

Government of Nunavut

Tunngasugitti -- Welcome to Nunavut!

Consensus Government

“Over the past ten years, our government has been guided by Inuit societal values...We will continue to be guided by these principles from now into the future.”

- Tamapta 2009-2013

Nunavut has a public government, which operates within the principles of Canadian parliamentary democracy. All residents of Nunavut are entitled to run for office and elect Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) on an individual rather than a party basis.

Following a general election, MLAs meet to select a premier from among the elected members. Ministers are then selected, and the premier assigns portfolios. Government priorities are established among the ministers and the members based on the issues identified during the election.

A consensus government still requires majority support for measures it proposes. Ministers and the premier are required to be consistently accountable and responsible to members' concerns as they work through the legislative and budget processes.

The system blends the principles of parliamentary democracy with the aboriginal values of maximum cooperation, effective use of leadership resources and common accountability. Nunavut shares this system with the Northwest Territories, which also has a significant Aboriginal foundation for its public government.

Inuit qaujimajatuqangit

The government is committed to eight Inuit qaujimajatuqangit guiding principles. Inuit qaujimajatuqangit embodies Inuit traditional knowledge and values. It guides the government in framing decisions, policies and laws that reflect the key philosophies, attitudes and practices of Nunavut's Inuit majority. Applying this principle in the day-to-day governance of Nunavut represents a considerable challenge; but the practice of Inuit qaujimajatuqangit is a goal to which the Government of Nunavut (GN) remains deeply committed.





Tamapta : 2009-2013 “Building Our Future Together”

Tamapta is the GN's mandate. It outlines the important priorities for the future of Nunavut. It sets a new vision, which includes a focus on priorities that improve the overall quality of life for Nunavummiut. Through Inuit societal values, we build a stronger cultural foundation and expand our economy.

The main priorities in Tamapta 2009-2013 are:

1. Improve education and training outcomes
2. Reduce poverty
3. Connect our community
4. Increase housing options
5. Increase support for culture and the arts
6. Help those at risk in our communities
7. Support community-based sustainable economies
8. Address social concerns at their roots
9. Improve health through prevention
10. Enhance our recognition in Canada and the world