Canada’s Arctic and Northern Policy Framework

A shared vision of the future where Arctic and northern people are thriving, strong and safe.

Who are we partnering with?

This whole-of-government, co-development process has been supported by:

- 3 territorial governments
- 25 Indigenous organizations representing First Nations and Métis
- 3 provincial governments
- Manitoba, Quebec and Newfoundland and Labrador

The framework builds on 8 overarching and interconnected goals:

- Strong, sustainable, diversified and inclusive local and regional economies
- Canadian Arctic and northern Indigenous peoples are resilient and healthy
- Canadian Arctic and northern ecosystems are healthy and resilient
- Strengthened infrastructure that closes gaps with other regions of Canada
- The rules-based international order in the Arctic responds effectively to new challenges and opportunities
- Knowledge and understanding guides decision-making
- The Canadian Arctic and North and its people are safe, secure and well-defended
- Reconciliation supports self-determination and nurtures mutually respectful relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples

Key milestones in the co-development of the framework:

- December 2016: Prime Minister Justin Trudeau commits to co-developing a new Arctic Policy Framework.
- October 2017: Roundtable engagements held with Arctic and Northern residents, youth and key experts and stakeholders, including industry, academics and non-governmental organizations.
- March 2018: Discussion guide released to facilitate public engagement on the framework.
- September 2019: Launch of Canada’s Arctic and Northern Policy Framework.

Moving from co-development to co-implementation:

In the second phase, the Government of Canada and partners will develop:

- Governance mechanisms describing how partners will collaborate for share information and assess progress on the framework.
- An Implementation Plan outlining how new investments and other economic and regulatory levers will contribute to the implementation of the framework.