

**SCOMM**

**99:26**

House District 36

Alatna  
Allakaket  
Aniak  
Anvik  
Arctic Village  
Beaver  
Bettles  
Birch Creek  
Canyon Village  
Central  
Chalkyitsik  
Chicken  
Chistochina  
Chitina  
Chuathbaluk  
Circle  
Copper Center  
Crooked Creek  
Dot Lake  
Eagle  
Evansville  
Fort Yukon  
Gakona  
Galena  
Grayling  
Gulkana  
Healy Lake  
Holy Cross  
Hughes  
Huslia  
Igigig  
Iliamna  
Kakhonak  
Kalskag  
Kaltag  
Kenny Lake  
Koyukuk  
Lake Minchumina  
Lime Village  
Livengood  
Lower Kalskag  
Lower Tonsina  
Manley  
McCarthy  
McGrath  
Medfra  
Mentasta  
Minto  
Nabesna  
Newhalen  
Nikolai  
Nondalton  
Northway  
Nulato  
Port Alsworth  
Rampart  
Red Devil  
Ruby  
Shageluk  
Slana  
Sleetmute  
Stevens Village  
Stony River  
Takotna  
Tanacross  
**Tanana**  
Tazlina  
Telida  
Tetlin  
Tok  
Tonsina  
Tuluksak  
Tyonek  
Venetie  
Wiseman

## Representative Irene K. Nicholia

State Capitol • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Phone: 465-4527 FAX: 465-2294

*Health, Education and  
Social Services Committee  
Special Committee on Fisheries*

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Ramona Barnes, Chairwoman  
World Trade and State/Federal Relations Committee

FROM: Representative Irene Nicholia *Irene*

DATE: February 10, 1995

RE: Meeting with Ambassador Simon

Just a reminder that Ambassador Simon will be here on Monday to speak with members about the establishment of an Arctic Council. Attached you will find a copy of the discussion paper relating to this issue, as well as biographies for the group that will be accompanying her.

Again, the meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 13, at 2:30 in the Governor's Conference Room. I am looking forward to seeing you there!

## **DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ARCTIC COUNCIL**

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Canada supports creation of the Arctic Council -- a permanent, intergovernmental policy forum of the eight Arctic national governments comprised of US, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, and Canada.
- The Arctic Council would address issues of the Arctic such as: protection of the environment, economic development of Northern regions, circumpolar trade and movement of peoples, the development and expansion of transport and communications systems in the North, the social welfare of Northern residents, the provision of educational and medical services to Northern communities, and the promotion of tourism and cultural exchange.
- Relationship to Existing Circumpolar Initiatives: The Arctic Council would be the sole international institution—an umbrella body—mandated to address and manage the full range of common Arctic concerns and would obviate the need to create a multiplicity of other, more specialized bodies.
- Function of the Proposed Arctic Council: Key body to ensure international cooperation and coordination on sustainable development by promoting the exchange of ideas and possible actions on:
  - closer cooperation between national and local governments and non-governmental organizations on economic development
  - the management of living resources and non-renewable resources.
  - value-added, traditionally-based economic, environmental and scientific enterprises
  - increased trade among Arctic countries and with other markets.
  - improved air and maritime transportation; telecommunication; and education links
  - closer indigenous cultural cooperation and cooperation on shared social problems.
- Structure of the Proposed Arctic Council:
  - Comprised of eight Arctic national governments.
  - Operate on basis of consensus by its members.
  - Representatives of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, the Saami Council, and the Association of Aboriginal Peoples of Northern Russia will fully participate in the work and deliberations of the Council as permanent participants.
  - Necessary criteria for observership will be established.
  - Ministerial level meetings will be rotated among members.
  - Each Arctic government will identify a coordinator.
  - Canada is prepared to consider a small secretariat to support the work of the Council during the initial period.



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P.02

FOR DISCUSSION ONLY  
JANUARY 16, 1995.

**DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE ESTABLISHMENT  
OF AN ARCTIC COUNCIL:**

**A COLLABORATIVE OPPORTUNITY FOR  
THE EIGHT ARCTIC STATES**

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FOR DISCUSSION ONLY  
JANUARY 16, 1995

DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE ESTABLISHMENT  
OF AN ARCTIC COUNCIL:

A COLLABORATIVE OPPORTUNITY FOR  
THE EIGHT ARCTIC STATES

CONTEXT

Over the past few years, a new international community has taken shape in the Arctic reflecting a growing awareness by the Arctic countries of the many common challenges facing the North and its peoples. This has resulted in a remarkable growth of circumpolar initiatives in response to these emerging issues of mutual concern and interest. Specific examples include:

- Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy (AEPS)
- International Arctic Science Committee (IASC)
- Barents Euro-Arctic Region Council
- Northern Forum
- Arctic Leaders' Summit
- Circumpolar Health Society
- Circumpolar Agricultural Conference

In addition, there have been recently new bilateral initiatives addressing environmental concerns in the Arctic, including the November 1994 Joint Canadian-Russian Statement on Arctic Cooperation and the December 1994 Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in the Prevention of Pollution in the Arctic.

Many of these circumpolar initiatives have been created on an ad hoc basis and are issue specific.

Despite the success which has been achieved in these initiatives, especially AEPS, there are a number of shortcomings, including: the absence of a mechanism or mandate to address the full range of Arctic issues; and the lack of an overall coordinated approach to Arctic issues, many of which cut across various sectors. Canada is of the view that there is a compelling need for a permanent, intergovernmental policy forum of the eight Arctic governments-- the United States, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, and Canada-- to strengthen circumpolar initiatives, to contribute to international cooperation, to meet the new challenge of sustainable development, and to provide a broader and coordinated voice in response to critical issues being faced by all Arctic countries.

There is a wide range of Arctic issues common to the nations of the circumpolar North which can be addressed most effectively in a multilateral forum which promotes cooperation and concerted action. These issues go beyond those related to the protection of the environment, and include, for example: the economic development of Northern regions, circumpolar trade and movement of peoples, the development and expansion of transport and communications systems in the North, the social welfare of Northern residents, especially indigenous peoples, the

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FOR DISCUSSION ONLY  
JANUARY 16, 1995.

-2-

provision of educational and medical services to Northern communities, and the promotion of tourism and cultural exchange.

An Arctic Council as a regional body could provide political energy and focus for: anticipating and addressing current problems, capitalizing on new opportunities, and involving Northerners in discussion of issues that affect them directly. Northern indigenous peoples, for example, have already made significant contributions through their interventions and representations at international fora (e.g. AEPS) on such critical issues as the environment.

#### RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING CIRCUMPOLAR INITIATIVES

The proposed Arctic Council would be the sole international institution mandated to address and manage the full range of common Arctic concerns and would obviate the need to create a multiplicity of other, more specialized bodies which is the emerging trend. It is not intended to replace or duplicate existing circumpolar initiatives. Instead it would act as an umbrella body.

The Council would constitute a broad consultative instrument in support of specialized initiatives such as the AEPS and IASC. These initiatives could in turn become the functional bodies for the Council.

It would ensure greater efficiency and effectiveness by providing focus and, where appropriate, policy direction to existing Arctic-related organizations, creating by consensus additional working groups only where necessary, and by influencing and coordinating with other international organizations.

The relationship between the Arctic Council and the other existing initiatives would be defined more precisely as part of the process to establish the Arctic Council.

#### FUNCTION OF THE PROPOSED ARCTIC COUNCIL

The terms of reference for an Arctic Council should reflect the elements of the Declaration of May 1993 on the establishment of an Arctic Council (adopted by seven Arctic countries). The Council would provide a forum wherein the Arctic governments would consider and address issues of common interest and make recommendations on follow-up tasks. In this sense, the Council would provide political impetus on actions and co-operative initiatives; ensure better co-ordination and interaction among the Arctic governments; and promote coherence among the Arctic countries on various aspects of northern development.

Through such a body, the Arctic countries would work to advance Arctic interests within other international organizations. The Council would provide a mechanism to mobilize the resources of the Arctic countries in cases of potential emergency situations or priority issues.

Also, the Council would constitute a significant instrument to address the concerns and aspirations of northern inhabitants, especially indigenous peoples.

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FOR DISCUSSION ONLY  
JANUARY 16, 1995.

-3-

Sustainable development is a concept which integrates economic, environmental, and social considerations whose activities are crucial to the economic and cultural viability of northern peoples, and is a shared interest of all Arctic countries. Each element must be given appropriate consideration. The Arctic's unique environmental and cultural features require an integrated regional approach to Arctic sustainable development. These linkages, and the need for a broader integrated approach, have become apparent in the work of the AEPS. An Arctic Council would be the key body to ensure international cooperation and coordination on sustainable development by promoting the exchange of ideas and possible actions on:

- closer cooperation between national and local governments and non-governmental organizations on economic development;
- the management of living resources (especially marine and land mammals and fish) and non-renewable resources (oil and gas; minerals);
- value-added, traditionally-based economic, environmental and scientific enterprises;
- increased trade among the Arctic countries and between the Arctic and other parts of the world;
- improved air and maritime transportation; telecommunications; and educational links; and
- closer indigenous cultural cooperation and cooperation on shared social problems.

The proposed Arctic Council would assist in the regional implementation of global agreements, e.g. trade, and would address only the circumpolar dimension of issues.

### STRUCTURE OF THE PROPOSED ARCTIC COUNCIL

In the establishment of an Arctic Council, it is essential for Canada that the following criteria are met. They are based on the terms of reference of the 1993 Declaration:

1. The members of the Arctic Council are the national governments of Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, the Russian Federation, and the United States of America.
2. The Council will operate on the basis of consensus by its members.

The agenda will be a reflection of pressing issues agreed upon by consensus of the eight Arctic countries. The principle of consensus provides the appropriate safeguard to ensure that all parties are in agreement that an issue should be addressed, and that the work of the Arctic Council is based on common understandings and shared interests. Canada

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JANUARY 16, 1995.

does not foresee the Arctic Council as an appropriate body to resolve strategic-military issues. Canada would suggest that in addition to efforts toward its establishment, the Arctic Council focuses initially on promoting sustainable development.

3. Representatives of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, the Saami Council and the Association of Aboriginal peoples of northern Russia will fully participate in the work and deliberations of the Council as permanent participants.

The permanent participant status recognizes the primary interests of indigenous peoples in the Arctic and provides a vehicle for their meaningful participation in the inception and proceedings of the Council.

The initial inclusion of these three organizations is based on the recognition that they represent the majority of indigenous peoples throughout the circumpolar North and the important role that these organizations have played in circumpolar cooperation.

It is recognized that there are other indigenous peoples in the Arctic countries, including Canada which are not represented by these organizations. Canada would encourage each country to explore options to allow for meaningful indigenous participation in the national delegation or through other acceptable means.

4. The Council will establish the necessary criteria to invite observers to attend meetings of the Council, as appropriate.

This could include other non-governmental organizations, and non-Arctic national and sub-national governments.

5. The Council will meet at ministerial level in one of the member countries on a rotational basis, as needed. In addition, it may choose to meet at senior officials level.

6. Each Arctic government will identify a coordinator.

7. Canada is prepared to consider a small secretariat to support the work of the Council during the initial period.

This discussion paper was prepared jointly by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

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FEB-08-1995 17:47

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P.05

**Dr. Jack E. Stagg**

**Assistant Deputy Minister,  
Policy and Strategic Direction  
Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development**

Dr. Stagg received a B.A. (History & Economics) in 1971 and an M.A. (History and Political Economy) in 1972 from McMaster University.

After a period in the private sector he joined the Public Service as a Research Negotiator with the Public Archives of Canada. In 1975, he moved to the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) as a Researcher.

In 1977, he resumed his studies becoming Research Fellow at Darwin College, Cambridge University, England where he was granted a Ph.D. in 1984.

On returning to DIAND he held a number of positions in the Indian Program and the Office of Native Claims. In 1984-85, he was Director of Intergovernmental Affairs becoming Director of Constitutional Development and Aboriginal Affairs the following year.

In 1987, Dr. Stagg was appointed Director General, Constitutional Development and Strategic Planning, Northern Affairs Program, and named Assistant Deputy Minister in February 1993.

In August 1993, he was appointed Assistant Deputy Minister, Policy and Strategic Direction.

**Camil Simard  
Acting Senior Advisor  
Circumpolar Liaison Directorate  
Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development**

Mr. Simard received a Law Degree (L.L.B.) from University Laval, Quebec City, in 1984 and an M.A. (Soviet and East European Studies) from Carleton University, Ottawa in 1988. In 1986-87, he pursued graduate studies in international law at Leningrad State University, Russia.

Mr. Simard joined the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development in 1988 as Research Analyst in the Circumpolar and Scientific Affairs Unit, Northern Program. In 1990, he became Circumpolar Analyst-Russia, with the main responsibility for coordinating Canada-Russia Arctic bilateral cooperation, including the 1992 Canada-Russia Agreement on Cooperation in the Arctic and the North.

In Fall 1994, he was named Acting Senior Advisor, Circumpolar Liaison Directorate, Strategic and Policy Direction. The Directorate provides secretariat functions in support of the Office of the Ambassador for Circumpolar Affairs.

Canadian Consulate General



Consulat Général du Canada

**TERRANCE H. STORMS****Consul****Political and Economic Relations and Public Affairs**

---

*Terry Storms has been with the Political and Economic Relations and Public Affairs Division of the Canadian Consulate General in Seattle, Washington since September 1992. He arrived from Canberra, Australia, where he participated in a one-year government exchange with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.*

*In his twenty years with the Department of External Affairs and International Trade Canada, Mr. Storms has held positions at Canadian embassies in Cameroon, the Netherlands, Egypt and Kuwait. He has also worked in various capacities at the Department's headquarters in Ottawa, Ontario. He has served as Deputy Director in the Divisions of Export Controls and Middle East Relations, and has worked in the United States, Information, Intelligence, United Nations Political and Institutional Affairs, Personnel and Language Divisions.*

*During his time in Seattle, Mr. Storms has applied his insight and expertise to responsibilities in Canada-USA political and economic relations. He also oversees activities in cultural affairs, communications and Canadian studies within the Consulate's four-state territory of Washington, Idaho, Oregon and Alaska.*

*Terry Storms is an avid reader and appreciator of the arts. He speaks english, french and dutch. With his family close by - in his homeland of Alberta -, he looks forward to spending his next four years in the Pacific Northwest.*

**THE NORTHERN FORUM**

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARIAT**

4101 University Drive -- Alaska Pacific University

Carr-Gottstein Academic Center, Suite 221

Anchorage AK 99508

Telephone (907) 561-3280 -- Facsimile (907) 561-6645

*Fax Transmission Cover Sheet*

**Thursday, May 11, 1995**

**TO:** State Representative Ramona Barnes

907-465-4565 -- Fax Number

**FROM:** Steven H. Shropshire  
Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** SJR 18

**Pages to Transmit:** 2 (Including Cover)

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For your information, bill SJR 18 is currently being considered on the floor. I do not recommend passage of SJR 18 as it is currently written.

Please contact me should you have any comments.

Thank you for your time and support.

If there are any problems in transmission, please call 907-561-3280.

# THE NORTHERN FORUM

April 27, 1995

Via Fax 907-465-3472  
3 Page to TransmitOFFICE OF THE SECRETARIAT  
4101 University Drive, APU Cam-Gottstein Center, Suite 221  
Anchorage, Alaska 99508  
Phone: 907 561-3280 FAX: 907 561-6645

The Honorable Gail Phillips  
Speaker of the House  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol Room 208  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Speaker Phillips:

It is my understanding that the Alaska State Legislature is currently considering SJR 18, relating to the establishment of an Arctic Council. I have enclosed for your review a copy of my letter which was recently sent to Governor Knowles relating to this issue.

As the letter indicates, The Northern Forum Board of Directors has not taken a formal position on the Council. However, I recommend that the State Legislature not pass SJR 18 as it is currently written. Specifically with regard to its reference to the Arctic council as "the only institution mandated to address a full range of Arctic issues."

As you know, the State of Alaska has invested considerable resources in establishing The Northern Forum, an organization made up of elected leaders from the Arctic regions.

The Arctic Council in contrast, is an organization represented by bureaucrats and special interest groups. These organizations are not mutually exclusive, and indeed The Northern Forum is absolutely essential in providing a balanced perspective in Arctic policy decisions.

Please contact me if you should require any further information.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Steven H. Shropshire  
Executive Director

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Representing the Regional  
Authority of Northern Norway

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President Mikhail Ye. Nikolayev  
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Jewish Autonomous  
Oblast, Russia

Governor Anatoly M. Yakimov  
Evenk Autonomous Okrug, Russia

Membership Level II  
Republic of Korea

# Alaska State Legislature

Senator Al Adams



Official Business

WHILE IN SESSION  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
(907) 465-3707  
Fax 463-4867

OUT OF SESSION  
P.O. Box 333  
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752  
(907) 442-3245

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Rep. Ramona Barnes, Chair *AAA*  
World Trade and State/Federal Relations

FROM: Senator Al Adams

DATE: April 26, 1995

SUBJECT: SS SJR 18: Establishment of an Arctic Council

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By means of this memorandum, I am requesting a hearing for SS SJR 18: An Establishment of an Arctic Council.

Enclosed is a copy of the CSSS for SJR 18. Also enclosed is some background information.

I agree with the changes that were made in the latest senate version.

I appreciate and thank you for your time.

# FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: April 4, 1995 Dept. Affected: Community & Regional Affairs  
Title: Relating to establishment of an Arctic council BRU: none  
Component: none  
Sponsor: Sen. Adams  
Requestor: Senate CRA COMPONENT SERIAL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

| Expenditures/Revenues: |       | (Thousands of Dollars) |       |       |       |       |
|------------------------|-------|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| OPERATING              | FY 96 | FY 97                  | FY 98 | FY 99 | FY 00 | FY 01 |
| PERSONAL SERVICES      |       |                        |       |       |       |       |
| TRAVEL                 |       |                        |       |       |       |       |
| CONTRACTUAL            |       |                        |       |       |       |       |
| SUPPLIES               |       |                        |       |       |       |       |
| EQUIPMENT              |       |                        |       |       |       |       |
| LAND & STRUCTURES      |       |                        |       |       |       |       |
| GRANTS, CLAIMS         |       |                        |       |       |       |       |
| MISCELLANEOUS          |       |                        |       |       |       |       |
| TOTAL OPERATING        | 0.0   | 0.0                    | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0   |
|                        |       |                        |       |       |       |       |
| CAPITAL                | 0.0   | 0.0                    | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0   | 0.0   |

REVENUE FUND SOURCE: \_\_\_\_\_

| FUNDING:                 |     | (Thousands of Dollars) |     |     |     |     |
|--------------------------|-----|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1002 Federal Receipts    |     |                        |     |     |     |     |
| 1003 GF Match            |     |                        |     |     |     |     |
| 1004 GF                  |     |                        |     |     |     |     |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts |     |                        |     |     |     |     |
| 1006 GF/MHTIA            |     |                        |     |     |     |     |
| Other                    |     |                        |     |     |     |     |
| TOTAL                    | 0.0 | 0.0                    | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| POSITIONS: |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FULL-TIME  |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| PART-TIME  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| TEMPORARY  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |

Estimate of current (FY94) impact \$ none

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

DCRA is not mentioned explicitly in this resolution and it is difficult to speculate as to specific fiscal implications of this resolution for the department. However, it is assumed that the department would participate in some form, probably involving travel and per diem at the Commissioner's Office level. It is assumed that any such travel would be absorbed within existing travel budgets.

Prepared by: Remond Henderson, Director *Remond Henderson* Phone: 465-4708  
Division: Division of Administrative Services Date: 4/4/95  
Approved by Commissioner: *Mike Driscoll* Date: 4/4/95  
Agency: Community & Regional Affairs

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Official Business

# Alaska State Legislature

Senator Al Adams

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OUT OF SESSION  
P.O. Box 333  
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752  
(907) 442-3245

## SPONSOR STATEMENT

### SJR 18: Establishment of an Arctic Council

This resolution supports a permanent, intergovernmental policy forum to address concerns that affect the eight countries of the Arctic. The eight countries are the United States, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden and Canada. The Arctic Council will provide focus and policy direction to existing Arctic countries.

Currently, there are no organizations to deal with issues regarding the Arctic countries on a collective basis. The Arctic Council would strengthen circumpolar initiatives, and contribute to international cooperation to meet the new challenges of sustainable development. Through this council, people of the northern countries would be involved in discussions of issues that affect them directly.

The council would operate by consensus of its members. Organizations such as: Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy, Northern Forum, Arctic Leaders' Summit and other organizations would work with the Arctic Council to enhance life for people of the northern region. The organization will define criteria for different agencies that will participate in the Arctic Council. Ministerial level meetings will be rotated among the members. Each Arctic government will identify a coordinator.

The Arctic Council deals with environmental, business and health and safety issues. The Arctic Council will be a decision making body. They will provide directions and recommendations unilaterally that relate to the Arctic concerns.

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Sponsor Statement: SJR 18

Senator Al Adams

For example, if a country is throwing nuclear waste in the water stream and it is effecting the food source, that country may be urged to comply with the Arctic Council policy to stop throwing waste in the food chain.

Therefore, I urge you to support this resolution for an Arctic Council. It will make Alaska more self-sufficient and self-supporting with out dependence of the federal government.

16:39:21 EST: FOREIGN AFFAIR?-&gt;

286 443 1782

Page 828

Feb. 24, 1995 4:22PM DFAIT/BCD/BCC

No. 1636 P. 20/25

Government  
of CanadaGouvernement  
du Canada

## Visit of U.S. President Bill Clinton to Canada February 23-24, 1995

### BACKGROUNDER ON KEY RESULTS

#### Trade

- Leaders stressed the very positive impact of the North American Free Trade Agreement (increase of US\$40 billion/C\$50 billion last year for total two-way trade of US\$270 billion/C\$371 billion).
- Leaders affirmed the need to manage trade disputes better. Trade Minister MacLaren and USTR Kantor will work with their Mexican colleague to address NAFTA trade remedies issues. They reviewed a range of trade irritants, including agricultural and cultural issues, and their expectation for progress towards a constructive dialogue on softwood lumber.

#### Air Agreement

- The air agreement will generate new economic activity and thousands of new jobs in both countries.
- The agreement will result in lower air fares, increased tourism, and new business in Canadian and U.S. cities.

#### Borders/Customs

- Leaders agreed to improve border services in order to continue expansion of trade and tourism.
- A binational steering committee has been tasked to develop, within six months, an action plan to make cross-border travel, trade and tourism easier.
- Measures to strengthen efforts against drugs, smuggling and illegal movement of people are also being envisioned.

#### Defence

- Leaders agreed to conclude successfully negotiations on the renewal of the NORAD agreement this year. Foreign Minister Ouellet and Defence Minister Collenette will follow up with Secretaries Christopher and Perry.

.../2

**Canada**

Feb. 24. 1995 4:22PM DFAIT/BCD/BCC

No. 1636 P. 21/25

- 2 -

- Special negotiators have been appointed to review environmental clean-up and residual value issues relating to former U.S. military sites in Canada.

### Environment

- Leaders remarked on the long and successful history of bilateral environmental cooperation and the importance of regular high-level meetings to address common environmental concerns.
- Leaders were pleased to note plans to:
  - convene a meeting of G-7 Environment Ministers in Hamilton in April;
  - work together to develop by February 1996 a binational strategy to address the most persistent toxic substances in the Great Lakes environment;
  - undertake projects to assess regional and ground level ozone concentrations affecting both countries;
  - formalize cooperation on natural parks and historic sites; and
  - reaffirm their commitment to preserve and protect the Porcupine caribou herd in its habitat.

### Fish

- Both leaders have made the successful completion of the Pacific Salmon Treaty a priority, and pledged their full support for their negotiators' continuing efforts to overcome outstanding differences.

### Global Economic Issues

- The leaders discussed the G-7 Economic Summit, which Prime Minister Chrétien will host in Halifax this year.
- Leaders agreed to work together in the reform of international financial institutions and for the success of the World Trade Organization.

### Western Hemisphere

- Leaders discussed implementation of their goal for a Free Trade Area of the Americas by 2005 and the desirability of Chile's early accession to NAFTA.

.../3

- 3 -

- Leaders reaffirmed their support for and confidence in President Zedillo and Mexico's long-term economic future.
- Leaders reviewed other developments in Latin America, including the successful ongoing action to restore democracy in Haiti.

#### NATO Expansion

- Leaders agreed that NATO expansion would contribute to the stability and security of Europe.

#### United Nations/Peacekeeping

- Leaders agreed on the importance of a reformed UN in keeping global peace.
- The Prime Minister congratulated the President on his leadership in fostering historic progress in the Middle East peace process and in addressing the Mexican economic crisis.
- The President expressed his appreciation of Canada's long-standing commitment to peacekeeping forces in the former Yugoslavia and other regions of the world.

#### Arctic Council

- Leaders agreed to pursue the establishment of an Arctic Council by early 1996 to promote regional cooperation and sustainable development in the North. X

#### Other issues

- The two leaders also held very productive discussions on European security architecture, Russia and Ukraine, the former Yugoslavia and China.
- Canada took note of the U.S. request to address the Beaufort Sea boundary dispute and promised to provide a response.

February 16, 1995

The President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The State of Alaska supports an initiative sponsored by the government of Canada known as the Arctic Council. The Arctic Council, comprised of eight Arctic national governments, has an opportunity to be an umbrella body that encompasses the many organizations and issues facing the north. Those issues are very close to Alaska's interest as we are the only Arctic-oriented state, geographically and culturally.

Alaska encourages the United States government to focus on policies affecting the health of our indigenous people, as well as continuing its work on trade, economic development, transportation and research. Public health is of primary concern to Alaska. Solutions to problems, such as the high rates of alcoholism and suicide, affecting the people living in the harsh conditions of the Arctic need to be addressed. Additionally, we view the Arctic Council as a forum to discuss our interests and successes in environmentally responsible Arctic development, including the potential for development in federally designated areas such as the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

The State of Alaska wants to be an active participant in the development of the United States' Arctic policies. Representation from Alaska's people is essential as they are affected by and knowledgeable about Arctic policies of our Nation.

Sincerely,

s/s Tony Knowles

Tony Knowles  
Governor

The President  
February 16, 1995  
Page 2

bcc: Ambassador Mary Simon  
Senator Ted Stevens  
Senator Frank Murkowski  
Representative Don Young  
Lawton Jordan, The White House  
John Katz  
Commissioner Willie Hensley

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0824  
Arctic Council support

March 9, 1993

The Honorable Mary Simon  
Ambassador for Circumpolar Affairs  
Department of Foreign Affairs and  
International Trade  
125 Sussex Drive, Tower B-4 (ACX)  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G2  
CANADA

Dear Ambassador Simon:

I am pleased that one of the positive results of the recent meeting between President Clinton and Prime Minister Chrétien was an agreement to support the creation of the Arctic Council, an initiative sponsored by the government of Canada.

The Arctic Council has an opportunity to be an umbrella body that encompasses the many organizations and issues facing northern regions. Those issues are very close to Alaska's interest as we are the only Arctic-oriented state in the United States, both geographically and culturally. Our interest is not to duplicate existing efforts, but to coordinate and enhance them.

Alaska encourages the Arctic Council to focus on policies affecting the health of our indigenous people, as well as embracing the work of the Sustainable Development Task Force relating to trade, economic development, transportation, research, communications, and Native issues. Public health is of primary concern to Alaska. Solutions to problems, such as the high rates of alcoholism and suicide, affecting the people living in the harsh conditions of the Arctic need to be addressed.

Additionally, we view the Arctic Council as a forum to discuss our interests and successes in environmentally responsible resource development, including the potential for natural resource development in federally designated areas such as the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

The State of Alaska wants to be an active participant in the Arctic Council to discuss and respond to the many challenges and opportunities we share as residents of the North. We invite the Council to Alaska for one of its earliest meetings.

Sincerely,

s/s Tony Knowles

Tony Knowles  
Governor

**The Second Arctic Leaders' Summit, Tromsø January 25 - 27, 1995**

**Proposal for the Establishment of an Arctic Council**

The participants in the workshop were generally positively interested in the establishment of an Arctic Council, although some scepticism and concerns were expressed with respect to the different levels of participation - these being the membership for Arctic states versus permanent participation status for Indigenous Peoples - represented by their International Indigenous Organizations of the Arctic.

The Arctic Leaders' Summit recommends that the following be embodied in the Declaration of the Arctic Council:

- \* The eight Arctic states recognize that the Arctic Indigenous Peoples have the right to self-determination within their nation-states.
- \* The right of Arctic Indigenous Peoples to participate fully and directly in an Arctic Council should be reflected as a key principle in the proposed structure of the Arctic Council.

The Arctic Leaders' Summit support the principle as stated on page 3 and 4 in the section on Structure of the Proposed Arctic Council in the Discussion Paper on the Establishment of an Arctic Council: A Collaborative Opportunity for the Eight Arctic States of January 16, 1995.

## Declaration of the Second Arctic Indigenous Leaders Summit

We, the Representatives of the Indigenous Peoples organizations of the Arctic, the Inuit Circumpolar Conference, the Saami Council and the Association of the Indigenous Peoples in Russia, Siberia and the Far East.

Having convened the Second Arctic Leaders Summit at Tromsø, Norway to continue the cooperation among Arctic Indigenous Leaders to further identify common international issues of concern, to exchange experiences, and to develop strategies and solutions.

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the Summit is the achievement of international cooperation in solving problems of an economic, social, cultural, political and humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion.

Recognizing the value and diversity of the indigenous peoples of the Arctic;

Conscious of the need to improve the economic, social, cultural and political situation of Arctic indigenous peoples with full respect for distinctiveness and our own initiatives,

Recognizing the rights of Arctic indigenous peoples to self-determination, self-government, land and resources, in addition to cultural, social and economic rights;

Recognizing the special role of indigenous peoples in environmental management and development in the Arctic, and the significance of indigenous knowledge and traditional practices, and the need to promote our effective participation to achieve sustainable development in the Arctic;

Recalling the principles concerning indigenous peoples in the Arctic Environmental Protection Strategy (AEPS), Caring for the Earth, the Rio Declaration, the Nuuk Declaration, and the recommendations from the 1994 Seminar on the Integration of Indigenous Peoples Knowledge held at Reykjavik;

Recalling United Nations General Assembly Resolution 48/163 of 21 december 1993, which proclaimed the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples,

Recognizing the central theme of effective partnership and cooperation between indigenous peoples and member states, including participation of Indigenous peoples in the plan of action for the decade and its implementation;

Affirming the goal to adopt the Declaration for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

Recognizing the importance of the establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people within the United Nations system;

We adopt, as consensus recommendations of the Summit, the following:

- 1) Recommendations on International Issues
- 2) Recommendations on Business Development and Foreseen Opportunities
- 3) Recommendations on Russian Issues
- 4) Recommendations on Environmental Issues

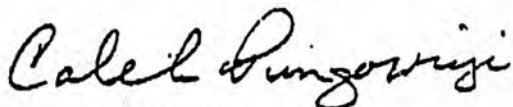
We agree to continue the cooperation, begun in Copenhagen 1991 and continued in Tromsø 1995 by holding our Third Arctic Indigenous Leaders Summit in 1998.

We also agree to consider the establishment of a joint task force and procedures to coordinate common Arctic policies.

We further agree that in order to advance our mutual concerns, we will initiate a process leading up to the third Arctic Indigenous Leaders Summit, to include some of following issues:

- addressing the situation of the Indigenous Peoples of Russian North, Siberia and the Far East.
- implementation of the Rio Principles and Agenda 21
- indigenous strategies for sustainable and equitable development in the Arctic
- furthering of indigenous rights during the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples

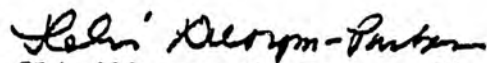
Tromsø, January 27, 1995



Signed by Caleb Pungowiyi, president  
On the behalf of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference



Signed by Efemye Aipin, president  
On the behalf of the Association of the Indigenous Peoples of the Russian North, Siberia and Far East



Signed by Helevi Nuorgam-Poutasuo, president  
On the behalf of the Saami Council

-- PRESS RELEASE --

Tromsø, Norway - Indigenous leaders of the Arctic from Russia, Scandinavia, Greenland, Canada and Alaska met at a 3-day summit in Tromsø, Norway which ended last Friday, January 27th. It was their first meeting since the inaugural and historic Arctic Indigenous Leaders' Summit of 1991.

The Arctic indigenous leaders, along with invited guests and observers, discussed issues of common concern such as increasing Arctic pollution, loss of indigenous rights over land, possible ways of building upon further cooperation among Arctic indigenous peoples, how to best deal with their respective national governments and how to promote economic opportunities among indigenous communities of the circumpolar region.

The Russian Arctic was the focus of much of the debate at the Tromsø Summit. Stories were heard about how the Soviet era left many people dispossessed, and about the current rapid changes which ironically are further hurting Arctic Russia's indigenous communities. Anna Prahova, an indigenous leader from the Kola Peninsula spoke passionately about how the Saami people had lost their right to fish the Ponoy, the Lumbovka and other rivers which they have used for thousands of years. Foreign-owned tourism companies from Finland, United States and elsewhere were buying up the rights to rivers so that "wealthy Americans, Canadian and Britons can catch our large salmon, take pictures and fly back home with them". Prahova told Summit delegates and observers that only one week ago much of the Lumbovka River had been put up for public auction. Local companies owned by indigenous peoples would have no chance of competing, she said, and local people would receive no economic benefit. "The benefit is all going to a few regional authorities and foreigners", she said.

Another indigenous leader from the Amur region, Nadezhda Bulatova, spoke of forests being sold to Korean firms by local authorities. She cited an example of Udigeysa in the Primorski area in which 2000 indigenous peoples "might as well die when cutting of the forest begins". She did offer positive hope, however, by saying that where indigenous groups had gained a measure of autonomy and control over their traditional resources, sustainable use had been ensured. "It can and does work", she said, "but we need autonomous organizations".

Ms. Bulatova thanked the Inuit Circumpolar Conference (ICC) for its support and for sharing the experiences of other Arctic indigenous peoples like the Inuit of Nunavut, Canada, which ICC President, Caleb Pungowiyi, had talked about earlier. "We are sure that the experiences of the Inuit land claims process in Alaska, Canada and Greenland can help us", she said.

In his address to Summit delegates, the ICC President also spoke of the important role of women in Inuit society and Inuit economies. Mr. Pungowiyi used the example of his grandmother's knowledge of

the environment, community wealth and village trading potential in addition to her leadership skills to show how the rights of Inuit to use their living resources in a wise manner must be vigilantly maintained if Inuit culture is to survive and social problems are to be reduced. He was optimistic that it could, and told governmental observers that they must assist in reopening markets such as seal skins that had been taken away from them due to animal rights movements and laws in the United States and in the European Union.

Degradation of the Arctic environment was also a major focus of the Tromsø Summit. Anne Walker from Alaska said that each indigenous leader should take personal responsibility to take back to the local communities the stories heard at the Summit. Ms. Walker further demanded that scientists and governments carrying out environmental research in the Arctic provide plain-language advice on how contaminants arriving from elsewhere, and ending up in the indigenous peoples' food chain may affect them, so they could make their own assessment of whether or not the food they eat is free from unsafe levels of contaminants.

The Arctic indigenous leaders ended the Summit by making several statements on issues relating to Arctic cooperation, environment, rights to sustainable utilization of resources, business development and the Russian Arctic. The Arctic leaders supported a statement by Simeonie Nalukturuk, President of Makivik Corporation in Nunavik (Northern Quebec) that in the event of the province of Quebec separating from Canada, Quebec Inuit have the right to choose their own destiny. Delegates also made a statement in support of a proposed Arctic Council of the eight Arctic governments, but only if the indigenous organizations have full participatory rights in such a council.

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

**Caleb Pungowiyi, President**  
Inuit Circumpolar Conference  
Anchorage, Alaska  
Tel: 1-907-563-6917

**Ingmar Egede, Vice-President**  
Inuit Circumpolar Conference  
Nuuk, Greenland  
Tel: 299 23 632

**Leif Halonen**  
Summit Organizer  
The Saami Council  
Ohcejohka/Ulsjoki  
Finland  
Tel: 358 697 71 351

**Chester Reimer, Research Director**

**Inuit Circumpolar Conference**  
Ottawa, Ontario  
Tel: 1-613-563-2642