

Renewal of the Nunavut Economic Development Strategy 2014-24

The Nunavut Economic Development Strategy (NEDS) will reach the end of its ten-year life in the spring of 2013. The Nunavut Economic Forum (NEF) with support from the NEF Co-Management Committee composed of senior representatives from Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI), the Canadian Economic Development Agency (CanNor) and the Government of Nunavut's Economic Development and Transportation Department (ED&T) has therefore decided to make the renewal of NEDS its primary focus over the next two years. A key element of the renewal process will be four Roundtable consultations. The first of the four Roundtables is scheduled to take place in Cambridge Bay October 16-18, 2012. Although under the aegis of the NEF, the roundtables are not intended as NEF meetings, but instead will be the centerpiece of a broader consultation process of engaging all Nunavummiut in the exploration of the specific elements that should be included in the next ten year strategy (NEDS II) to be rolled out in the spring of 2014.

The roundtables will take place with an invited group of participants (primarily senior officials) representing specific business-related sectors (not individual businesses). The representatives will be from associations and agencies representing the mining, tourism, fisheries and arts sectors as well as the business sector (represented by the Chambers of Commerce), the traditional economy and the public sectors (federal, territorial and municipal). This format will be followed in each of the subsequent roundtables scheduled for Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet and Ottawa. It is intended there will be no more than two representatives per organization as per the following list:

Organization
Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI)
Regional Inuit Associations,
Inuit Development Organizations – CEDOs
Government of Canada – CanNor and the Nunavut Federal Council
Government of Nunavut – ED&T – plus?
Association of Municipalities
Nunavut Economic Developers Association
Nunavut Community Futures Association
Chambers of Commerce – BRCC , (plus Kivalliq and Kitikmeot Chambers?)
Nunavut Tourism
NWT and Nunavut Chamber of Mines
Nunavut Offshore Allocation Holders Association (NOAHA - if functioning)
Nunavut Arts and Crafts Association
Aijjiit Nunavut Media Association.
NWT and Nunavut Construction Association
Roundtable Support team including translators etc.
Total estimated participants

Invitations to other groups not identified in the foregoing chart will be at the discretion of the NEF Co-Management Committee. Invitees will each determine who will represent them at the Roundtable, but will be encouraged to send officials (staff rather than elected members.) Other organizations that may be considered to include the transportation section (both air and marine).

The roundtables are intended to be working meetings providing an opportunity for each representative to report on the key growth drivers and challenges experienced within their particular sector including best practices to date and forecasted future opportunities as well as development options. Each Roundtable will be based on a specific theme as described below. It is not intended that the primary focus of each of the roundtables will be on activities that are taking place in the respective region where the roundtable is being held, but instead will have a Nunavut-wide reach. Nevertheless, each of the roundtables will also discuss some of the specifics of the “host” region as well as how the economic activities of one region impact on the others. Part of the discussions will also be devoted to specific initiatives that have aided the development of the Nunavut economy such as various funding programs.

The results of these discussions will be published within 60 days of each of the Roundtables in all official languages and available on line to the public.

The information and ideas realized through the Roundtables will be supplemented by on-line inputs and comments from other individuals and groups, on-line surveys, existing circumpolar research and other available studies and reports.

The themes of each of the Roundtables are discussed below – please note the identified themes are “working titles” only and subject to change. The intention will be to ensure that each of these themes will easily translate into Inuktitut and in this process modification may be necessary.

1. Kitikmeot Region – Cambridge Bay – October 16-18, 2012

Taking stock and preparing for the journey

The focus of the first roundtable will be a general review of the results achieved thus far in the implementation of the NEDS I. Each of the participants will be expected to make a presentation outlining their particular sectorial perspective on progress made on specific elements of the strategy, successful initiatives and remaining challenges. The emphasis will be on “lessons learned” and in particular where success has been achieved, an identification of which elements of an initiative should be continued or perhaps modified.

Participants will be expected to develop a PowerPoint presentation supported by written documentation wherever possible and to make an electronic copy of all documents to be presented (not necessarily including graphics) available to the NEF Executive Director at least ten days before the roundtable. The PowerPoint will respond to questions laid out in the roundtable invitation and presenters will be requested not to focus on descriptions of their organizations which could be referenced separately as part of a backgrounder. As with the final reports from each of the Roundtables the intention will be to ultimately post the presentation materials to the website.

It is the intention to generally invoke the Chatham House Rule (see attached) at the Roundtable with respect to all reporting of the proceedings, except when attribution to a particular organization may be necessary, but only then with the agreement of the organization in question.

2. Qikiqtani Region – Iqaluit – February 5-7, 2013

Exploring new paths and considering options

In the second Roundtable invited participants will be asked to make another presentation based on their “wish list for tomorrow”. Building on the overall results of the first Roundtable this will take a forward-thinking approach with a strong element of visioning where Nunavut should strive to be by 2024. The emphasis will be on “thinking outside of the box”. Specific presentations from representative participants may not be required for this roundtable that will likely employ a more action-oriented workshop approach, nevertheless participants will be asked to come prepared with a completed SWOT for their particular sector.

An important element of the new paths and options theme will be to examine how Nunavut’s various sectors impact on each other in either a positive or potentially negative fashion and how positive change may be realized. It is anticipated that there will be a strong desire to include a thorough discussion on the impact on the traditional economy expected during the next ten-year period.

Since the data-gathering work associated with preparation of the next Nunavut Economic Outlook is expected to commence soon after this roundtable, participants will be asked to provide input to this process as well.

It is expected that guidance in deciding how “open” the visioning exercise may be will be drawn from the experience of the first Roundtable in Cambridge Bay and how it was found discussion flowed. It may be determined, for example, to establish some discussion parameters, but at the same time not deter participants from being too ambitious.

3. Kivalliq Region – Rankin Inlet – September 2013 (exact dates to be determined by other events planned for that same period)

Making best use of our resources

This Roundtable will have a strong focus on all of the resources available to Nunavut that will likely have a significant influence on further economic growth. To be explored within this theme will be human resources, renewable and non-renewable natural resources, existing and potential infrastructure and support resources including various funding initiatives and potential external investment potential.

Because the next Roundtable will take place in early December every effort will be made to complete and post the results from the third Roundtable on the website by mid-November at the latest.

4. National Capital Region – December 2013

Working together and sharing wealth

The final Roundtable will take place in the NCR with an objective of including not only the same invited participants to the first three sessions, but this time national representatives from the federal government as well as NGOs with an economic interest in Nunavut.

Since the “newcomers” to the process will have some catching up to do it is hoped that by providing reports from the first three roundtable discussions on the website, it will be possible for the new participants to quickly bring themselves up to speed and thus spend a minimum amount of review time at the outset of the roundtable. One option that may be explored could be a half day “briefing session” specifically designed for the newcomers and scheduled to take place in Ottawa the day before the Roundtable.

A special feature of this Roundtable will be the results, and subsequent discussion, from the 2013 Nunavut Economic Outlook Report.

The stated theme implies using this Roundtable as a means of building new alliances and cementing existing links that already exist between governments and various national support networks. It is also expected that some

circumpolar connections may also be reinforced through the roundtable with participation of officials from specific embassies and circumpolar organizations.

Once again the results of this Roundtable will be published on the website and available to the public at large. All of this work will act to provide a solid basis for the Nunavut Sivummut IV Conference planned to take place in Iqaluit in late February or March 2014.

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