



Foxe Basin Kivalliq North Sapujyit/Guardians of the Sea Society

.....

Community Tour 2022-2023 Report

Chesterfield Inlet, Coral Harbour, Naujaat, Kivalliq, Nunavut



Meeting with the Arviq HTO and Naujaat Hamlet Council in November 2022.

Chelsi McNeill-Jewer, B.Sc., PhD
Sarah Newell, B.H.Sc., M.Sc., PhD



Purpose

This report reports on Sapujiyit Society's first Community Tour to each of our participating communities. At each community, we held an open house, and had a meeting with the Hunters and Trappers Organization and the Hamlet Council.

.....

Who are we

The Foxe Basin Kivalliq North Sapujiyit/Guardians of the Sea Society is an Inuit-led organization that serves the interests of the communities of Chesterfield Inlet, Coral Harbour, and Naujaat. We are focused on our three pillars: 1) our Guardians program, which includes Search and Rescue and environmental monitoring; 2) our Research program, which uses a community-based interdisciplinary approach to focus our research questions on community concerns; and 3) our Youth and Elders Capacity Sharing program, to preserve elder and hunter Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit through increased engagement between community members and combining Inuit and southern methods to support youth research leadership.





Main Activities

The goal of the first community tour was to officially introduce the goals and mandates of the Sapujiyit Society as well as the current members to the communities we represent. In November 2022, we traveled to Naujaat, Nunavut to meet with the Hamlet Council and the Arviq Hunters and Trappers Organization. Members of the Arviq HTO and Naujaat Hamlet Council welcomed us and discussed their concerns and how Sapujiyit Society and our Guardians will be able to work with the community. For example, Naujaat community members can collaborate with the Sapujiyit Society on efforts to make traveling on the ice safer, keeping the water clean through garbage removal, and monitoring narwhal health. Due to weather delays the rest of the community tour was postponed to the new year.

In January 2023, the Sapujiyit Society core team traveled to Coral Harbour, Nunavut to meet with their Hamlet Council and the Aiviit Hunters and Trappers Organization. Next they traveled to Chesterfield Inlet to meet with their Hamlet council and the Aqigiq Hunters and Trappers Organization.

We hope to repeat these community tours on a regular basis. This will ensure that the research conducted by the Sapujiyit Society reflects the concerns of each community as a whole and to check in with their members regarding the direction of the Society. Our community tour officially launches our Society and deepens our relationship with community leadership to better collaborate moving forward. We look forward to our next opportunity to visit with each community.

.....

“We are worried about the condition of the ice. The ice is different today than it used to be. I wish children and young people could be more prepared for survival in case the ice breaks.”

.....



Key Outcomes for each community

Naujaat

- Protecting narwhal health and migration routes
 - Concerns about garbage on the land and in communities
 - Support for hunters and youth going out alone
 - Protocol needed for emergencies occurring between communities
 - Youth job opportunities and engagement with the Sapuujivit Society
-

Coral Harbour

- Opportunities for youth needs to include recent graduates
 - Shipping routes between Southampton and Coates Island
 - Keeping hunters traveling alone safe
 - Protecting walrus harvesting and health
 - Need to train young people in survival and navigation skills
-

Chesterfield Inlet

- Jobs and opportunities for young people in the community
 - Noise of ships docking in the harbour for transfer to Baker Lake
 - Measures put in place to support search and rescue
 - Mining promised benefits to the community but not delivering
 - Potential impacts of oil spills and need for clean up training
-



Next Steps

We will be hosting our Annual General Meeting in May 2023 in one of our incorporated communities. Members from the other two communities will be invited to attend online to ensure everyone is included. At this meeting we will present our annual report summarizing the work that has been completed since our incorporation as a society in November 2021.

In January 2023, the Sapujiyit Society hired 4 Guardians in each community who have been attending training sessions and are excited to work for us and for their communities. They are going to be spending their time on the land: monitoring shipping, climate change, and marine mammals; responding to search and rescue calls in collaboration with community committees; and keeping the water and land clean and safe for other community members.

Our research team is working to translate the community concerns discussed in the community meeting and Youth and Elder workshop in January 2023 into monitoring guides for the Guardians. We look forward to discussing the guides in more detail with communities as we develop them. Please reach out to research@sapujiyit.org with your concerns or interests for research in your community.





Thank you!

We would like to thank everyone who we met at each communities' HTO, Hamlet Council and community meetings!

Chesterfield Inlet	Coral Harbour	Naujaat
Shannon Naitok	Willie Nakoolak	Alan Robinson
Karen Aggark	Jordan Emiktowt	Mary Tuktudjuk
Janice Aggark	Moses Nakoolak	Asina Angotingoar
Gaetano Scala	Leonie Duffy	Michel Akkuadjuk
Yvonne Bedford	Lucassie Nakoolak	Theresa Tagornak
Mary-Anne Issaluk	Doris Bruce	Donat Milortok
Tony Amauyak	Danny Pee	Peter Mannik
John Ivey	Darryl Nakoolak	Joseph Mapsalak
Patrick Putulik	Darcy Nakoolak	Mark Tegumiar
Harry Aggark	Kidlapik Nakoolak	Paul Angutetuar
Eddie Kadluk		Annie Angotialuk
		Sarah Kidlapik
		John-Ell Tinashlu
		Levi Katokra

.....

For more information, visit us at:

sapujiyit.org

.....