

Toward Food Security in Canada's North

SUMMARY REPORT

NOVEMBER 2015



CANADA'S
PUBLIC POLICY

FORUM

DES POLITIQUES PUBLIQUES
DU CANADA

The Public Policy Forum is an independent, not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of government in Canada through enhanced dialogue among the public, private and voluntary sectors. The Forum's members, drawn from business, federal, provincial and territorial governments, the voluntary sector and organized labour, share a belief that an efficient and effective public service is important in ensuring Canada's competitiveness abroad and quality of life at home.

Established in 1987, the Forum has earned a reputation as a trusted, nonpartisan facilitator, capable of bringing together a wide range of stakeholders in productive dialogue. Its research program provides a neutral base to inform collective decision making. By promoting information sharing and greater links between governments and other sectors, the Forum helps ensure public policy in our country is dynamic, coordinated and responsive to future challenges and opportunities.

© 2015, Public Policy Forum
1405-130 Albert St.
Ottawa, ON K1P 5G4
Tel: (613) 238-7160
Fax: (613) 238-7990

www.ppforum.ca |  @ppforumca

WITH THANKS TO OUR PROJECT PARTNERS:



Aboriginal Affairs and
Northern Development Canada

Affaires autochtones et
Développement du Nord Canada



NUNAVUT
FOOD SECURITY
COALITION



PROJECT TEAM:

Darren Gilmour, Vice president
Isabelle Couture, Project lead

With assistance from:

Sara Caverley, Communications coordinator
Julia Oliveira, Project administrator
Mathias Schoemer, Multimedia officer
Winnie Wong, Project lead

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	iii
WITH THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS	iii
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	v
UNDERSTANDING THE FOOD INSECURITY CRISIS AND ITS SCOPE	1
STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS FOOD INSECURITY	2
KEY LESSONS	4
PATH FORWARD: AUTHENTIC ENGAGEMENT AND COLLABORATION	6
CONCLUSION	7
APPENDIX A – ROUNDTABLE AGENDA	8
APPENDIX B – ROUNDTABLE PARTICIPANT LISTS	9

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Food insecurity – defined as inadequate or uncertain access to an acceptable amount of quality and healthy food – has become a key concern in many countries around the world, including Canada. In 2011, an authoritative and wide-ranging expert panel set out to assess the factors that influence food insecurity in northern Canada and the health implications for Aboriginal populations in the North. The Council of Canadian Academies (CCA) released its findings in the 2014 report *Aboriginal Food Security in Northern Canada: An Assessment of the State of Knowledge*, concluding that “there is a food security crisis in northern Canada,” and that the crisis is particularly acute in some Aboriginal communities.

The food security crisis in northern Canada has become a focus of public discussion, advocacy and action at the national and regional levels. In 2013, the Government of the Northwest Territories launched its Anti-Poverty Strategy, which underlines the factors influencing food security and advances strategies to promote sustainable communities, including developing more local sources of food. Similarly, the Nunavut Food Security Coalition recently released the Nunavut Food Security Strategy and Action Plan 2014-16 following an extensive public engagement process. This new plan presents a vision, guiding principles and six strategic areas for action to address the food security crisis in the region. Provincial governments, such as the Government of Manitoba, have also established several programs to address food insecurity, and the federal government has made several investments that support regional food production.

The CCA report and regional progress present a valuable opportunity to explore promising measures to address food insecurity among Aboriginal Canadians in the North. To contribute to this pressing policy issue, Canada’s Public Policy Forum convened a series of roundtable discussions in the Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Ontario with leaders from communities, NGOs, Aboriginal organizations, and territorial, provincial and federal governments. The objective of the roundtables was to identify current successes and remaining gaps in overcoming food insecurity in northern Canada, with a particular focus on the challenges confronting Aboriginal peoples. The meeting agenda and a complete list of roundtable participants are appended to this report (Appendices A & B).

One of the main conclusions from these discussions was that food insecurity is a complex and multi-faceted issue that cannot be addressed with a single strategy. Improving food security will require tailored, but holistic approaches, and stakeholders will need to collaborate and involve those most affected in order to find long-term solutions.

Other key findings included the importance of increasing access to country food through activities such as hunting, fishing, foraging, trapping and pastoralism, as well as improving the promotion of nutrition education and the transfer of traditional skills to improve food sustainability in the North. A strong network of transportation infrastructure in northern Canada is also necessary to ensure that northern communities have access to quality nutritious food at affordable prices.

UNDERSTANDING THE FOOD INSECURITY CRISIS AND ITS SCOPE

“Food insecurity” is an outcome of inadequate or uncertain access to an acceptable amount and quality of healthy food. While there is frequent and increasing media attention on food insecurity in developing nations, hunger and malnutrition are also issues in Canada. An estimated 4 million Canadians, including 1.15 million children, live in households that struggle to afford the food they need (see sidebar for more details).¹ In 2012, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food found Canada’s rates of food insecurity to be concerning.

Considerably more acute within low-income and Aboriginal households, food insecurity is linked to negative mental health outcomes as well as obesity, chronic diseases and low educational outcomes. A 2014 report by the Council of Canadian Academies² found that while rates of food insecurity vary in Aboriginal communities across Canada, challenges are even more pronounced for northern Aboriginal peoples. The crisis is most acute in Nunavut, where 18.5% of households are severely food insecure. Nunavut has the highest documented food insecurity prevalence rate for any Indigenous population residing in a developed country in the world.³

Several factors threaten the capacity of northern communities to meet their food needs through traditional harvesting and trapping activities. Contributing factors to a serious decline in food security for Aboriginal communities in northern Canada include for example, the decline in plant and animal populations, elevated levels of certain contaminants in some country food, population increases, hunting quotas and/or restrictions, and the increasing cost of hunting equipment and transportation. The remote location of many communities and the unique climate challenges posed by the North (i.e. the harsh climate and heightened negative impacts caused by climate change) also contribute to this decline in food security.

Poverty is another compounding factor in food insecurity, as there is a strong link between low nutrition rates and low income. Market food is significantly more expensive in northern communities because of the high costs of transportation, warehousing and distribution. Low wages and high unemployment levels, as well as rising costs associated with country food also exacerbate these circumstances. In 2012, over 75% of Nunavut and Yukon households with social assistance as the main source of income, were food insecure.⁴



In 2011, 12.3% of Canadian households reported some level of food insecurity.

Food insecurity is more prevalent in

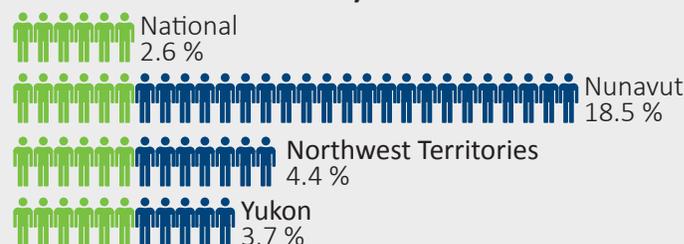
33%

low income households

27%

Aboriginal households

Rate of severe food insecurity



In 16 Aboriginal communities in the Northwest Territories, more than 90% of survey respondents reduced the size of meals, skipped meals, were hungry or ate less than they felt they should because they did not have enough money for food.



Sources:

Council of Canadian Academies. (2014). *Aboriginal Food Security in Northern Canada: An Assessment of the State of Knowledge*, pp 38-41.
Egeland, G. (2011). *IPY Inuit Health Survey speaks to need to address inadequate housing, food insecurity and nutrition transition*. *International Journal of Circumpolar Health*, 70(5), 444-446.

Issues related to low income, such as household crowding, public housing, home disrepair or single-parent households are also associated with food insecurity.

Addressing food insecurity and its compounding factors will require interventions by all levels of government and across all provincial departments. Communities, NGOs, businesses, food producers and retailers, as well as schools and food banks will also play a crucial role in improving food security across Canada.

¹ Tarasuk, V, Mitchell, A, Dachner, N. (2014). *Household Food Insecurity in Canada, 2012*. Toronto, ON.

<http://nutritionalsciences.lamp.utoronto.ca/resources/proof-annual-reports/annual-report-2012/>

² Council of Canadian Academies. (2014). *Aboriginal Food Security in Northern Canada: An Assessment of the State of Knowledge*. Ottawa, ON.

http://www.scienceadvice.ca/uploads/eng/assessments%20and%20publications%20and%20news%20releases/food%20security/foodsecurity_fullreporten.pdf

³ Egeland, G. (2011). *IPY Inuit Health Survey speaks to need to address inadequate housing, food insecurity and nutrition transition*. *International Journal of Circumpolar Health*, 70(5), 444-446. Cited in Council of Canadian Academies. (2014). *Aboriginal Food Security in Northern Canada*, page 42.

⁴ Northwest Territories data unavailable because the sample size in this jurisdiction was too small to derive reliable estimates.

STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS FOOD INSECURITY

The following section highlights some of the strategies and programs that are already in place to address food insecurity in northern Canada and the drivers associated with it, such as systemic problems of poverty.

Federal programming

A range of federal programs supplement income support (social assistance) benefits that provinces and territories provide to residents with modest or no other means of support.⁵ Since the 1960s, the Government of Canada has subsidized food in northern communities through such initiatives as the Food Mail Program, which was replaced by Nutrition North Canada (NNC) in 2011.

Improving access to perishable, nutritious food in isolated communities in the North, NNC uses a market-driven model that directly subsidizes retailers, suppliers and country-food processors who meet program requirements. These parties are then required to pass on the full amount of the subsidies to consumers. There are two levels of subsidies that reflect the perishability and nutritional value of food products, with the highest subsidies provided for perishable nutritious goods.

Other examples of federal investments in local food production:

- Inuit fisheries: In 2012, the Government of Canada announced a two-year investment of just over \$400,000 to increase the level of Inuit ownership of and participation in the offshore fishing industry in Nunavut. For example, Niqitaq Fisheries is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Baffin Fisheries Coalition, a not-for-profit Inuit organization made up of hunter and trapper organizations and businesses from the Baffin region.⁶
- Federal measures to promote northern agriculture: Announced in August 2014, these measures were designed to promote an economically viable, job-creating, commercial agricultural industry in Canada's North. New measures include support to help establish a permanent campus for the Northern Farm Training Institute (NFTI) in the Northwest Territories and the launch of the

Northern Greenhouse Initiative, which will help increase the amount of food grown locally to provide better access to fresh produce at a lower cost.⁷

- New research to support job creation in Nunavut's fisheries industry: In early 2015, the federal government announced \$7,200,641 in funding for three fisheries science and research projects in Nunavut. These projects aim to improve knowledge about fish stocks, contribute to the sustainability of the industry, and support economic opportunities and job creation in Nunavut's fisheries industry.⁸

Regional strategies and programming

At the regional level, the Nunavut Food Security Coalition launched its Food Security Strategy in early 2014. Building on the territory's earlier work, including the 2011 Makimaniq Plan that identified food security as one of the six critical elements of poverty reduction, the strategy proposes actions for six key themes of food insecurity. The areas of focus include country food, store-bought food, local-food production, life skills, programs and community initiatives, as well as policy and legislation. As Nunavut's Food Security Strategy and Action Plan is in the early stages of implementation, it is too soon to assess its effectiveness. However, given the holistic nature of the strategy and the two-year engagement undertaken to support its development, Nunavut's approach could provide valuable lessons and tools for other jurisdictions addressing food insecurity.

In June 2013, the Government of the Northwest Territories released its Anti-Poverty Strategic Framework, outlining five priority areas for focused attention and action, several of which include aspects of food security:

- "Children and Family Support" (Priority 1): The government is providing 36 school-based breakfast programs to encourage healthy eating, as well as a prenatal nutrition program focusing on education and counselling, maternal nourishment, education and support.

⁵ Federal supports include Employment Insurance, Old Age Security/Guaranteed Income Supplement, Canada Child Tax Benefit, northern tax benefits, income support for First Nations on-reserve, and housing programs.

⁶ Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency. (2012). Government of Canada Invests in Inuit-Owned Fisheries. <http://www.cannor.gc.ca/eng/1387567188224/1387567226225>

⁷ Prime Minister of Canada. (2014). PM announces measures to promote Northern agriculture. <http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2014/08/22/pm-announces-measures-promote-northern-agriculture#sthash.dCH0o7pm.dpuf>

⁸ Government of Canada. (2015). Harper Government Invests in New Research to Support Job Creation in Nunavut Fisheries Sector. <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=919539&tp=1>

- “Healthy Living and Reaching our Potential” (Priority 2): The government’s health and social service organizations have committed to work in partnership with other relevant organizations to reduce childhood obesity, increase access to healthy foods and improve food skills for families.
- “Sustainable Communities” (Priority 4): Support for a range of initiatives to sustain traditional harvesting and trapping activities and establish market gardens in northern Aboriginal communities.

In 2012, the Government of Manitoba released *All Aboard*, its four-year poverty reduction and social inclusion strategy that directs funding toward four key intervention pillars and focuses on seven priority areas including food security.⁹ Now part of this strategy, the Northern Healthy Foods Initiative (NHFI) is a community-based intervention that aims to increase access to affordable, nutritious food in northern communities through two approaches: fostering activities that improve local food accessibility and healthy food choices and supporting and engaging collaborative efforts that will increase local access to healthy food. Under this initiative, community-based organizations are delivering food security projects in northern and remote communities. In addition to regional partners, the Government of Manitoba works in partnership with the Frontier School Division to implement a plant food science and nutrition curriculum.

Other approaches to addressing food insecurity

To complement the major programs and strategies described above, both the Government of Canada and provincial and territorial governments provide other kinds of supports to address food insecurity. For example, community freezer programs can play a critical role in facilitating the storage of harvested traditional food, and communal greenhouses give local community members access to healthy, affordable food. Another example of a food safety initiative is the Northern Contaminants Program (NCP).

Since 1991, the Northern Contaminants Program (NCP) has engaged northerners and scientists in researching and monitoring long-range contaminants in the Arctic environment and food chains. The data generated by the NCP is used to assess ecosystem and human health. The findings help to determine the safety and security

of traditional country foods important to the health and traditional lifestyles of northern communities. Assessment results also inform policy, resulting in action to eliminate contaminants from long-range sources.

Other government supports include programming to promote and protect child health and well-being for at-risk families across the country. Administered through the Public Health Agency of Canada, these programs include the Canada Prenatal Nutrition Program (CPNP), the Community Action Program for Children (CAPC), and the Aboriginal Head Start in Urban and Northern Communities Program. These multi-faceted programs target vulnerable populations and aim to promote healthy pregnancy and child health by focusing on behaviours and life skills, as well as nutrition and food security. Programs typically provide education on healthy eating in a local context, access to healthy meals and snacks, as well as food supplements and collective food preparation activities.

International models

Around the world, there are many initiatives that address food insecurity and access to country food in northern regions. For example, the Arctic Council’s EALLIN project helped to maintain and develop sustainable reindeer husbandry in the Arctic. The objective of this recent project was to promote traditional ways of life, local economies and cross-generational knowledge-sharing among the approximately 70,000 Sami living in Russia, as well as the northern regions of Finland, Sweden and Norway. In Finland, all schools provide students with balanced, free meals every day, a program that accounts for 8% of all education costs. With funding from the Government of Denmark, Greenland has not only invested heavily in modernizing fishing fleets and processing plants, but also sought to strengthen markets for country foods through regulation and increasing the efficiency of processing and transportation. In Alaska, many programs, such as the Wild Game Salvage Program, promote the use of traditional/country food to overcome food insecurity challenges.

⁹ Government of Manitoba. (2015). *All Aboard: Manitoba’s Poverty Reduction and Social Inclusion Strategy*. <http://www.gov.mb.ca/allaboard/>

KEY LESSONS

Food insecurity is a complex issue that requires tailored, but holistic approaches

Participants agreed that Canadian governments and non-governmental stakeholders have made important strides in addressing food insecurity in northern Aboriginal communities through a variety of programs. While there are several examples of successful government-led initiatives, these programs might not always be the right model to improve food security in all communities. Programs need to consider the local food culture and the ways in which people manage food in their community. Local engagement is also critical to effectively promote the necessary life skills and knowledge, such as food storage, preparation, and acquisition, as well as transfer the program's ownership to communities.

Strategies and approaches that aim to address food insecurity need to be holistic. Governmental and non-governmental actors cannot look at each facet of food insecurity in isolation. Solutions must address the underlying causes of food insecurity, such as poverty and climate change. For example, the Nunavut Food Security Strategy and the Northwest Territories' Anti-Poverty Strategic Framework both reflect the link between poverty and food insecurity, as well as other contributing factors.

Increase access to traditional country food

Northern communities face many challenges in meeting their food needs through traditional harvesting and trapping activities, including population increases, climate change, decline in animal populations, hunting quotas and/or restrictions, harvesting for commercial gain (rather than subsistence), and the rising cost of hunting equipment and transportation. Recently, participation in harvesting activities and the consumption of country food have also declined in Aboriginal communities.¹⁰ This is in part due to changing norms in food-sharing practices, the increase in sedentary lifestyles, the prevalence of market-based foods, and the shift to a wage economy. Changing tastes among Aboriginal youth have also played a role in the erosion of traditional, northern diets.

Activities such as hunting, fishing, foraging, trapping and pastoralism can make significant contributions to Aboriginal communities. This is true not only in terms of meeting nutritional needs, but also in improving the health and well-being of these communities. Unfortunately, many Aboriginal peoples do not have the means to participate

fully in these activities. The increased cost of hunting and fishing, compounded with low income, limits the ability of many Aboriginal hunters to go out on the land and harvest country food. Conversely, those engaged in the wage economy may have the resources but lack the time required for harvesting activities. Generational differences also play a role in limiting the availability of country food. Although some Aboriginal youth may enjoy hunting as a hobby, many no longer view commercial hunting as a viable, sufficiently lucrative profession.

Current and future generations of hunters can help provide northern communities with sufficient food if stakeholders join forces to create a system that allows them to do so. For example, stakeholders could pool resources to provide hunting equipment to communities or allow hunters to rent equipment at a cost.

Promote nutrition education and transfer of traditional skills

Nutrition education and the transfer of traditional skills are essential components of improving food security and the overall health of northern Aboriginal peoples. Several programs already exist to facilitate the transfer of life skills and increase food literacy among northern Canadians while fostering dialogue with communities.

Increasing educational opportunities in food preparation is crucial to improving food security among Aboriginal communities. Existing programs are now incorporating life skills components to help northern communities prepare nutritious meals with store-bought food. In 2012, Nunavut's Department of Health partnered with the North West Company and Arctic Co-operatives Ltd. to launch the Core Recipe Project, which helps Nunavut residents develop cooking skills by providing simple recipe cards with step-by-step instructions. The project was well-received and is being repeated. In addition, Health Canada supports culturally-appropriate retail and community-based nutrition education initiatives through Nutrition North Canada. More specifically, these initiatives promote healthy eating by increasing knowledge and skills on the selection and preparation of healthy store-bought and country foods. Health Canada also invests in community-based programs targeting vulnerable populations to promote healthy eating and improve access to nutritious food. It is important to note that funding facilitates community directed and designed programming that addresses local priorities.

¹⁰ Council of Canadian Academies. (2014), page 75

School-led programs also contribute to food literacy and many institutions now imbed nutrition education in their curriculum. Existing programs, such as the ones offered across the Northwest Territories,¹¹ often include gardening lessons and/or food preparation courses to ensure students understand the process “from seed to garden to plate” (see sidebar for an example).

Many successful programs focus on the passing of cultural knowledge and life skills from one generation to another.¹² These collaborative community-driven projects bring together youth and elders to pass on traditional food gathering and preservation techniques. Seasonal programs can help enhance traditional life and language skills by matching students with their choice of elder instructor. These educational opportunities also encourage intergenerational dialogue, which often carries on beyond the life of the projects.

Finally, there are initiatives that support the safe consumption of country food. Since 1991, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada’s Northern Contaminants Program has informed the dietary advice provided by national and regional health authorities, particularly recommendations for northern communities dependent on marine mammals and fish as an important part of their diet. Program findings also inform policy, resulting in action to eliminate contaminants by long-range sources.

In spite of the range of successful programs and initiatives, participants acknowledged that poverty can often make skills transfer difficult. For example, some families might have the traditional skills but may not have the funds to purchase equipment for hunting or cookware to make nutritious meals.

Improve transportation and infrastructure

Transportation of nutritious food to northern locations remains a significant challenge. In fact, many remote communities lack affordable and reliable infrastructure to deliver and distribute products to residents.

While some northern communities have seasonal marine or road access, others may only be accessible by air. For example, without road access, the community of Old Crow

Northern Farm Training Institute (NFTI)

The Northern Farm Training Institute (NFTI) is an experiential school aiming to empower northerners, strengthen communities and create sustainability through local food production. NFTI focuses on economical, natural and integrated holistic food production systems. Their short workshops cover topics such as seed selection, designing and planting, food forests, marketing, food harvest and storage, as well as introductions to small animal husbandry.

Source: <http://www.nftinwt.com/>

in the Yukon relies heavily on air cargo delivery, putting the residents further at risk of food insecurity. As some airlines only service northern communities once a day, air carriers use most of their space to transport passengers, which limits the amount of food cargo. When there are large deliveries of basic products, like milk and vegetables, stocks can sell out almost immediately.

Canadian cargo airlines play a crucial role in the distribution of food in northern Canada, but the industry continues to face numerous challenges. Roundtable participants wondered whether food delivery by air could ever be sustainable since airlines do not receive government subsidies, with some companies already operating at a loss. Northern and remote communities also lack the infrastructure – such as warehouses, paved runways and larger airports – to improve and expand air operations.

A strong network of transportation infrastructure in northern Canada is necessary in order to ensure that northern communities have access to quality nutritious food at affordable prices. The establishment of such a network will require the involvement of all levels of government.

¹¹ Government of the Northwest Territories. (2014). Growing Forward 2 – Canada/Northwest Territories: A Summary Report of the Small Scale Foods Program 2013/14. <http://www.iti.gov.nt.ca/programs-services/growing-forward>

¹² For example, the Piqqusilirivvik cultural school in Clyde River that is dedicated to enabling the transfer of traditional culture and knowledge, taught in the Inuit language and based on the guiding principles of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

PATH FORWARD: AUTHENTIC ENGAGEMENT AND COLLABORATION

Food insecurity in Canada's North has reached critical proportions, yet the tools, approaches and leadership exist to address this crisis. Participants agreed that food insecurity will not be resolved in the long term without increased engagement among stakeholders. Canadian governments, northern communities, NGOs and the private sector must join forces and collaborate in order to develop sustainable solutions. Community support is also essential if programs and initiatives are to succeed. Cited here as an example that other constituencies might usefully adapt, the experience and achievements of the Nunavut Food Security Coalition serve as a model of sustained engagement.

Emerging from the public engagement process for poverty reduction co-sponsored by the Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.¹³ in 2010-2011, the coalition functions as a task group of the Nunavut Roundtable for Poverty Reduction, which oversees *The Makimaniq Plan: A Shared Approach to Poverty Reduction* (2011). During the public engagement process that led to Nunavut's poverty reduction strategy, there was a call for "those in leadership roles that deal with food security to work together for the benefit of Nunavummiut."

With *The Makimaniq Plan* as the foundation, the roundtable established the coalition with a mandate to prepare a territorial action plan on food security. All actors committed to combating food insecurity were invited to contribute, such as territorial government departments, Inuit organizations, NGOs, and the private sector. The coalition is co-chaired by the government and NTI. The *Nunavut Food Security Strategy and Action Plan 2014-2016* was drafted in 2013 and approved by the Nunavut Roundtable for Poverty Reduction at its gathering in June. By housing the strategy within the roundtable, the government and NTI appropriately demonstrated that the issues of food insecurity and poverty are interconnected and that collaboration is essential to progress.

The coalition's food security strategy identified the following six themes and actions for each:

1. Country food: Ensure that country food is accessible as needed, explore sustainable commercialization, improve community-based infrastructure and encourage country-food harvesting and consumption.
2. Store-bought food: Promote healthy eating, monitor prices, explore initiatives to reduce the cost and increase the availability and nutritional value of store-bought food.
3. Local-food production: Promote innovation by supporting research and local projects, understand the viability of local production and empower locals.
4. Life skills: Expand the network of experts and educators to improve skills transfer through both formal and informal learning environments, share and distribute learning resources, provide training and encouragement and make life-skills programming available to broader audiences, with a specific focus on marginalized communities.
5. Programs and community initiatives: Enhance school nutrition programs, support community-based volunteers and networks and promote formation and continuation of community-based programs.
6. Policy and legislation: Support legislation and regulations that enhance food security, assess existing programs, including income assistance, and explore measures that will protect and promote traditional livelihoods.

Thanks to strong and collaborative leadership, the Nunavut Food Security Coalition has already demonstrated the value of creating an inclusive space that fosters a common agenda and a devoted administrative arm to manage its work. Collaboration may not always be easy or straightforward, but the coalition's terms of reference have been set, and it is now committing itself to communicating its work to communities and elected leaders. The coalition is also committed to establishing durable consensus on the most promising avenues to address food insecurity. Through its practices and vision, the coalition holds the promise of long-term positive social impact on issues related to health and food insecurity.

¹³ Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI), represents the beneficiaries of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NCLA).

CONCLUSION

Food insecurity is a complex, multi-faceted issue that requires tailored, holistic approaches rather than a single strategy. In order to find long-term solutions, all organizations, governments and government departments must not only collaborate, but must also engage communities to ensure that the people most affected are directly involved in finding solutions to solve food insecurity in the North.

This report highlights the work of one regional coalition. As regional coalitions and information networks increase in number and quality, a national food strategy will likely become more feasible.



APPENDIX A - ROUNDTABLE AGENDA

Food insecurity in northern Canada

AGENDA

- 5:00 p.m. Arrival**
- 5:15 p.m. Welcome and introductions**
Darren Gilmour, Vice-President, Public Policy Forum
- 6:00 p.m. Moderated discussion**
1. What lessons can be learned from the implementation of recent northern strategies to address food security such as the Nunavut Food Security Strategy and the NWT Anti-poverty Strategy?
 - a) What initiatives have proven most successful?
 - b) What gaps remain to be addressed?
 - c) Are there proposals/initiatives that governments/private sector/non-profits should be considering to address the problem?
 2. What should be the key areas of focus in aligning future collaboration?
- 7:30 p.m. Adjourn**

APPENDIX B - ROUNDTABLE PARTICIPANT LISTS

Yellowknife participant list

Moderator: **Darren Gilmour**
Vice-President
Public Policy Forum

Speaker: **André Corriveau**
Chief Public Health Officer, Department of Health and Social Services
Government of the Northwest Territories

Ethel Blake
Manager, Health Promotions, Aboriginal Health and Community Wellness, Office of the Chief Public Health Officer
Department of Health and Social Services

Sabrina Broadhead
Director Aboriginal Health and Community Wellness,
Department of Health and Social Services
Government of the Northwest Territories

Isabelle Couture
Project Lead
Public Policy Forum

Elsie De Roose
Territorial Nutritionist
Department of Health and Social Services

Paul Doolan
Director, Aboriginal and Northern Affairs, Program Planning & Development
Government of Manitoba

Marie Doyle
Regional Executive
Health Canada, Northern Region

Tina Gargan
Hamlet of Fort Providence

Paula Hadden-Jokiel
Director, Operations, First Nations and Inuit Health Branch
Health Canada

Barb Hood
Executive Director
NWT Seniors Society

Caroline Johnson
Chief Executive Officer
Centre for Northern Families

Kami Kandola
Deputy Chief Public Health Officer, Department of Health and Social Services
Government of the Northwest Territories

Fariba Kolahdooz
Senior Research Associate
Aboriginal and Global Health Research Group

James Lawrence
Director, Governance and Partnerships, NWT Region,
Northern Affairs Organization
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada,
NWT Region

Jessie Mackenzie
2013-2015 Jane Glassco Northern Fellow
Walter & Duncan Gordon Foundation

Carole Mills
Program Manager
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada,
NWT Region

Jackie Milne
President
Northern Farm Training Institute

Mohammed Mosli
Department of Health and Social Services

Mark Needham
Member of Board of Directors
Arctic Co-operatives Limited

Shawn Pegg
Director of Policy and Research
Food Banks Canada

Laura Seddon
Director Population Health, Department of Health and Social Services
Government of the Northwest Territories

Mabel Wong
Health Promotion Specialist
Department of Health and Social Service

APPENDIX B - ROUNDTABLE PARTICIPANT LISTS

Iqaluit participant list

Sharon Angnakak

Community Wellness Coordinator
Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.

Lilianne Arsenault

Contaminants Specialist
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Sue Ball

Chair Member
Arviat Wellness Centre

Margaux Brisco

Team Leader, Public Health Capacity and Knowledge
Management
Public Health Agency of Canada, Regional Operations,
Northern Unit, Iqaluit Office

Isabelle Couture

Project Lead
Public Policy Forum

Maggie Crump

Master's Student
Carleton University

Jacklyn Eaton

Project Management Assistant
Qikitaaluk Corporation

Shylah Elliott

Healthy Policy Analyst
Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.

Jo-Anne Falkiner

Director, Policy and Planning
Department of Environment

Napatsi Folger

Senior Policy Analyst
Department of Education

Darren Gilmour

Vice President
Public Policy Forum

William Hyndman

Executive Director
Project Nunavut

Katie Kemp

Senior Analyst, Program Reform
Department of Family Services

Ceporah Kilabuk

Intergovernmental Affairs Officer
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Allison MacRury

Territorial Nutritionist
Department of Health

Jennell Majeran

Manager, Northern Healthy Foods Initiative, Manitoba
Aboriginal and Northern Affairs
Government of Manitoba

Ryan Mazan

Director, Nunavut Bureau of Statistics
Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs

Ed McKenna

Director
Department of Economic Development and Transportation

Natan Obed

Director, Social and Cultural Development
Nunavut Tunngavik Inc

Service Opare

Manager, Evaluation
Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs

Dan Page

Manager, Adult Basic Education Nunavut
Arctic College

Leesee Papatsie

Founder
Feeding My Family

Brian Pirie

Logistics Coordinator
Department of Environment

Derek Reimer

Director, Business Development
The North West Company Inc

Mads Sandbakken

Senior Policy Analyst
Department of Finance

APPENDIX B - ROUNDTABLE PARTICIPANT LISTS

Bethany Scott

Senior Policy Analyst
Qikiqtani Inuit Association

Sara Statham

Territorial Food Security Coordinator
Department of Health

Adam Tanuyak-Anderson

Community Development Officer
Qikiqtani Inuit Association

Jenny Tierney

Senior Policy Analyst
Department of Family Services

Jason Tologanak

Director, Social and Cultural Development
Kitikmeot Inuit Association

Lindsay Turner

Acting Director, Poverty Reduction Division
Department of Family Services

Ilse VanWinssen

Policy Analyst
Nunavut Housing Corporation

David Wilman

Executive Director
Tukisigiarvik Society

Duane Wilson

Vice President, Merchandising and Logistics
Arctic Cooperatives Ltd.

APPENDIX B - ROUNDTABLE PARTICIPANT LISTS

Ottawa participant list

Janet Bax

Interim President
Council of Canadian Academies

Caitlin Cottrell-Lingenfelter

Director, Health & Social Programs
Vuntut Gwitchin Government

Isabelle Couture

Project Lead
Public Policy Forum

Katie-Sue Derejko

Senior policy analyst - public health
Assembly of First Nations

Lori Duncan

Director, Health and Social
Council of Yukon First Nations

Paul Fieldhouse

Nutrition Research and Policy Analyst, Northern Healthy
Foods Initiative
Government of Manitoba

Darren Gilmour

Vice President
Public Policy Forum

Krista Henriksen

Director, Strategic Policy and Integration Directorate,
Northern Affairs Organization
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Elana Nightingale

Acting Manager, Socio-Economic Development
Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada

Philippe Ozga

Senior Manager of Government Relations
Food Banks Canada

Joanna Petrasek Macdonald

McGill University

Shawn Pegg

Director of Policy and Research
Food Banks Canada

Alexandra Pontbriand

Vice President, Finance
First Air

Amanda Sheedy

Director of Development and Engagement
Food Secure Canada

Sara Statham

Territorial Food Security Coordinator, Department of
Health
Government of Nunavut

Lindsay Turner

Acting Director, Poverty Reduction Division, Department of
Family Services
Government of Nunavut

Stephen Van Dine

Assistant Deputy Minister, Northern Affairs Organization
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

Sonia Wesche

Assistant Professor
University of Ottawa

Fiona Yeudall

Director, Centre for Studies in Food Security
Ryerson University



CANADA'S
PUBLIC POLICY

FORUM

DES POLITIQUES PUBLIQUES
DU CANADA