

Mapping Inuit Sea Ice Knowledge and Use (SIKU)



Pangnirtung Trip Report (May 29 – June 20, 2008)



Purpose of the trip:

- to verify and finalize the community sea ice maps compiled from the previous 5 yrs
- to follow up on the utility of the Floe Edge Service
- to conduct additional interviews
- to work on Inuktitut descriptions for a bilingual sea ice dictionary
- to meet with the high school principal and DEA about using past and current results in school programs or curriculum

Activities during this trip:

- met with the Hunters and Trappers Association and verified previous maps as well as outlined regional sea ice travel routes
- met with Cathy Lee and the DEA about developing an educational, interactive, online atlas of sea ice for use in the high school and with links to the on-the-land programs
- attended the local Senate Committee on Fisheries and Oceans hearing
- conducted 8 new interviews with: Jaypitie Qappik, Leese Mary Kakkee, Peter Kanayuk, Monty Yank, Mosesee Qappik, and 2 anonymous residents of Pangnirtung
- went on a boat trip around Pangnirtung Fiord
- due to the local state of emergency caused by severe erosion of the Duval River and emergency measures to deal with unsafe

bridges and maintenance of municipal services, we were unable to work on the Floe Edge Service and sea ice dictionary aspects of the project



Next steps:

- Summer 2008: digitize map verifications and additions, transcribe interview audio, write report from November 2007 Floe Edge Expansion visit, coordinate with Eric Joamie for Inuktitut descriptions of sea ice dictionary
- Fall 2008: edit multi-media from past interviews and sea ice trips to build educational atlas foundation, organize and host a project meeting in Ottawa with all community researchers invited, compile and integrate past and ongoing research outputs

Thank you for hosting me in your community, and for supporting this ongoing sea ice project, especially during the difficult time of dealing with the bridge collapse. I am very grateful to the Hunters and Trappers Association for allowing the use of their building for meeting and interview space, and to Eena Alivaktuk for helping with organization and interpretation. I would also like to thank Donald and Meeka Mearns for their hospitality and Joopa Soudluapik for the hands-on learning opportunities provided by a boat trip.

Questions? Comments?

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