



Memorandum of Understanding
On
The Nunavut Roundtable for Poverty Reduction



Between:

The Government of Nunavut, represented by the Premier;

And:

Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated ("NTI"), represented by the President
(collectively, "the parties").

Preamble

Recognizing that:

Action to reduce poverty in Nunavut is urgently needed;

Inuit have the right, as set out in Article 32 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, to participate in the development of social and cultural policies, and in the design of social and cultural programs and services, including their method of delivery;

The Government of Nunavut is obligated, as set out in Article 32 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, to provide Inuit with the opportunity to participate in the development of social and cultural policies and in the design of social and cultural programs and services, including their method of delivery, and to endeavour to reflect Inuit goals and objectives where it puts in place such social and cultural policies, programs and services;

On April 20, 2011, the parties signed *Aajiiqatigiinniq*, a protocol for a working relationship focusing on greater partnership in areas of encouraging self-reliance, raising the standard of living of Inuit and working together to develop and renew policies, programs, services and legislation;

The parties have agreed, as set out in *Aajiiqatigiinniq*, to work together on the development of a poverty reduction strategy;

In 2011, the parties co-sponsored a comprehensive public engagement process with Nunavummiut from across the territory with respect to poverty reduction;

On February 24, 2012, the parties released *The Makimaniq Plan: A Shared Approach to Poverty Reduction*, which sets out the Nunavut approach to poverty reduction based on the views expressed during public engagement;

The vision of *The Makimaniq Plan* is a holistic approach to poverty reduction, through actions grouped under six themes: collaboration and community participation, healing and wellbeing, education and skills development, food security, housing and income support and community and economic development;

The parties are committed to playing a leadership role to support community initiatives in poverty reduction and participation as partners with Inuit organizations, other governments, non-governmental organizations and businesses in the implementation of *The Makimaniq Plan*;

Participants in the creation of *The Makimaniq Plan* agreed that leadership and oversight of the implementation of the Plan will be carried out by a Nunavut Roundtable for Poverty Reduction;

The parties agree as follows:

Collaboration in Poverty Reduction

1. This Memorandum is an agreement for collaboration between the Government of Nunavut and NTI, establishing a forum in which the parties will
 - (a) fulfill the requirements of Article 32 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement with respect to the development of social and cultural policies, programs and services intended to reduce poverty; and,
 - (b) carry out their shared commitment to work together in collaboration with other partners on poverty reduction, as expressed in *The Makimaniq Plan*.

Nunavut Roundtable for Poverty Reduction

2. The Nunavut Roundtable for Poverty Reduction ("the Roundtable") is established.
3. The parties are members of the Roundtable.
4. The Premier and the President are co-sponsors of the Roundtable.
5. The Premier and the President will convene a meeting of the Roundtable at least semi-annually.
6. The purposes of the Roundtable are to:
 - (a) provide leadership and oversight for implementation of *The Makimaniq Plan*, and support collaboration and innovation on the issues identified in the Plan;
 - (b) extend *The Makimaniq Plan* by preparing a long term (five-year) poverty reduction action plan for Nunavut and ensure full public participation in the planning and implementation of poverty reduction measures; and,
 - (c) support community-driven initiatives and the initiatives of local networks of community organizations engaged in poverty reduction.

Membership

7. The Government of Nunavut will be primarily represented on the Roundtable by the Minister responsible for poverty reduction and NTI will be primarily represented on the Roundtable by the Vice President responsible for the Nunavut Social Development Council. Other members of the Government of Nunavut Executive Council and NTI Board of Directors may participate on the Roundtable as may be required.
8. Membership in the Roundtable is open to Inuit organizations, other governments, non-governmental organizations and businesses that wish to contribute toward the reduction of poverty in Nunavut as outlined in *The Makimaniq Plan* and that agree to the terms of this Memorandum.
9. An Inuit organization, a government, a non-governmental organization or a business may become a member of the Roundtable by giving to the parties written notice of its

wish to become a member along with written acceptance of the terms of this Memorandum.

10. The parties will endeavour to ensure the participation of organizations on the Roundtable in order to reflect the regional diversity and gender balance of the territory and to include representation from elders and youth and persons with lived experience of poverty.
11. Members of the Roundtable will cooperate and collaborate with respect to poverty reduction initiatives in support of the purposes of the Roundtable, taking into account their respective responsibilities, authorities, priorities and capacities.

Guiding Principles

12. The parties agree to the following guiding principles:
 - (a) the institutional culture of the Roundtable must conform to Inuit societal values, and, in particular, those expressed in the concepts of *Inuuqatigiitsiarniq* (respecting others, relationships and caring for people), *Tunnganarniq* (fostering good spirit by being open, welcoming and inclusive), and *Piliriqatigiinniq* or *Ikajuqatigiinniq* (working together for a common cause);
 - (b) the success of collaborative relationships will be measured in terms of the degree to which they demonstrate trust, openness, mutual respect, inclusiveness and a willingness to take responsibility for the actions needed to respond to the issues raised in dialogue;
 - (c) the development of an effective and comprehensive approach to the complex challenges of poverty depends on community-driven action and the collaboration of many partners to support that action; and,
 - (d) real participation requires transformation. It opens up space to individuals and communities for dialogue and collaboration in processes that empower them to be the principal actors in their own development.

Procedures and Administration

13. Each party will designate one senior official who will be its principal supporting official for the purposes of the Roundtable.
14. The Government of Nunavut will provide administrative support for the proceedings of the Roundtable.
15. The Roundtable will establish terms of reference consistent with the terms of this agreement to guide it in carrying out its purposes, including its rules of procedure, processes for the holding and chairing of meetings, and quorum requirements.
16. The Roundtable may convene and support subcommittees and working groups to undertake tasks that contribute to the fulfillment of *The Makimaniq Plan*.
17. A subcommittee or working group of the Roundtable may include participants who are not members of the Roundtable.

Evaluation and Monitoring

18. The Roundtable will undertake an evaluation of the public engagement processes used to prepare *The Makimaniq Plan*, and establish a process for the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the Plan.

Reporting

19. The Roundtable will report to the public annually on the activities of the Roundtable and on progress in the implementation of *The Makimaniq Plan*.

Renewal

20. The Roundtable will, through a public engagement process, revise and renew *The Makimaniq Plan* at least once every five years.

General

21. This Memorandum of Understanding is intended to provide a framework for implementing *The Makimaniq Plan*, and does not create legally enforceable rights or obligations for either party, or for organizations that become members of the Roundtable through their written acceptance of the terms of this Memorandum.
22. This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended, in writing, by agreement of the Government of Nunavut and NTI.

In witness whereof, the parties have executed this Memorandum of Understanding this
24 day of Oct., 2012.

Government of Nunavut

Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated



Honourable Eva Aariak
Premier


Cathy Towton
President