-----|---|
| a. | Caribou | | |
| Ъ. | Migratory Birds | | |
| c. | Oil and Gas | s. | Economic Indicators |
| d. | Freshwater Quality and/or Quantity | t. | International Peace and Security/ |
| e. | Climate Change Prediction | | Geopolitics |
| f. | Climate Change Adaptation | u. | Reconciliation |
| g. | Cold Climate Technologies | v. | Meteorology |
| h. | Renewable Energy | W. | Hydrology |
| i. | Emergency Preparedness | х. | Pollutants |
| j. | Wildfires | y. | Food Security |
| k. | Solid Waste Management | z. | Health |
| 1. | Gwich'in Language and Culture | aa. | Mental Health and Addictions |
| m. | Indigenous Language Revitalization | bb. | Environmental Regulations |
| n. | Indigenous [Traditional] Knowledge | cc. | Constitutional Issues |
| ο. | Indigenous Rights | dd. | Land Claims |
| р. | Governance | ee. | Other (please identify): |
| q. | Specific Flora or Fauna species (please identify which one(s)): | | |
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| makers | l, do you think that the decisions in your community have access to formation they need to make | | nes your community or organization have research protocol? |
|--|---|----|--|
| | ce-based decisions? | a. | Yes |
| a. Alv | vays | b. | No |
| b. Sor | metimes | c. | I don't know |
| c. Ne | utral | | oes your community or organization have consultation protocol? |
| d. Raı | rely | | Yes |
| e. Nev | ver | b. | No |
| making | are or have been involved in decision- g in your community, are there any llar issues that come to mind where | c. | I don't know |
| you fel make a | It you did not have sufficient data to an informed decision on a policy If so, please provide details about | | yes, how do researchers get access to your search or consultation protocols? |
| what the inform | he issue was and what kind of ation you felt you needed, but did ve access to. | 1. | Online (identify website): |
| —————————————————————————————————————— | ve access to. | 2. | Through a research licensing body (please name): |
| | | 3. | When they approach the community for support. |
| | | 4. | Other (please identify): |
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| 18. How does your community decide if it wants to participate or partner in a research project? | 20. Have you heard about Gwich'in Council International? |
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| | a. Yes, clearly. |
| Formal processes, such as motions of Chief and Council or Board of Directors. | b. Yes, somewhat. |
| b. Staff of the organization approached. | c. Not really. |
| c. Individuals within the community decide for themselves. | d. No. |
| | 21. Have you heard about the Arctic Council? |
| 19. If you are involved in deciding if your community or organization should partner in research, what factors do you use to | a. Yes, clearly. |
| make your decision? | b. Yes, somewhat. |
| | c. Not really. |
| | d. No. |
| | 22. Have you ever participated in a project on behalf of GCI or in the Arctic Council? |
| | a. Yes |
| | b. No |
| | 23. How were you involved in the project? |
| | a. Interviewed |
| | b. Attended a Workshop |
| | c. Made a Presentation |
| | d. Was on the Steering Committee |
| | e. Was on an Editorial Committee |
| | f. Other: |
| | |

| 24. Did you feel that the project was connected to the needs of Gwich'in? | 26. What is the name of your community? | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| a. Extremely | | | |
| b. Somewhat | 27. What gender do you identify as? | | |
| c. Neutral | a. Female | | |
| d. Not really | b. Male | | |
| e. Not at all | c. Prefer not to say. | | |
| 25. If you answered "not really" or "not at all" | 28. How old are you? | | |
| to Question 19, what is the reason for your answer? | a. Under 18 | | |
| | b. 18-29 | | |
| | c. 30-44 | | |
| | d. 45-64 | | |
| | e. 65-79 | | |
| | f. 80+ | | |
| | g. Prefer not to say. | | |
| | 29. What is your highest level of education? | | |
| | a. Elementary School | | |
| | b. High School/GED | | |
| | c. Bachelors | | |
| | d. Masters | | |
| | e. PhD | | |
| | f. College Certificate | | |

| 30. Is there anything that has not been covered | |
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| that you would like to share? | |
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| CONSENT | |
| | noice to be part of the study or not. If you decide to be part of erview for whatever reason, even after signing the consent per 1, 2018. |
| Every effort will be made to protect your confidentiality would allow you to be identified. However, we are often | and privacy we will not use your name or any information that in identifiable through the stories we tell. |
| Do you consent to being photographed for potential incourage purposes. Please circle the appropriate response: | clusion in this report? Your image will not be used for other YES NO |
| We expect to have this study completed by December www.gwichincouncil.com . If you would like to receive the mailing address: | 2018. A summary of the results will be posted at ne summary personally, please provide either your email or |
| If you have questions or need more information about t | the study itself, please contact: |
| Executive Director, G gciadmir | ant Sullivan Gwich'in Council International n@gwichin.nt.ca 7-678-5760 |
| I,my information being used in the manner described. | , have read the above and consent to |
| my micrimation being about in the mariner accombed. | |
| Signed: | Dated: |

Background

On April 19-20, in Inuvik, NWT, Gwich'in Council International held a capacity-building workshop on Environmental Impact Assessments. One of the reoccurring themes that arose as part of the Workshop was the evaluation of the multitude of research proposals that require evaluation by local community organizations. While there were challenges expressed about the volume, as well as understanding the proposals as written by researchers who are largely unfamiliar with the communities, there was also a recognition that there is a lot of resources available to academics, including from the international community, to carry out research. Therefore, the proposal was put forth to be more proactive in identifying what areas are priorities for the communities, evaluate where there are gaps in knowledge that can be filled, and create capacity around how the communities want to engage in research.

Responding to the concerns raised at the Workshop, GCI submitted a proposal for funding, so that it could interview community members and compile the findings into a report.

Study Uses

This project will also be used by Gwich'in Council International in the following ways:

- In May 2017, the Arctic Council member states signed the *Agreement on Arctic Science Cooperation*, which facilitates increased scientific cooperation between Canada and other countries. It is anticipated that the Agreement will facilitate an increase in research in the Arctic. GCI will share the report with international researchers, organizations participating in research, and research funders to encourage them to investigate areas identified as priorities for Gwich'in.
- In October 2018, the Ministers responsible for Science from all eight Arctic states and key nations engaged in research will meet in Berlin. The report will be shared.
- GCI is a member of University of the Arctic and will share the study with universities throughout the Circumpolar region, as well a UArctic thematic networks on specific research streams.
- GCI will use the study to help to identify which Arctic Council Working Groups and projects should be prioritized for GCI involvement.
- GCI is a member of the Arctic Council Advisory Committee organized by the Government of Canada, which connects all federal departments, territorial and provincial governments, and Permanent Participants active within the Arctic Council in Canada. The report will be shared with the Committee to encourage federal, territorial, and provincial partners to align their own activities and priorities with the areas identified as priorities for research by Gwich'in.
- Other forums where GCI is asked to comment on research or policy.