



“Equally, the ever-growing preponderance of trade and commerce flowing south seems to run counter to the often-voiced but rarely acted on visions of “opening up the north.”

Trade / Economic Development / Northern Economies

Policy Options

- 5.1 Trade policy as a component of foreign policy should be developed with northern input, and should work to drop or reduce circumpolar trade barriers, particularly for the Inuit. (Iqaluit)
- 5.2 Canada should promote trade in animal products: many species are tradable, but Canadian policy prevents it from happening. (Iqaluit)
- 5.3 Canada should promote the removal of barriers such as those in the U.S. Marine Mammal Protection Act. (Iqaluit)
- 5.4 By developing markets and relationships, Canada can promote northern economic development, social and cultural well-being. (Iqaluit)
- 5.5 Canada should promote pro-sealing/pro-fur initiatives, such as sealskin clothing manufacture and trade, that are based on renewable resources and further, should act, on the international scene, to promote and support legal activities of its citizens, such as the bowhead whale hunt. (Iqaluit)
- 5.6 Communications and transportation routes and links should be considered within the context of developing a circumpolar trade policy. (Iqaluit)
- 5.7 Foreign policy should look more to the entrepreneurial factor by facilitating partnerships. (Edmonton)
- 5.8 Sectors that should be considered for promotion on an international level include cottage industries based on wildlife and traditional skills, and food processing businesses that rely on the harvesting of northern foods. Canada should also look to develop its expertise in areas such as land claim negotiation. (Iqaluit)
- 5.9 Sectors that need vigilance include the fishery. While it is becoming increasingly important to parts of Nunavut, there is increasing concern that overfishing in Arctic waters by international fisheries can endanger economic development. Shared stocks have lead to ongoing communications with Greenland; Nunavut participates in several international fora on areas identified within the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade should work with other government departments to address concerns about Canada’s inability to police its own waters. (Iqaluit)
- 5.10 Canada should develop and promote policies for the management of the Arctic oceans. (Edmonton)
- 5.11 Canada should ensure that economic benefits from northern products come north including jobs, manufacturing and economic development. (Iqaluit)