

Executive Summary

Located on northern Ellesmere Island, Quttinirpaaq National Park is Canada's northernmost national park, representing the Eastern High Arctic Natural Region in Canada's National Park System Plan. Initially established as a National Park Reserve in 1988, Quttinirpaaq National Park protects 37,775km², and is the country's second largest National Park. The park's landscape is dominated by glaciers and mountains and includes a variety of uniquely adapted ecosystems, resulting in protection of substantial biodiversity.

Together, Parks Canada and Inuit are managing Quttinirpaaq National Park through the Joint Park Management Committee as outlined in the *Nunavut Agreement* and the *Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement for Auyuittuq, Sirmilik and Quttinirpaaq* (IIBA). This management committee advises the Minister on any matters pertaining to park management for ministerial approval.

This management plan replaces the 2009 management plan for Quttinirpaaq National Park and reflects the priorities of Parks Canada and Inuit partners. The plan outlines the importance of Quttinirpaaq to multiple groups, including Inuit from the adjacent communities of Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord, whose ancestors lived here. Quttinirpaaq is a place of global importance to understand the impacts of climate change.

The vision articulated in this plan underlines the importance of conservation, partnerships and enhancement of opportunities for appreciation and understanding of the park's natural and cultural significance. Three key strategies, a zoning plan and an area management approach are identified to guide management activities to realize the park's vision.

Key Strategy #1 Honoring Shared Commitments

Core objectives of the *Nunavut Agreement* are to encourage self-reliance and to support the cultural and social well-being of Inuit. This strategy addresses Parks Canada's goals to meet its *Nunavut Agreement* and IIBA obligations. Parks Canada works with other federal departments to be an active member of the associated communities of Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord.

Key Strategy #2 Working Together

Conservation is more successful when aligned with regional initiatives for activities inside and outside the park. Quttinirpaaq management will be guided by the Inuit Societal Value of ***Qanuqtuurniq*** (being innovative and resourceful) to pro-actively seek out ways to work with others to ensure continued success. Effective two-way communication and relationship building with communities is essential to realize this success.

Key Strategy #3 Learning from People and Land

Quttinirpaaq management will bring together science and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit to foster ***Avatittinnik Kamatsiarniq*** (respect and care for the environment) and increase our understanding of the natural and cultural values of the park and the greater region. This knowledge will be used to encourage global appreciation and understanding of the High Arctic, the impacts of climate change and humanity's ingenuity and ability to adapt to challenges and changing circumstances.