

NWSF Project Number: 222-10-01

Project title: Inuit Qauyimayatuqangit Implementation on the Western Hudson Bay Polar Bear: Arviat

Project Leader:

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Summary:

Arviat HTO plans on collecting Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge about the Western Hudson Bay polar bear behaviour, diet, migration and denning routes. The data collected in interviews will be turned into a video documentary and all data on mapping interviews collected will be condensed into one map containing all information.

The data collected is to show a pattern that could possibly connect to scientific information health and population assessments of the Western Hudson Bay polar bear but the main purpose of the project is to collect the knowledge that Inuit have on the polar bear. Inuit have a ton of information about polar bear characteristics, diet, migration and denning areas and what to make out of its hide and meat.

Project Objective:

Interviewer position was appointed to John Main, a Community Economic Development Officer for Economic Development and Transportation. John is also a former CBC North reporter.

The transcribe/translator was appointed to Eric Anoe Jr. Eric is a media specialist for the Department of Education who can type 80+WPM and is specialized to transcribe and translate documents. Eric is also specialized to create professional promotional items like posters, pamphlets, etc.

The two individuals were contracted in September of 2010. A schedule between the two individuals has been worked out between themselves; as soon as John completes interviews, Eric starts transcribing/translating. Combining John and Eric's skills, the project promises to have a very good outcome.

The one topic still in discussion is the funding to meet the contract request for human resources. Combined, an agreement has been made to hire the two individuals for a total of \$10150.00. The proposal is set at \$6000.00. During a discussion with Bert Dean (NTI Policy Advisor), he said he'd look for additional funding to meet the total needed. If not, Arviat HTO is thinking of reducing mapping interviews to 40 (which would then decrease to \$4000.00) and decreasing office supplies by \$150.00 to meet the difference of \$4150.00.

Materials and Methods:

Materials used for the project is a video camera, voice recorder is used as back up. All video recordings are saved in mini DV tapes. Eric uses his own laptop/computer to type all information since they are higher quality than Arviat HTO's. All data Eric collects will be printed into paper to keep as hard copies, all soft copies will be saved in Mini DV tapes which can last forever, and DVD-Roms. Arviat HTO ordered a box of papers for all transcribed documents along.

Project Schedule:

In a proposal submitted to NWMB, Arviat HTO set a schedule to work with. However, with other activities and events happening within Arviat HTO and the contracted individuals, the project has started out slow. With interviews going two evenings a week, at 3-5 interviews per evening it seems to be a steady pace for the time being. Interviews will pick up pace and are expected to be completed by late March, 2011. With editing media and document, the project is expected to be completed by mid-June, 2011.

Preliminary Results/Discussion:

From the time Arviat HTO submitted the proposal to NWMB, Arviat HTO has met with NTI's policy advisor Bert Dean, Department of Environment's biologist David Lee, Rankin HTO's manager Norman Ford. Arviat HTO has also informed Department of Environment's regional manager for Kivalliq David Vetra and MLA/Minister of Environment for Nunavut Daniel Shewchuk about Arviat HTO's plan to collect Inuit Qauyimayatuqangit.

Arviat HTO held an Annual General Meeting with the public and announced the approval of the project and plans for the project. The membership of Arviat was appreciative of the project and gave feedback to the board of directors. Arviat HTO announced the office will be calling elders, hunters, adults and youth selected for the interviews and mapping interviews.

Arviat HTO has kept in touch with Rankin HTO's manager, Bert Dean from NTI, and Department of Environment regarding the project. All organizations/departments are enthusiastic to see the completion of the project proficiently and resourcefully.

Reporting to Communities/Resource Users:

Arviat HTO plans to distribute the completed project to NTI, Kivalliq HTOs, Kivalliq Wildlife Board, NWMB, Department of Environment and interview copies to the people who were interviewed. Arviat HTO will also do a presentation of the final DVD and present it to the community membership during Arviat HTO's annual general meeting.