

A topographic map of a coastal region, likely in the Arctic, showing elevation contours, water bodies, and numerous place names in Inuktitut. The map is overlaid with a grid. Several areas are highlighted with orange outlines, and some are numbered. The text is centered over the map.

Report on the Place Names Workshop February 14-15, 2002

Inuit Heritage Trust Incorporated

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We have a very big job to do in Nunavut and you (IHT) have a very important job to do in Nunavut. This Place Names Workshop is one of the most important workshops that's occurring in Nunavut.

Peter Irniq, Commissioner for Nunavut

What's so important about place names?

Because we have a lot of work to do, everybody has a lot of work to do, very important work to do and I consider this place names initiative very very important because it's part of us, place names are very important to us.

Mark Kalluak

The official naming system for features on the land on current topographic maps in Nunavut illustrates a history of European exploration of the territory, rather than the history of the Inuit who have occupied the lands for thousands of years. Frobisher Bay, for example, is named for man of questionable reputation who originally sailed to the area in search of a Northwest Passage. Davis Strait, Baffin Island, McClintock Channel, Beechey Island – these are all names for geographic features that tell something about the people who came to the Arctic from Europe. The “footprints” of these explorers and their supporters dot Nunavut’s topographic maps. Unfortunately, the presence of Inuit on the land now called Nunavut, through their names for places maps, is almost non-existent.

The Inuit Heritage Trust would like to see traditional Inuit names for places on the land to be added to Nunavut maps.

As is well known by Inuit, there are thousands of names for geographical features for the land. There are traditional names for wherever people traveled, hunted, and spent time on the land. The traditional names for places illustrate a rich history of land use and occupation in Nunavut. The names are descriptive of the places, offer information about the animals that could be hunted there, the hazards of thin ice, safe or dangerous harbours, nesting sites, the availability of fresh water or plants or berries. In short, the traditional names for places provide a kind of inventory of the land, providing information about key Inuit knowledge of the land. Many of these traditional names, however, are known only to a few elders in each community.

When I look at Rankin Inlet, I look at the islands ... I take a look at Buttress Islands. Inuit call this Tulukkaat. Who named Buttress that he was so important to take the name of that particular Tulukkaat and replace it with this English name, Buttress or Barrier Islands... so we have to make a lot of changes to these names as we go along.

Peter Irniq

Of the many changes Inuit experienced in the latter half of the 20th century, one is the transmission of knowledge from one generation to the next. The traditional names Inuit

have for places are in danger of being forgotten. There is an urgent need for these place names to be not only recorded but also to be placed on maps in order that current and future generations may continue to use the names and benefit from the knowledge of the Elders.

I came across one name and it's written, Imaqtuuq, a place, a lake that has lots of water that's what it means, Imaqtuuq. It's a place where I used to go to with my parents as a little kid and one of the things that I noticed when I went up there a few years ago. On the north side there's a big cliff that I remember that I used to look at. I used to wonder, "jeez, that's a very high cliff." So I went to see a couple of people in Naujaat, the mayor and couple of other elders that know the area very well and you know what it is? It's called, "Imnaqtuuq" place with big cliffs. The mapmaker or whoever that was came to town and said, "Oh it must be Imaqtuuq, so we'll call it Imaqtuuq." So it's really Imnaqtuuq comes from the word Imnaaruq, a place of big cliff. It is extremely important that we start writing those names down extremely accurately. I cannot emphasize that word, "accurately", enough because ... everyone of those names means something...
Peter Irniq

Inuit Heritage Trust Incorporated

The Inuit Heritage Trust is an organization created in 1994 under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, Articles 33 & 34, to represent Inuit interests in issues that deal with archaeology, ethnographic objects and archival materials. The Trust is also the only organization under the Land Claim that has responsibilities in the area of traditional place names.

Staff of the Inuit Heritage Trust receive their direction from four Trustees, or Board members. One Trustee is nominated by each of the three Regional Inuit Associations, the fourth by Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. The Trustees are:

President, Luke Suluk (Arviat)
Vice President, Louie Kamookak (as of June 2002)
Secretary/Treasurer, Vivienne Aleekke Aknavigak (Cambridge Bay)
Member, Appitaq Ennuaraq (Pond Inlet)

Inuit Heritage Trust staff include:

Executive Director, Archie Angnakak
Office Assistant, Sheila Oolayou
Project Manager, William Beveridge
Heritage Manager, Lynn Peplinski

Purpose of the Workshop

Each of those place names and landscapes have a meaning, they have a definition just like our personal names. Each one of our personal names has a definition and it must be spelled accurately. Place names identify we Inuit about our origins.

Peter Irniq

Goals

- Come to a clear understanding of the process, in Nunavut, to make place names changes.
- Decide on an action plan for proceeding with a place names program - identify the most efficient and effective way

Objectives

- Discuss the process that is needed for communities to approve and recommend names changes
- Decide how all parties can cooperate and work together (sharing existing information, in-kind support, financial, etc.)

- Recognize the peoples' priority (After extensive community surveys leading up to a Traditional Knowledge Workshop in 1998, the Nunavut Social Development Council published a report of priorities for research and preservation of traditional knowledge; recording and sharing traditional place names figured as a priority). Also, focus should not be so much on getting information before it's too late, but on developing mechanisms for its continued transmission.
- Figure out how to make use of the research that has already been done

1. Place Naming In Canada's North – A Chronology

(With notes from a presentation given by Randy Freeman, former GNWT Toponymist)

Origin Of Names On Current Maps

Over the course of several hundred years many sailing ships made their way into Arctic waters. The sailors on those ships gave names to the various places they traveled to without speaking with the people who lived there. In fact, the sailors often had very little contact with the people who lived there. They would sail along and they would assign what they thought were good names to places. The names were then put on their charts and updated over the years. Over many years, features on maps of northern Canada were given names that were wrong - wrong according to the people who lived there.

I also very briefly want to point out that I appreciate the people that came up here to work with Inuit [in the very early days when non-Inuit began to come up here]. Of course they had a very hard time understanding each other... Really understanding what's in another's mind. I think if I were in their position, coming from another place, another continent, and having to deal with so many new things would, to me, be very difficult. Mark Kalluak

The Geographic Names Board of Canada

In 1897, the Government of Canada set up a committee, the Geographic Names Board of Canada, to ensure that everyone use the same name for the same geographic features. This committee's main duty was to give official approvals for names.

The names obtained by the Geographic Names Board came primarily from old charts made by sea captains and other old maps. The Board gathered all the names they could, beginning in 1897, and made them official.

Over time, people began to recognize that many of the names assigned to places were not correct. A process was then developed to allow names changes to occur. This took place in the 1910s and 1920s. Rules were developed that often precluded traditional names being able to appear on maps because the names were too long, or difficult to pronounce. Generics (Mingo Lake, Sylvia Grinnell River) were also added to names on the maps to better describe the features and make them more useful to the people using the maps.

However, such generics added to Inuktitut place names are unnecessary, for example “Kuukjuaq River” translates into “Big River River”.

The Geographic Names Board also had a list of Canadian soldiers killed during the First and Second World Wars. When the map makers were making maps and needed names for places, they would pick a name from the list – rather than go to the people who lived in the area to ask them if the place had a name. Names also came from geologists or archaeologists or anthropologists who worked in the field and assigned their own names to “unnamed” locations and sent them in to the Geographic Names Board.

Place Naming Becomes A Territorial Responsibility

By 1961, the federal government devolved responsibility for place naming to the provinces. But not in the territories. Federal control over naming geographical features in the territories, without consultation with local inhabitants, continued into the 1980s. Finally, in 1984, the Canadian Government agreed to transfer the responsibility for naming places to the territories.

I was thinking about place names and how we're using them now and how we used to back then. Back then it was a means for survival to know our place names... I find it quite ironic now that we're using place names as a means for survival for our language and our culture rather than it just being as a matter of our [physical] survival.

Lori Idlout

The Government of the Northwest Territories hires a Toponymist

Randy Freeman was hired by the GNWT in 1985 to set up a Toponymy Program out of Yellowknife. While other jurisdictions (Ontario and Quebec) hired twenty or thirty staff to accomplish the task of recording and making place names changes official, the GNWT hired one individual only. Over the period of eleven years the Toponymy Program put over a million dollars into contributions for place names projects in the NWT.

The lack of staffing support in the Toponymy office meant that the program fell short in giving official recognition of the names collected under the contribution program. Over a ten-year period between fifteen and twenty thousand names were sent into the Toponymy office. There were names given approval; for example, there were hundreds of names in the Kugaaruk and Taloyoak areas as well as in the Igloodik area. There were other little pockets in Nunavut where names were given approval but these do not yet appear on Nunavut maps because the Canadian government has not renewed editions of the old maps. The amount of time between printings of new maps can be fifteen or twenty years or more.

Technology Advances Bring Changes To The Production Of Maps

The technology now exists to produce maps in a more timely manner – a manner that will make it increasingly possible for the public to have access to maps with “new” names; that is, old traditional names now made official. The federal government is currently working on a huge map server database that will be able to show names on maps that

come up on computer screen. This database will be accessible soon through the Internet and will also be able to show up to date information about official names changes.

I also want to say that I wish these were taught in the classrooms of Nunavut because they are really important and I'll tell you why. Not too long ago, I met with a fellow and his family fishing up in Nattiligaarjuk where I used to live. I said to him, "What's the name of this, you know the name of this?" I knew what it meant, "Do you know that particular landscape over there?" and he said, "We don't think about the names anymore. With our GPS we don't even think about them." So I thought to myself, "Hmmm, that's something interesting." ... Don't always depend on GPS. Know the names of those landscapes ... what we must do is to make sure that we pass them on to the next generation of young people in Nunavut.
Peter Irniq

Toponymy Department, Government of Nunavut (GN) Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth (CLEY)

CLEY has hired a Toponymist to oversee the Toponymy Program for the GN. The field work has to be done by people who live in the communities, who know the language, who know the land, and can talk to the elders and hunters, can work on maps, can record the information, and get the names spelled correctly. The role of the Toponymist will be to receive the information and put the names through the process to make the names official.

According to the Canadian government, official place names are the only names that can appear on federal government-produced maps and appear in federal documents.

[Talk of GPS] ... really brought in more thoughts to my mind because looking at the way Inuit prepared themselves in the past when they went hunting... they always brought extra stuff...[sometimes] the wife would prepare some of the things that she thinks might be needed when the man, when he's on the land gets into trouble or hardship. Like extra caribou mitts or extra kamiks...I think using GPS as an example is something that we should think about very seriously because it's making us... not concentrate on place names anymore. Knowing the land and landscapes, lakes and rivers and what the names derive from makes us more proud when you're out somewhere and you want to report to someone exactly where you are... I think it really puts more pride into Inuit and the fact that you're not only depending on modern technology. I'm not against [technology] at all ... I think we should be careful not to, just because we have it, do away with our knowledge... We need to encourage ourselves to really hold on to what we already know and not just to discard it just because we're in a new age.
Mark Kalluak

2. Making Place Names Changes in Greenland and in Quebec: Learning from our Neighbours

(with notes from a presentation by Chris Douglas, Language Commission)

Place names issues are language issues – and whenever languages come together, politics play a role. When Europeans first came north, the first thing they did, even before they started trading with people in the “new world” was assign names to the places they traveled to. This was a powerful act because they weren’t just giving pretty names to areas; they were assuming ownership over the areas they named. This pattern repeated itself, not just in North America but also in many other places around the world. When the English came to Ireland, they imposed their names there; it happened in Africa, in Australia and in many other places.

The naming process highlights the question of who gets to decide what the name of a place is going to be. While making names changes can clearly be done at the territorial level, difficulties will be encountered when trying to get Nunavummiut to speak with a single voice. There are many dialects in Nunavut, sometimes more than one dialect in the same community. For example, the way Kitikmeot is spelled does not accurately reflect the Inuktitut language; but trying to talk about changing the spelling might raise disagreements among people who are living in those communities.

Names Changes A Political Issue

The Workshop folders contain a National Post article (see Appendix C) about making place names changes in South Africa. The title reads: Wiping Clean Reminders Of The Apartheid Era: South Africa Changes Place Names From Its Racist Past. The provocative headline clearly indicates the tension in a sensitive political issue. Inevitably politics play a big role in names changes. When the name Frobisher Bay was officially changed to Iqaluit, there was concern not only in the north but elsewhere that this name change was wiping out a piece of history. This concern will arise again and again as names changes are suggested and made.

Making Names Changes In Greenland

Shortly after the home rule government was set up, a decision was made that place names in Greenland should be in Kallaalisuut – unless a very good argument could be made for them to remain in Danish. The place names commission in Greenland, called the Nunait Aqqinik Alajanngisagtuti is made up of members with a four-year term appointed by the Home Rule government. The commission recommends the official approval of place names; up until now they have approved twenty six thousand place names changes.

The approach for making names changes, and to language in general, in Greenland, is very centralized. Though there are allowances for municipal governments to decide names within their boundaries, the Nunait Aqqinik Alajanngisagtuti decides on all other names changes. The names commission also decides on the spelling of all place names according to the Nuuk dialect. Once names changes are approved, the information is sent to the map and land registry office in Copenhagen, where adjustments are made to the Greenland map.

While Greenland's very centralized approach may not work well in Nunavut, it is worthwhile noting the changes have been accomplished very quickly. Danish place names, that were once the norm, are now rare on the map of Greenland.

The Quebec Experience

A big difference in the processing of official names changes in Quebec and in Greenland is that there is less of an emphasis in Quebec on language. In Quebec, there appears to be more of an emphasis on historical names of places. That is to say that if an area has been predominantly English for centuries, then keeping the English names is not disputed. By the same token, all community names in Nunavik have been changed from the English or French to reflect the historical presence of the Inuit or other cultural groups that have long occupied the northern regions of the province.

Commission Toponymique du Quebec

The place names commission in Quebec, the commission Toponymique Du Quebec, reviews all place name change recommendations. In the 1980s, this commission had over forty staff, a clear indication of the importance placed on history and culture in Quebec. The commission has set up place names committees in communities throughout Quebec, an acknowledgement that local people are the "experts" when naming features on the land near where they live. The local committees' responsibility is to carry out the fieldwork and make their recommendations to the Commission Toponymique who coordinate the work of the individual committees.

The Commission Toponymique provides guidelines for local place names committees to follow, such as rules for spelling and a provision that only one official name be given for each place – a controversial issue when there has been extensive historical contact between Cree, Inuit and French or English speakers. The language commission has also made efforts to standardize some of the terminology that is used for such features as roads, highways, islands, parks, waterfalls and so on.

3. Language Issues

(with notes from a presentation by Language Commissioner, Eva Ariak)

Place names are a language issue. When dealing with the final product, putting names on maps, much effort will have to go into using a correct writing system, deciding on the use of syllabics or roman orthography, as well as dealing with existing, but misspelled place names and so on.

A language commission was struck in the early 1970s. This language commission, after traveling to communities to consult with a large number of Inuit, came up with what is now called the ICI standardized writing system – in both roman orthography and syllabics. Since this system has a set of rules that can apply to any dialect, place names from any part of Nunavut can be correctly written down.

Suggestion action

- Field workers who work with elders to record place names should be skilled in the ICI writing system in roman orthography and syllabics as well.

In addition, proofing and editing is a critical part of recording place names for maps; it will be important to have a number of proof-readers knowledgeable in the ICI standardized writing system, to review all place names submissions.

Suggested action

- A list of qualified, interested individuals should be written up. Several proofreaders, knowledgeable in the applicable dialect, will be needed to review the names information on the maps.

Another issue that will need attention is areas where there are overlapping names for places:

As we all know with the differences of dialect, a person from Baker Lake may say something slightly differently than a person from Arviat, say “juaq”, while Baker Lake people say “tuaq”. We have to somehow get the communities to agree on how we are going to get the final place names terms.

Luke Suluk

Suggested action

- A note should appear on the maps, when they are produced, that indicates which dialect the place names are written in. In the case where a geographic feature has more than one name, perhaps some provision could be made for the multiple names to appear on the map sheet.

4. Making Names Changes In Nunavut

I just want to use one example. I bought a book one time written by Winnifred Marsh and on the cover it read, "People of the Willows". Because in Inuktitut we have "palliq" which is dry wood, and we also have the people that live around the Magoose lake outlet river system... Paalliq, I think that's where Paallirmiut derives from. I wonder if maybe that's what she meant. Paallirmiut, instead of dry wood. Of course, up to this day, I think that's what she was trying to portray, People who Live at the River Outlet. That's what they're called, Paallirmiut.

Mark Kalluak

The Government of Nunavut (GN) has the authority to make official names changes in Nunavut in consultation with the Inuit Heritage Trust as defined under Article 33, part 9.

Nunavut Land Claims Agreement

Article 33 Part 9: Place Names

33.9.2 The Inuit of the NSA have traditionally referred to various locations, geographic features and landmarks by their traditional Inuit place names. The official names of such places shall be reviewed by the Trust and may be changed to traditional Inuit place names in accordance with the process described in section 33.9.2.

33.9.3 The process for review of place names within the NSA shall be comparable to that set out in the Territorial Government directive 17.03 on geographical and community names, dated may 28, 1990, subject to the requirement that the Trust be consulted on any place names decisions.

The Inuit Heritage Trust's obligation under the land claim, therefore, is to develop a process to review traditional Inuit place names of the Nunavut settlement area, following and comparable to the process set out in the Territorial Government directive.

Work On A New GN Place Names Policy

The government of Nunavut is currently developing a place names policy to replace the territorial government directive 17.03. An interim policy, largely unchanged from the government directive may be found in Appendix D. Workshop participants discussed changes that should be included when CLEY develops its new Toponymy policy. Some of the particular comments received include:

- Avoid the use of generics. Words such as "lake, river, point, island" currently added to Inuktitut place names are not appropriate. In many instances, the Inuktitut names for places will contain this information already. Adding an English generic is redundant. For example Qikiqtarjuaq Island could be translated as "Big Island Island".

- Recognition should be given to the fact that many place names are not tied directly to permanent geographical features. That is, there are many named seasonal features associated with ice that have names that should be recorded. Polynias, for example - places where the water does not freeze during winter, and other features as well.
- Names for places should follow accepted local dialects
- Names for places should follow the standardized Inuktitut writing system
- Names should be in the syllabics writing system where this is in use by the local population
- These principles should be included:
 - Traditional place names for geographical features and landmarks, marine areas and populated places reflect a long history of land use and occupation and an extensive knowledge of the land. Place names continue to form an integral part of the spiritual, religious, language, culture and history of the people of Nunavut.
 - Inuit toponymy is an oral toponymy that must be recorded, preserved and promoted in its entirety. Inuit oral toponymy must be raised to the level of official toponymy in Nunavut.

Working Together

Workshop participants discussed how various groups and agencies could share resources to see work move ahead on a place names agenda. Jason Akearok with the Canadian Wildlife Service suggested that since he often interviews elders during the course of his work, and the elders often name places, he could gather some place names information. Similarly, other groups whose work involves interviewing elders and working with maps, could obtain place names information during the course of their interviews.

Suggested action

- The suggestion to create a way for place names information to be collected, as a secondary goal in interviews, underlines a need for standards to be developed and widely shared in order that the information collected is complete and of a high quality. For example, the requirements of an interview in which place names information is collected might be that the interviews are recorded, that special forms be used, that elders formally agree to the release of the information, that named areas are delineated on map sheets and that elders provide information about the origins or reasons for the name.

A suggestion was put forth during the Workshop that pressure be put on the federal government to re-activate a program that was run in the late 1970s and early 1980s to fund place names research. Since Nunavut never had the opportunity to participate back then, perhaps, with some political pressure, the federal government might be inclined to fund place names research in Canada's newest territory.

Suggested action

- In December 2001, delegates at an NRCan mapping conference in Iqaluit heard that the federal government was going to engage in a large mapping effort in Nunavut to complete its series of 1:50,000 scale national topographic systems maps by 2007. Clearly, new maps for Nunavut should not be produced until the correct Inuktitut names have been approved. Funds need to be made available for the fieldwork to record the names information. A proposal needs to be put to the federal government to support field efforts before a new series of maps for Nunavut are produced.

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) records Inuktitut place names as part of their work in land use planning. The place names are needed for reference purposes. While the issue of Inuktitut place names is important for NPC, work to specifically collect the names is of secondary importance. NPC would like to see another agency take the lead and provide direction in an overall place names research effort in Nunavut.

Suggested action

- Establish a Technical Place Names Committee made up of representatives from various agencies to oversee and provide place names research in Nunavut. The Inuit Heritage Trust could support the work of the Technical Committee.

Workshop participants met in small groups to suggest who might be recruited to contribute as members of the Technical Committee. Suggestions include representatives from:

- Inuit Heritage Trust,
- Nunavut Planning Commission,
- GN- Culture, Language, Elders And Youth
 - Sustainable Development
- Regional Inuit Associations
- Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
 - Nunavut Social Development Council
 - Lands Division
- Department Of Fisheries And Oceans
- Natural Resources Canada

Discussion regarding the activities and role of the Technical Place Names Committee can be found in Appendix B.

5. Making Maps – Issues To Consider

Both the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) and the Canada-Nunavut Geoscience Office (CNGO) spoke to Workshop participants regarding their capabilities and interests in a Nunavut Place Names Program.

The Nunavut Planning Commission has been involved in collecting place names as part of their work with communities for land use planning. While place names are important to NPC's work, NPC's mandate does not explicitly require place names to be collected. Jeff Rusk from NPC described NPC's willingness to participate in an overall effort to record place names in Nunavut. For example, NPC already has a vast store of place names information in digital format. In addition, NPC is open to providing technical advice and other assistance to advance the goals of a Nunavut Place Names Program. An agency other than NPC, however, needs to take the overall lead in setting direction, standards and guidelines for a place names program

The Canada-Nunavut Geoscience Office (CNGO) is mainly concerned with information about the rocks and minerals that make up the land. They spend much time gathering new information about the physical properties of the land and then making the information available on maps, in databases, the Internet, and on CDs. As is the case with the NPC, the CNGO are interested in making contributions to a place names program but would look to another agency to provide direction. The CNGO have offered to provide Geographic Information Systems training for a trainee under the Inuit Heritage Trust's Nunavut Place Names Program.

In his presentation, CNGO's Dave Scott advocated that agencies need to come together to use the technology to make sure as much of this [place names] information as possible gets back to communities, as quickly as possible. By getting maps out to communities with traditional place names, the names can be verified and corrected. Once the verification process is complete and correct, work can be begun with the Nunavut Toponymist to make the names official.

Marco Dussault of Parks Canada Agency mentioned that Parks has collected some place names information, some of which is simply written on paper maps. He suggested that Parks might consider using a database, for the names information, that would be compatible with databases that other agencies are using, to allow the information to flow more easily between agencies.

Suggested action

- One suggestion that arose from the discussions amongst the individuals with experience in geographic information systems was that the Inuit Heritage Trust should consider maintaining a database of the place names information. That is, the IHT would consult with the various Nunavut agencies to obtain information about the information held by various agencies. Information about the type of database software in use, place names collected for specific map sheets, use of areas or points, and so on. This would help accomplish the goal of finding out what place names work has been done.

Map Format

There were a few maps displayed in the meeting room and comments were solicited from participants about format and other features on the maps. Following a comment about crowded text on maps where there may be many traditional names, Dave Scott of CNGO pointed out that once the information is digitized in Geographic Information System, then maps may be blown up to a scale which allows for good viewing of all the information.

Workshop participants agreed that map formats should be uniform across Nunavut. Participants also generally agreed that map sheets, such as those produced by NRCan, that were on display during the Workshop, (Qairulikuut 25-0, Kimmirut 25K) serve as a good model for future maps. The information contained in these maps is clear and complete.

6. The Way Ahead

Summary Of Recommendations From The Workshop

Recommendations for a (GN) Toponymy Policy

- Avoid the use of generics. Words such as “lake, river, point, island” currently added to Inuktitut place names are not appropriate. In many instances, the Inuktitut names for places will contain this information already. Adding an English generic is redundant. For example Qikiqtarjuaq Island could be translated as “Big Island Island”.
- Names for places should follow accepted local dialects
- Recognition should be given to the fact that many place names are not tied directly to permanent geographical features. That is, there are many named seasonal features associated with ice that have names that should be recorded. Polynias, for example - places where the water does not freeze during winter - and other features as well.
- Names for places should follow the standardized Inuktitut writing system
- Names should be in the syllabics writing system where this is in use by the local population
- These principles should be included:
 - Traditional place names for geographical features and landmarks, marine areas and populated places reflect a long history of land use and occupation and an extensive knowledge of the land. Place names continue to form an integral part of the spiritual, religious, language, culture and history of the people of Nunavut.
 - Inuit toponymy is an oral toponymy that must be recorded, preserved and promoted in its entirety. Inuit oral toponymy must be raised to the level of official toponymy in Nunavut.

Language and Interviewing Elders

1. Field workers who work with elders to record place names should be skilled in the ICI writing system in roman orthography and syllabics as well.
2. Standard should be developed for place names information to be collected, as a secondary goal, in interviews with Elders that are undertaken for other purposes.

- Develop standards to be widely shared in order that information collected is complete and of a high quality. For example, the requirements of an interview in which place names information is collected might be that the interviews are recorded, that special forms be used, that elders formally agree to the release of the information, that named areas are delineated on map sheets and that elders provide information about the origins or reasons for the name.
3. A list of qualified, interested individuals should be written up. Several proofreaders will be needed to review all place names submissions. Several proofreaders, knowledgeable in the applicable dialect, will be needed to review the names information on the maps.

Map Production

4. A note should appear on the maps, when they are produced, that indicates which dialect the place names are written in. In the case where a geographic feature has more than one name, perhaps some provision could be made for the multiple names to appear on the map sheet.
5. Map formats should be uniform. The model developed by NRCan, on display during the Workshop (Qairuliktuut 25-0, Kimmirut 25K) serves as a good model for future maps. The information contained in these maps is clear and complete.

Managing Information

6. The Inuit Heritage Trust should consider maintaining a database of the place names information. To accomplish this, the IHT should consult with the various Nunavut agencies to find out what place names information is held by various agencies. Information about the type of database software in use, place names collected for specific map sheets, use of areas or points, and so on. This would help accomplish the goal of finding out what place names work has been done in Nunavut.
7. The Inuit Heritage Trust should help create a Technical Place Names Committee made up of representatives from various agencies to oversee and provide place names research in Nunavut. The Inuit Heritage Trust could support the work of the Technical Committee.
8. A proposal should be written requesting the federal government fund/support field efforts before a new series of maps for Nunavut is produced. The federal government hopes to complete its series of 1:50,000 scale national topographic systems maps by 2007.

Appendix A

Workshop Participants

1. Luke Suluk,	President, IHT,	Arviat
2. Peter Irniq,	Nunavut Commissioner	Iqaluit
3. Eva Aariak,	Language Commissioner	Iqaluit
4. Archie Angnakak	Inuit Heritage Trust	Iqaluit
5. Mark Kalluak	Department of Education	Arviat
6. Hugh Nateela	Kivalliq Inuit Association	Rankin Inlet
7. Leese Papatsie	Department of Fisheries and Oceans	Iqaluit
8. John Webster	Parks Canada Agency	Iqaluit
9. Marco Dussault	Parks Canada Agency	Iqaluit
10. Sheila Oolayou	Inuit Heritage Trust	Iqaluit
11. Lori Idlout	Nunavut Social Development Council	Iqaluit
12. Randy Freeman	former GNWT Toponymist	Yellowknife
13. Dave Scott	Canada-Nunavut Geoscience Office	Iqaluit
14. Celine Gilbert	Canada-Nunavut Geoscience Office	Iqaluit
15. Lynn Peplinski	Inuit Heritage Trust	Iqaluit
16. William Beveridge	Inuit Heritage Trust	Iqaluit
17. Ammie Kipsigak	Toponymist, GN, CLEY	Igloolik
18. Jeff Rusk	Nunavut Planning Commission	Cambridge Bay
19. Chris Douglas	Language Commission	Iqaluit
20. Hazel Ootoowak	Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development	Iqaluit
21. Aniiita Ootoowak	Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated	Iqaluit
22. Jason Akearok	Canadian Wildlife Service	Iqaluit

Appendix B

Notes from small group discussions regarding the role and activities of the technical place names committee

Goals

- Should agree on a common computer format (databases, word processing, map production)
- Gather all traditional place names and have these made official
- Record all pertinent information with the name
- Teach young people of Nunavut the traditional names
- Create a web site
- Maintain partnerships between all agencies, government and others
- Have maps with Inuktitut syllabics and roman orthography where this is appropriate
- Have Inuit control the project
- Develop a standard way of gathering and recording information in interviews
- Pressure the federal government about their responsibility to support the production of maps with traditional Inuktitut names
- Coordinate the place names project. Preserve and promote the names
- Oversee the collection of information
- Ensure place names information gets back to communities
- Lobby and raise profile of place names research

Objectives

- Identify agencies we can approach for funding
- Establish and maintain a working relationship with federal government
- Ensure coordinated information and decisions are made by all stakeholders
- Ensure proper maintenance of all data collected
- Teach and promote the traditional names
- Ensure all information is made available (schools, HTOs, Hamlets, RWOs, libraries, RIAs)
- Ensure accuracy of all information, spelling, etc.
- Establish guidelines to deal with conflicts such as multiple names for one place
- Develop communication strategies
- Delineate precise areas named on maps
- Develop terms of reference for stakeholders
- Establish procedures for receiving input, making corrections
- Develop standards (policies and procedures) for the collection of information
- Develop funding proposals

Appendix C

From the National Post, February 2, 2002

<p>JOHANNESBURG. Eight years after the demise of all-white rule in South Africa, city councils are slowly wiping apartheid-era place names off of the map. Millions of black people still commute to work along streets named after the architects of their oppression, largely due to a lack of funds and bureaucratic obstacles. Almost every major town in the country has a road called Hendrik Verwoerd after the prime minister who designed "bantú education." Likewise, names of Barry Herzog, Louis Botha, Hans Strijdom and other white rulers of old are etched on school buildings, park plaques and street signs throughout South Africa. There is even a small town called Kaffirskraal, which translates roughly as "niggers' yard." But almost every attempt at transformation has met resistance from right-wing whites – angry letters, public protests, even vandalism. "There are some whites who just don't want to give up," said Nazareth Kalema, an expert on symbolic reparations at the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation.</p>	<p>Pietersburg, Potgietersrus and Louis Trichardt are among a dozen names to be erased. Residents are also being urged to suggest a new name for the province itself – Limpopo and Mapungubwe are favourites. "This is like a kick in the teeth," said Johan Willemsse, the big-bearded leader of Freedom Front. "These names are a point of pride for us. They reflect our Afrikaner pioneers, the people who brought civilization and Christianity to this country. Why change them now?" He is setting up trust accounts and urging the province's whites- 3% of the total population – to deposit tax money there "until the government comes to its senses." Government officials scoff, saying it is high time for a change. Elsewhere in the world, political revolution is generally accompanied by immediate symbolic change. In Russia, the fall of communism was reflected in the return of the old imperial names St.Petersburg for Leningrad. In Africa, the victors of black liberation wars turned Rhodesia into Zimbabwe, and Congo's</p>	<p>"There are too many towns here that were named after Boer warriors who subjugated and killed our people. This project is about identity, about self-affirmation, about reclaiming who we are." Academics emphasize it is important to remember the country's history- warts and all- and that erasing white names is the first step towards collective amnesia. Others say it is just silly to waste money on making cosmetic changes when South Africa is in such desperate need of AIDS drugs and more money for police and social welfare. The debate in Northern Province is being closely watched by city councils across the country as they ponder their own plans to "Africanize." Once there was talk of renaming the giant port city of Durban with its Zulu name EtheKwini. Some politicians argued Cape Town should revert to its Xhosa name, Ikapa – an idea that set off panic at the city's tourism board. "Cape Town is our brand," cried Sheryl Ozinsky of Cape Town Tourism. "We cannot afford to call the city anything but Cape Town." Johannesburg's city council has spent</p>	<p>Mr. Chikane said the council chose to name the long road after Mr. Naude because he was white, an Afrikaner priest who opposed apartheid and spent seven years under banning orders. "It was like offering the white community an olive branch. We wanted to emphasize reconciliation." But just days after the new signs went up, vandals used a truck to mow some of them down. Thugs also beat up two security guards who were hired to guard a commemorative plaque along the road. More law-abiding whites penned angry letters to the newspapers and business owners complained about the costs of changing their letterhead. In Cape Town, a proposal last year turn Adderly Street into Nelson Mandela Drive was met with so many objections city officials resorted to forging supportive public submissions to get the change past council. Scandal eventually killed the idea. Mr. Mandela already has his name up in lights at the Nelson Mandela Theatre in Johannesburg and, in small towns, several roads are now in his name. But the man himself has</p>
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<p>“Black people are in power now, and it is quite reasonable to expect that symbols and names that remind them of their suffering be removed. But the real [white] conservatives want to keep the names of their heroes alive.” The story was the same this week in the rural Northern Province.</p> <p>The fringe Freedom Front party threatened a tax revolt after government officials announced plans to give new African names to towns named in the colonial era.</p>	<p>capital of Leopoldville became Kinshasa. But South Africa’s “miracle” transition to democracy came via a negotiated settlement and, amid all the heady talk of a Rainbow Nation, name changes fell low on the list of priorities. Health care, housing and water are the main concerns. “We have taken our time with this said Joe Maswanganyi, the Northern Province Minister who is leading city councils in a mass name-change project. “We didn’t just come to power and start knocking down statues. But now we are saying transformation must happen.</p>	<p>the past two years talking about name changes and it is hoping to finally get down to the messy business this year. “It is highly sensitive,” said Kgotso Chikane, a spokesman for the Mayor. “There is resistance and resentment. We have to try to minimize controversy.” A few months ago, D.F.Malan Drive – named for the prime minister who introduced racial segregation – was changed to honour anti-apartheid activist Beyers Naude.</p>	<p>argued buildings and streets should not be named for black liberation heroes – particularly living ones who still have time to make mistakes that could tarnish their image. He has suggested neutral names. Jan Smuts Airport was reanointed years ago as Johannesburg International. John Vorster Square, the high-rise police station named after a detested white president, is now known as Johannesburg Central. Even those neutral alterations caused controversy. “Change is never easy,” said Mr. Kalema, the research psychologist. “That doesn’t mean the status quo is better.” <i>National Post</i></p>
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Appendix D

Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth

Culture and Heritage Program

Toponymy Geographical and Community Names

1. Statement of Policy

It is the policy of the Government of Nunavut to recognize multilingual Toponymy with special emphasis on traditional Inuit names for geographical features and landmarks, marine areas and populated places, and to preserve and protect these names within Nunavut.

2. Principles

This policy is based on the following principles:

- (1) Inuit names for geographical features and landmarks, marine areas and populated places continue to form an integral part of the spiritual, religious, language, culture and history of the people of Nunavut.
- (2) Inuit Toponymy is an oral Toponymy that has yet to be recorded in its entirety, Inuit oral Toponymy must be preserved, enhanced and developed and to raise it to the level of “official Toponymy”.
- (3) Inuit names for geographical features and populated places will be officially recognised to assure cultural continuity for the people of Nunavut; the public will be consulted in the process leading to the official recognition of names for geographical features and populated places in Nunavut.

The Inuit Heritage Trust (“Trust”) will be consulted in the process leading to the official recognition of names for geographical features and populated places in Nunavut as stipulated in Article 33, Part 9, of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement.

3. Scope

This policy applies to all features named in the Nunavut environment.

4. Definitions

The following definitions apply to this Policy:

Names – geographical, for a physical feature (i.e. Kaminuriak Lake); local, used by members of the local population.

Official (Name) Toponymy – a geographical or place name approved as an official name by the Cabinet and the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names. Only official names can be shown on federally produced topographical maps, charts, publications, and legal documents.

Place Name - the name for a populated place or previously populated place (e.g. Sanikiluaq).

Replacement Name - the name for a physical feature or populated place used by members of the local population in place of a current official name. Upon approval by the Minister, a replacement name replaces an official name. The previous official name then loses its official status.

Significant Name - the name for a populated place or geographical feature for which a decision may conflict with another name; may have importance to individuals outside of the immediate area of the feature; may have national or international ramifications; or, may be considered controversial in nature. Upon approval by the Cabinet, a significant name becomes an official name (e.g. changing the name “Frobisher Bay” to “Iqaluit” affected individuals outside the immediate area of the community and was, therefore, considered to be a significant name decision).

Toponymic Analysis - the research into the origin, pronunciation, correct spelling and orthography, and history of use of a name for a physical feature or populated place; the determination of the exact location and extent of the feature or place; the gathering of secondary and archival references to the name or the feature to which it applies; including the toponymic surveys, meaning the collection and recording of oral Toponymy.

5. Authority and Accountability

(1) General

This Policy is issued under the authority of the Cabinet with the authority to make exceptions and approve revisions to this Policy.

(a) Minister

The Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth is accountable to the Cabinet for the implementation of this Policy.

(b) Deputy Minister

The Deputy Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth is accountable to the Minister and responsible to the Minister for the administration of this Policy.

(2) Specific

(a) Cabinet

The Cabinet may, on the advice of the Minister, approves significant names.

(b) Minister

The Minister may:

- (i) appoint Nunavut Representative on the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names;
- (ii) on the advice of Nunavut Representative on the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names and after submitting an information item to the Cabinet approve official, replacement, multiple, and new names; and
- (iii) on the advice of Nunavut Representative on the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, recommend to the Cabinet the disposition of significant names.

(c) Deputy Minister

The Deputy Minister (or designate) will:

- (i) receive requests and/or suggestions for name approvals and/or changes from communities, institutions, organizations, federal and territorial government departments, individuals, or from toponymic field research projects;
- (ii) determine the category for each name request;
- (iii) consult and obtain the recommendation of the appropriate local government authorities concerning the disposition of the name;

- (iv) conduct toponymic analysis of proposed name decisions and prepare, depending on the name category, background information; and
 - (v) make known to the general public all name decisions, whether approvals or rejections, through a medium appropriate to the level of importance of the decision.
- (d) Nunavut Representative on the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names
- Nunavut Representative on the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names may:
- (i) recommend to the Minister of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth the disposition of significant, replacement, multiple and new names; and
 - (ii) approve local names.

6. Provisions

(1) Name Submissions

Requests for name decisions must include the reason the decision is being requested, the exact location of the feature and, if known, any relevant background information on the name. The requests should also demonstrate how the proposed name supports the intent of this Policy, to promote the official recognition of traditional names.

(2) Multiple Naming

If it can be demonstrated that more than one name is used locally for a geographical feature or populated place, then consideration should be given to official recognition of those names.

(3) Orthography

All aboriginal names are to be approved in the orthographic form used by the Government of Nunavut unless it can be demonstrated that a variant form of orthography is in common local use.

(4) Use of Generic Term

The generic portion of a local name is to be approved in the form in which it is used locally. The generic used in a new name must accurately describe the feature to which the name applies.

(5) Cabinet Notification

The Minister shall advise the Cabinet by means of an information item of all replacement, multiple, new and local name approvals before they are finalized.

(6) Appeal Procedure

If a name decision, whether that decision has been for approval or rejection, causes public controversy, then the issue or issues which caused that controversy will be made known to each group or individual who made a recommendation concerning the disposition of the name. The group or individual will then be asked to put forth a new recommendation based on the information provided. The approval or rejection of the name will then be reconsidered by the Cabinet as a significant name.

7. Prerogative of Cabinet

Nothing in this Policy shall in any way be construed to limit the prerogative of the Cabinet to make decisions or take action outside the provisions of this Policy.

Hon. Donald Haviyok
Minister, Culture, Language, Elders and Youth

Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs

Premier