

- the introduction should lay out both the international and domestic context for the new northern foreign policy, including the following issues:

domestic context - review of major trends & issues in Canada's north;
 - demographic trends in Canada's north;
 - review of current domestic programs relevant to northern foreign policy;

international context - review of circumpolar cooperation and agreements;
 - review of other Arctic countries' major interests & activities;
 - review of extra-regional activities & issues impacting on Arctic, including how international obligations (ie. NAFTA, WTO) impact on Canada's options in the north;
 - mention connections among northern peoples of Arctic countries

- the policy should frankly address the issue of Canadian leadership in circumpolar cooperation. In some areas (ie. Arctic Council), Canada has clearly exercised leadership. In others (ie. Arctic science), it has let its commitment and hence its leadership role, slide significantly. It needs to decide what kind of leadership role it wishes to and realistically can play.
- the introduction should therefore include a discussion of Canada's "place" in the circumpolar region. While generally Canadian foreign policy emphasizes multilateral cooperation out of a recognition of its limited power and resources, might its somewhat larger profile in the Arctic at least on certain issues enable it to act more unilaterally there, or at least to be more assertive or insistent? Might not the Arctic Council initiative be viewed in these terms? Might it be quite productive for Canada to set a strong tone in this new northern foreign policy, indicating forthrightly that it intends to determinedly pursue its interests in the Arctic.
- the policy should reflect and articulate the Canadian values that will inform the new northern foreign policy, including those reflected in Canada's overall foreign policy (ie. fostering civility, soft power).
- the policy should revolve around an overarching theme that gives expression to Canada's central aim in the Arctic and helps to convey this aim to others. Among those suggested were:
 - Canada is a trustee of one of the world's most important natural resources;
 - Canada wishes to foster a circumpolar community based on civility;
 - the security of the Arctic environment is a key to the security of the Earth;
 - Canada's global role in the next century will be influenced by how it deals with the north;
- there was broad support for the broad approach advanced in the *Consultation Paper* to the effect that Canada's new northern foreign policy should be principally concerned with employing opportunities for circumpolar or even wider international cooperation to advance domestic, and especially northern, interests.