



# CONNECTING THE BAY

Hudson Bay Inland Sea Initiative

2014 Symposium on Science and Traditional Knowledge in the  
Eeyou Marine Region

[www.hbisi.org](http://www.hbisi.org)

# Hudson Bay Inland Sea Initiative

- The HBISI is a stakeholder driven effort to explore a long-term vision and a coordinated management/governance framework for the Hudson Bay - including James Bay, Hudson Bay, Ungava Bay, Foxe Basin and Hudson Strait.

# Why is Action Necessary?

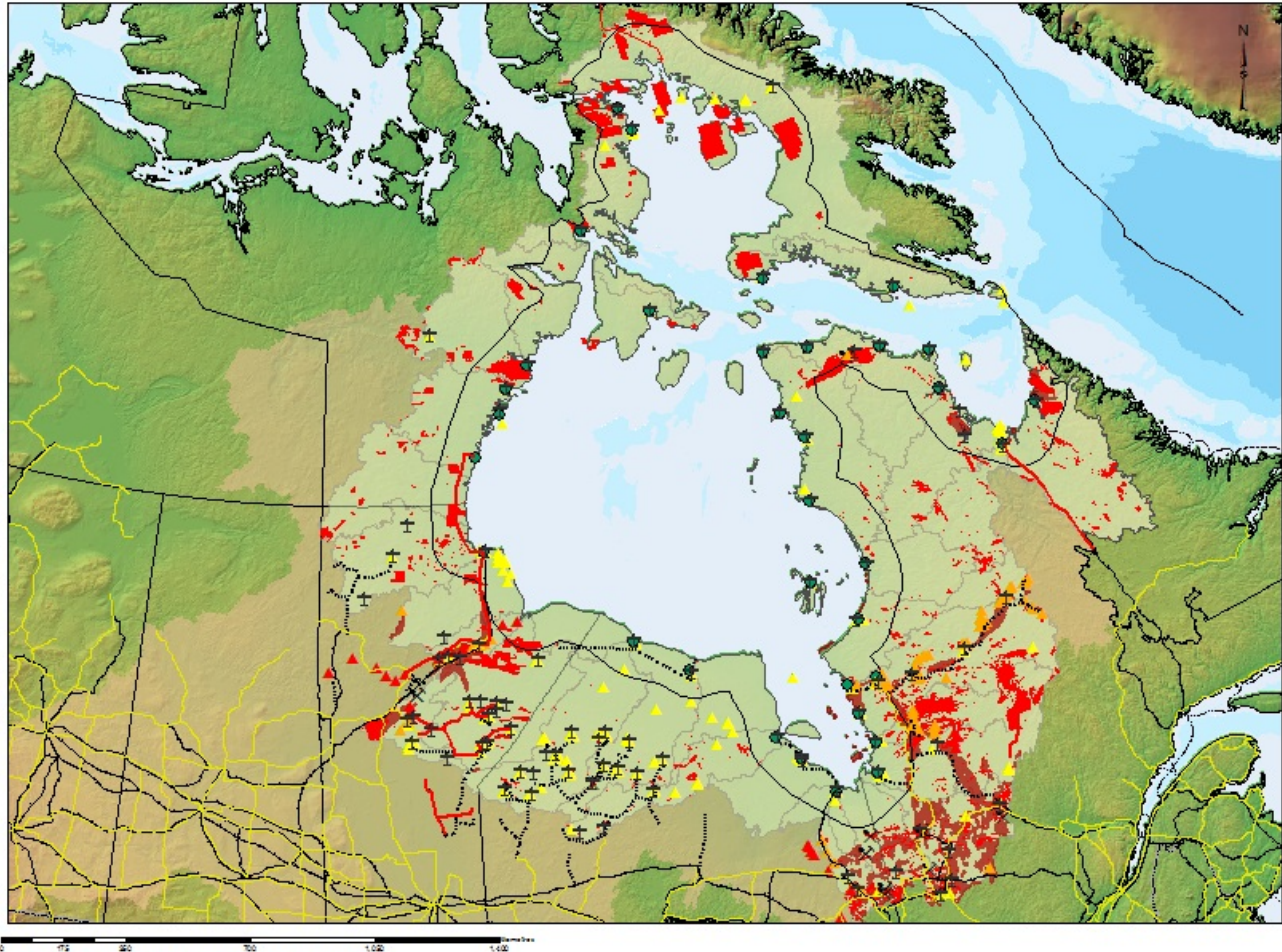
Drivers of change are converging on the Hudson Bay region:

- **Climate change** is driving changes in weather patterns and sea ice;
- **Natural resource development** and provincial and territorial northern development plans moving ahead; and
- The Inland Sea is has a **governance/coordination gap** which is required for bioregional management and a sustainable future.

Stakeholders need to come together at all levels and across jurisdictions to anticipate what lies ahead, articulate a vision of the future and explore an innovative system of governance to collectively address challenges and important opportunities.

# Potential Development of Activities

## HUDSON BAY INLAND SEA INITIATIVE



Map Compiled by the International Institute for Sustainable Development

# How we started...

Initiated by and built from the work of The Nunavut Hudson Bay Inter-Agency Working Group Nunavuumi Tasiujarjuamiuguqatigiit Katutjiqatijiingtit (NTK)

- 1992 Hudson Bay Program
  - to support the development of a comprehensive assessment of the cumulative impacts of human activities on the marine and freshwater ecosystems of the Hudson Bay bioregion;
  - to foster sustainable development by examining and proposing processes for cooperative decision making by governments, developers, aboriginal peoples, and other stakeholders.
- 1997 Voices of the Bay
- 2000/2001- The Hudson Bay Oceans Working Group
  - Multi-stakeholder working group supported by DFO to build collaboration and understanding around the Bay

# Governance Gap



“The jurisdictions surrounding Hudson Bay have a shared responsibility to cooperate in ensuring that their individual and collective activities do not pose serious threats to the health, integrity, and functioning of the bioregion.”

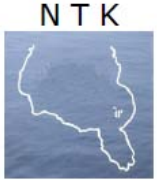
(NTK, 2008)

# Goal



The goal of “Connecting the Bay” is to continue to explore and advance ways to bring together the communities, provinces, territory and federal interests to develop and implement a shared governance and stewardship process for this vast and unique landscape that is currently devoid of leadership.

# Lead Organizations



Nunavut Hudson Bay  
Inter-Agency Working Group

Nunavuummi  
Tasiujarjuamiuguqatigiit  
Katutjiqatigiingit

## Nunavut Hudson Bay Inter-Agency Working Group

**Mandate** - to study and report on issues and implications of developments on Hudson Bay and James Bay in a coordinated, efficient and focused manner to ensure concerns of the Sanikiluaq community, Nunavut Inuit and Nunavut Government are addressed.



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# Participating Organizations



## Advisory Council:

ArcticNet, NTI, Grand Council of the Crees, Municipality of Sanikiluaq, AANDC, MB Conservation, Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Ministry of Natural Resources, Institute of Arctic Ecophysiology and the University of Winnipeg provide guidance for the initiative.

*The Advisory Council will be expanded over time to include other organizations (First Nations and Inuit communities and organizations, Federal, Provincial and Territorial government departments, Members of the Scientific Community and Industry Representatives will all be equal participants in the overall process).*

# Focus of our work...

## 1. Continue to improve our understanding of the region

- Independent research (NRCan) and collaboration with partners

## 2. Facilitate inter-jurisdiction collaboration

- Advisory committee
- Partner engagement

## 3. Communications/engagement

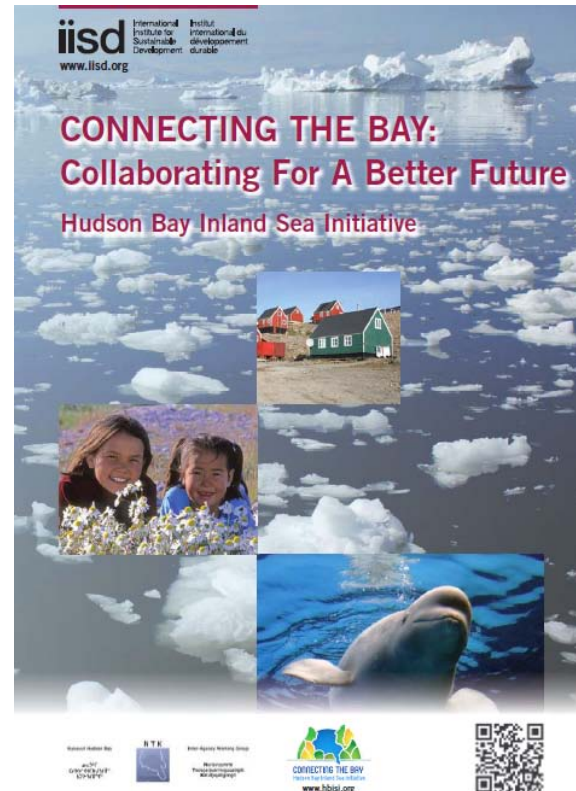
- Website/twitter, participation in regional meetings and initiatives, build collaboration and on existing work in the region



Map Compiled by the International Institute for Sustainable Development

# Hudson Bay Summit

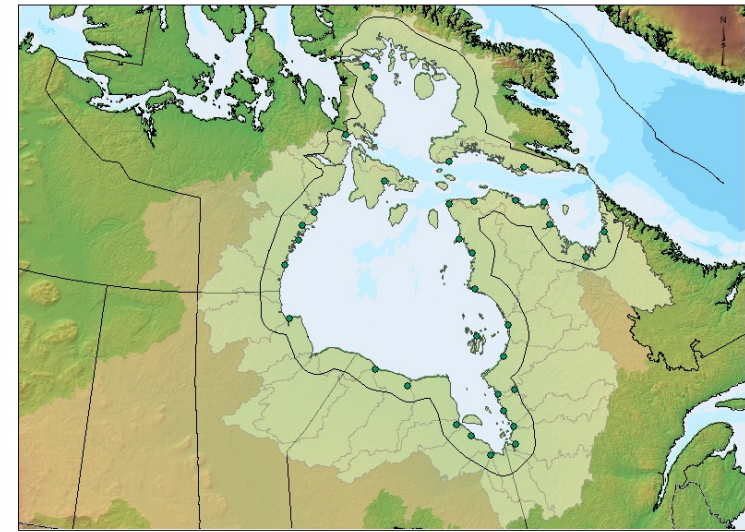
to focus greater public, political and scientific attention on this ecosystem, the coastal First Nations and Inuit peoples who rely on it and economic interests and activities that are increasingly evident in the region.



# Where do we go from here?

Build partnerships to advance ways to “Connect the Bay” by mobilizing a coordinated and sustainable effort to:

- ❑ Establish a joint vision and coordinated management and governance system;
- ❑ Support information sharing, communications, and collaboration between all stakeholders including jurisdictions, communities and management bodies around the Bay;
- ❑ Enable policy action for the sustainable development of the Hudson Bay through a collaborative approach across the region.





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