

Community Workshop Report

❄️ Workshop Context

From June 2025 to February 2026, the Impact Assessment Working Group organized community workshops in Kuujuarapik, Kuujuaq and Quaqtaq to:

- Increase awareness of impact assessment processes.
- Discuss how communities wish to engage and be equipped to participate in development project consultations.

❄️ Workshop Content

The morning part of the workshop explored the general concept and steps of impact assessment by addressing five main questions:

- Why does impact assessment exist?
- When is an impact assessment triggered?
- What is impact assessment?
- Where does impact assessment apply in the region?
- Who is involved?

The afternoon sessions were more interactive, with group activities designed to encourage participants to share their knowledge, experiences and expectations regarding how communities wish to be involved and equipped to participate in potential projects, engagement and consultation.

❄️ Participants' Observations

Communication

- Documents related to impact assessments should be available in their language and readily accessible.
- A variety of outreach methods should be used to engage the entire population.
- Consultation should be truly meaningful, and not just "checking a box".

Resources

- Having a liaison officer or team in each community would make communications and consultation easier.
- Indigenous knowledge and community input is of fundamental importance and should be meaningfully included in impact assessments.

Timing

- Engagement should happen at the earliest stage of any project or impact assessment, ideally before the project is conceptualized.
- Consultations need to account for cultural and subsistence activities.
- Adequate time is required for communities to review and analyze documents and to express their views during meetings.

Review Bodies

- Review bodies currently lack sufficient local and regional representation.
- Review bodies should be more present in the communities.
- Review bodies and decision makers should honor the perspectives of communities.

Pre-Planning

Planning

Impact Study

Review

Decision-Making

Post-Decision



❄️ Working Group Recommendations

Communication

Develop communication strategies alongside communities and regional organizations to ensure they meet local needs.

Resources

To participate meaningfully in project developments, impact assessments, and consultations, communities need: sustainable funding, specialized technical expertise, dedicated human resources, a local liaison officer or team and independent reviews. This foundational capacity could empower local voices to effectively engage in decision-making processes.

Harmonization of Impact Assessment Processes

Harmonizing impact assessment processes would reduce administrative burden and improve the clarity, efficiency, and accessibility of consultations, leading to more meaningful, authentic, and well-informed community involvement, while also limiting consultation fatigue.