

1998 National Forum on Canada's Circumpolar Relations

Yellowknife, N.W.T. - May 19th, 1998

Policy Recommendations

Economic Development/Foreign Policy

- Canada should make a commitment to encourage and support financially dialogue and exchanges between diverse interest groups in the circumpolar region in the areas of sustainable development, renewable resources management, and business development.
- It was recommended that the Arctic Council host a workshop to promote economic development (possibly every 2 years).

Communications/Foreign Policy

- The Federal Government should make the Arctic Council the information and resource manager for all the Arctic research bodies (ie: Arctic Institute, Inuit Circumpolar Conference, Canadian Circumpolar Institute, etc...) to provide an exchange with the Dene and other Polar nations.
- In order to take have a visible presence and take Northern views to the international polar stage, the Circumpolar Ambassador needs to do more outreach in Northern Canada.

Education And Youth/Foreign Policy

- Canada should encourage educational exchanges (ie: instructor or student) within the circumpolar region. This should include technical knowledge, traditional knowledge, as well as academic programs (eg. Arctic University).

Regional Security/Foreign Policy

- The Federal Government should re-examine a commitment to northern sovereignty and Arctic security in order to work towards a foreign policy of joint responsibility with other polar countries.