

Traditional Knowledge on Cumulative Impacts in the Hudson Bay/James Bay Marine Region

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Outline

History of Traditional Knowledge

Efforts Combining Cree, Inuit
& Scientific Knowledge

Priorities and Indicators Identified

Future Directions

History of Traditional Knowledge Studies

Hudson Bay Programme

Voices from the Bay

NTK/Hudson Bay Interagency Working Group

Community Environmental Monitoring System

Hudson Bay Programme (1991-95)

Voices from the Bay (1997)

Inuit and Cree knowledge from 26 Communities
– environmental change in the marine ecosystem

Changing currents

Changing sea ice

Wildlife

Seasons

NTK / The Hudson Bay Interagency Working Group (2004-2009/ongoing)

KEY KNOWLEDGE GAPS AND PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED:

- Respond to long standing unaddressed concerns of communities about environmental change in marine ecosystem
- Provide essential knowledge to governments, communities, and aboriginal organizations about oceanography & ecology of sea ice necessary to assess cumulative impacts
- Assess impacts on marine species and residents who depend on marine region for ecological services including food and livelihood

Rupert River/Eastmain 1-A Environmental Hearings

Community concerns led to key recommendations and conditions for approval

- Cumulative impacts on marine ecosystem, incorporating Traditional Knowledge & Science
- Work with government, communities, industry, NGOs and stakeholders collaboratively
- Despite legal obligation, little done to date

Community Environmental Monitoring System (CEMS) via. NTK - 2007, 2008

2007

- Sanikiluaq & Umiujaq, Environment Canada, DFO, U. Manitoba/ArcticNet, Arctic Eider Society, NTK, Kativik

2008

- Chisasibi, Whapmagoostui, Sanikiluaq, Inukjuak
- Traditional knowledge compiled, updated and priorities established

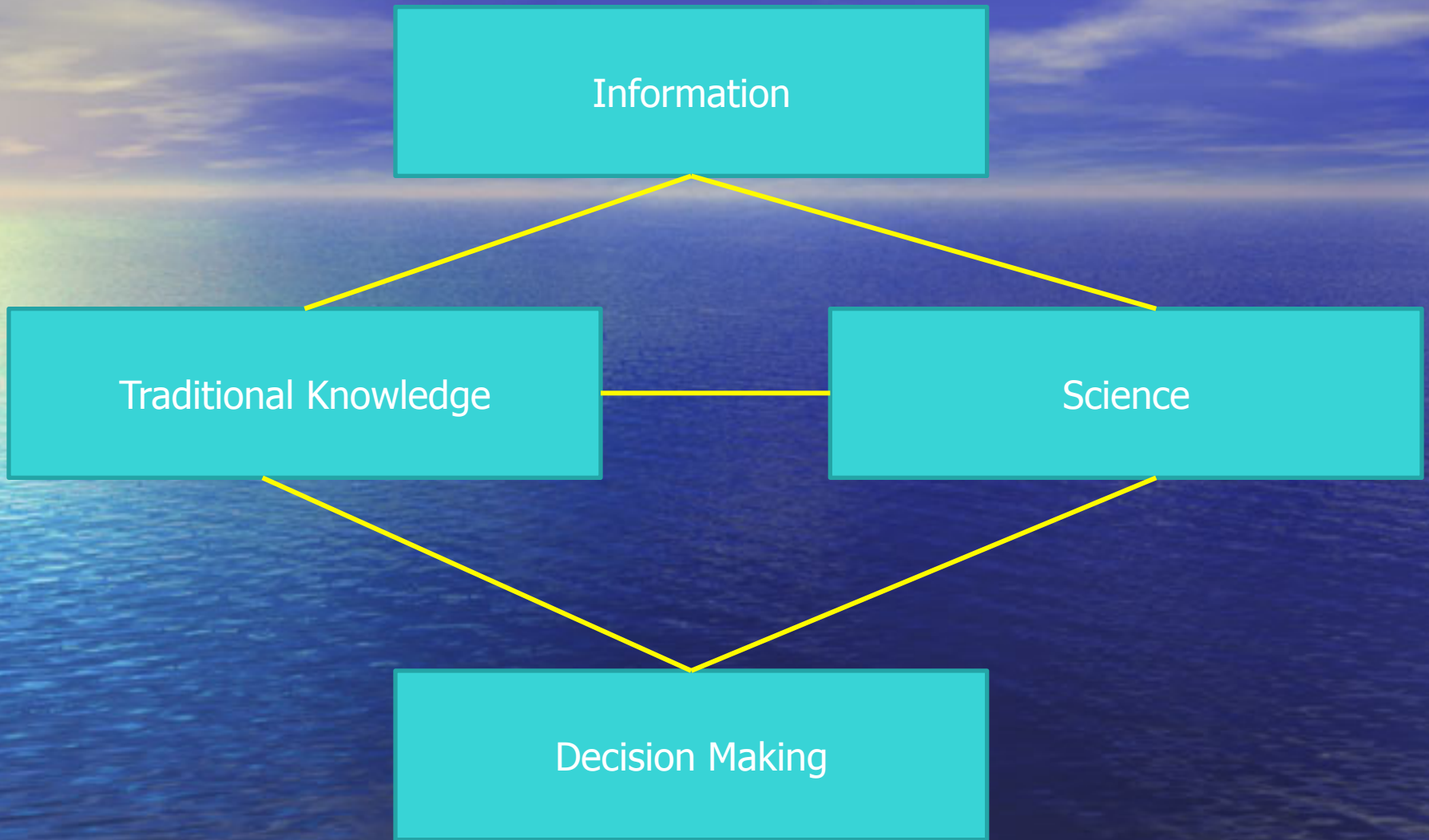
Priority Indicators for Monitoring

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS OF HYDROELECTRIC DEVELOPMENTS, CLIMATE, CONTAMINANTS

- Water quality from dams (contaminants, temperature, salinity)
- Quality of food sources
- Sea Ice conditions
- Oceanography
- Climate
- Wildlife: Seals, Eiders, Beluga, Fish

We have a basis of Traditional Knowledge for Future Research – Now its time to do the work.

- Eeyou Marine Region to help facilitate Cumulative Impacts Study on Marine Ecosystem & Stewardship
- Working with Arctic Eider Society and Waterkeeper Alliance to establish a Network of Community Based Research and Monitoring (Hudson Bay Network)
- Hudson Bay / James Bay Summit
- Voices from the Bay Part II?





Nakuramik – Thank You