

# KEEPING OUR TRADITIONS ALIVE

COMPENDIUM OF BEST PRACTICES IN  
PROMOTING THE TRADITIONAL WAYS OF LIFE  
OF ARCTIC INDIGENOUS PEOPLES



## Faces We Remember/Neqamikegkaput:

Leuman M. Waugh's Photography from St. Lawrence Island, Alaska, 1929-1930

### United States

The project involved the publication of a 192-page annotated catalogue of photographs taken in 1929 and 1930 of residents of the communities of Gambell and Savoonga on St. Lawrence Island.

In 2002, the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian acquired approximately 5,000 photographs taken in Aleut communities during the 1920s and 1930s. After the images had been catalogued, the Museum sent a selection of 120 prints to Gambell and Savoonga with a request for more information. Elders in the communities provided a wealth of details about what the photographs depicted, including the names of individuals and stories associated with them. The elders organized a group of experts for the project and contacted or recommended more knowledgeable persons who could provide additional assistance. In all, a team of 20 individuals collaborated to produce a catalogue based on the photos and information.

The project is a best practice because it demonstrates that old photographs, when combined with information provided by elders, can raise awareness and foster respect of traditions and past ways of life. The project generated great interest among younger community members, who worked with elders to document stories. This process helped reconnect people to the history of their communities. The catalogue documents what communities looked like, and how people lived and organized their lives.

## About 40 one-spread stories of individual projects in culture and language revitalization compiled by the Canadian Arctic Council Secretariat on behalf of the Arctic Council (2015)

Many good collections of historical photographs of Arctic communities and residents exist, and current residents are almost universally interested in using old photographs to strengthen their heritage. For similar projects to succeed, however, several factors must be considered. Current residents are likely to recognize people in, and remember stories about, photographs that are less than 70 years old; for instance, a Project must also pique the interest of current residents; it must generate energy within the community. It is also important that projects have a strategy and goal, such as a book, catalogue or website. Finally, copies of the photographs and the information generated should be shared with the community to foster a strong connection.

The catalogue includes has more than 100 historical photographs and numerous related stories; a total of 600 copies of the catalogue were given to village councils in Gambell and Savoonga. The councils then gave a copy to each family.

A key factor in the success of the project was the direct involvement of elders from the villages where the photographs were taken. The considerable energy and excitement that the photographs generated in the communities drove the project.



Photo: Igor Krupnik, 2003. Yupik Transitions, Change and Survival at Bering Strait, 1900-1950, by Igor Krupnik and Michael Chlenov. (Fairbanks: University of Alaska Press, 2003).



Frontispiece of Faces We Remember / Neqamikegkaput: Leuman Waugh's Photography from St. Lawrence Island, Alaska, 1929-1930. Edited and compiled by Igor Krupnik and Vera Chov Kaneshiro (Washington, D.C.: Arctic Studies Program, Smithsonian Institution, 2005). Reproduced with the permission of Igor Krupnik. Original photograph in the Leuman Waugh Collection, National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution.

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Cover of Faces We Remember / Neqamikegkaput: Leuman Waugh's Photography from St. Lawrence Island, Alaska, 1929-1930. Edited and compiled by Igor Krupnik and Vera Chov Kaneshiro (Washington, D.C.: Arctic Studies Program, Smithsonian Institution, 2005). Reproduced with the permission of Igor Krupnik. Original photographs in the Leuman Waugh Collection, National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution.



ARCTIC COUNCIL

# SUPPORTING ARCTIC SCIENCE

A SUMMARY OF THE WHITE HOUSE ARCTIC SCIENCE MINISTERIAL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2016 – WASHINGTON, DC

MATERIALS DEVELOPED BY THE ARCTIC EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE AND PARTICIPANTS IN THE ARCTIC SCIENCE MINISTERIAL, HOSTED BY THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY, WERE COMPILED AND EDITED BY THE US ARCTIC RESEARCH COMMISSION



## One-spread summaries of Arctic research programs by 25 nations that participated in the Arctic Ministerial Summit, September 28, 2016

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# Greenland

## Points of Contact

- Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Church (<http://www.nanoq.gl>)
- Greenland Research Council (<http://www.forskningsraadet.gl>)

## Arctic Research Policy and Goals

Greenland's policy is to promote the development of its society with a strong and sound international research program based on shared objectives. Greenland's Parliament Act no. 5 of 29 November 2013 addresses

research consultancy and the allocation of research funding. The Act emphasizes coordination and prioritization of research efforts, and enhancing Greenland's participation in international cooperative research initiatives.

## Arctic Research Funders

**The Government of Greenland.** The government is the primary supporter of basic research in Greenland. Funds are distributed to various Greenlandic Research Institutions.

**Danish Public Funding.** Several ministries, such as of science, energy, and environment, provide funding for Arctic research.

**Foreign Public Funding.** Swiss National Science Foundation, the US (National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Science Foundation, and the Office of Naval Research), the European Union, and the Nordic Council of Ministers.

**Private Foundations.** Aage V. Jensen Charity, Oak, Villum, and Carlsberg.

**Business.** Royal Greenland, Sustainable Greenland Fisheries, and several energy and mining companies.

**International Institutions.** Universities and research institutions in the US, Canada, Germany, Iceland, Norway, England, Denmark, Japan, and China.

## Major Arctic Research Initiatives

**Greenland Climate Research Centre** manages research funds, which, through completion of research projects, contribute to increasing knowledge of climate, nature, technology and society.

**Greenland Ecosystem Monitoring (GEM)** is an integrated monitoring and long-term research Programme on Ecosystems and Climate Change effects and feedbacks in the Arctic.

**Programme for Monitoring of the Greenland Ice Sheet (PROMICE)** was initiated as an ongoing effort to assess changes in the mass budget of the Greenland ice sheet.

**Greenland Perspective** is an interdisciplinary collaborative effort to investigate what Greenland has to offer – in terms of natural and human resources.

**Arctic Oil & Gas Research Centre** examines the social and economic impacts of oil and gas activities in the Arctic with an emphasis on Greenland.

**MARPART, Maritime Preparedness and International Partnership in the High North**, assesses the risk of the increased maritime activity in the Arctic and the challenges it may represent for emergency prevention, preparedness and response institutions.

The Fulbright Arctic Initiative, Health and Infrastructure Working Group. The Danish Centre for Environmental Assessment and NORDREGIO arranged a workshop with financial support from the Nordic Council of Ministers' Arctic Collaboration Programme.

**Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP)** monitors and assesses the status of the Arctic region with respect to pollution and climate change issues.

## Arctic Research Infrastructure

### VESSELS

Greenland has two research vessels, the R/V *Paamiut* and the R/V *Sanna*, as well as several smaller vessels.

### FIELD STATIONS

- **Nuuk and the Kobbefjord Field Station** provide access to low Arctic ecosystems in West Greenland with different biotopes such as dwarf-shrub heaths, fens, grasslands, and lakes.
- **Zackenbergl** is situated in the High Arctic in an area with continuous permafrost.
- **Daneberg** is located in the outer part of Young Sund, next to the main station of the Sirius Patrol, in Northeast Greenland.
- **Villum Research Station** is situated at Station Nord. A substantial upgrade of its existing air pollution monitoring station is planned.
- **Niaqornat** conducts long-term studies of beluga and narwhals. Studies of other game animals and of the environment local to this field station may also be considered.

### DRONES

- **ASIAQ.** The Greenland Survey entity, ASIAQ, has invested in two small drones for use in several field studies.



R/V *Sanna*. Photo courtesy natur.gl



R/V *Paamiut*. Photo courtesy Josephine Nyman natur.gl



Zackenbergl Research Station. Photo by Kristian Hosse, NTNU Vitenskapsmuseet



Villum Research Station.



Niaqornat Research Station.