

OUR STRATEGY

The rapid pace of change and growing importance of the Arctic requires that we strengthen our capacity to deliver on Canada's priorities on the international scene. Facing the region's challenges and seizing its opportunities often requires finding ways to work with others: through bilateral relations with neighbours in the Arctic, through regional mechanisms like the Arctic Council and through other multilateral institutions.

Enhancing key bilateral relationships

Canada will pursue a more strategic engagement with the U.S., our premier partner in the Arctic, and will work closely with Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, and in priority areas. The Arctic has also attracted the interest of non-Arctic states and entities. The key foundation for collaboration will be acceptance of and respect for Arctic states' sovereignty and the perspectives and knowledge of Northerners.

Pursuing a strengthened Arctic Council

The Arctic Council is the leading forum for cooperation on Arctic issues. Canada's key priorities for strengthening the Council include pursuing a greater policy dialogue, ensuring that research continues to focus on key emerging issues, and engaging with other member states to address the structural needs of the organization.

Working through multilateral institutions

Canada will work through all relevant multilateral institutions toward global solutions for issues such as polar shipping regulations, climate change and mercury emissions.