

Strategic Environmental Assessment in Baffin Bay & Davis Strait

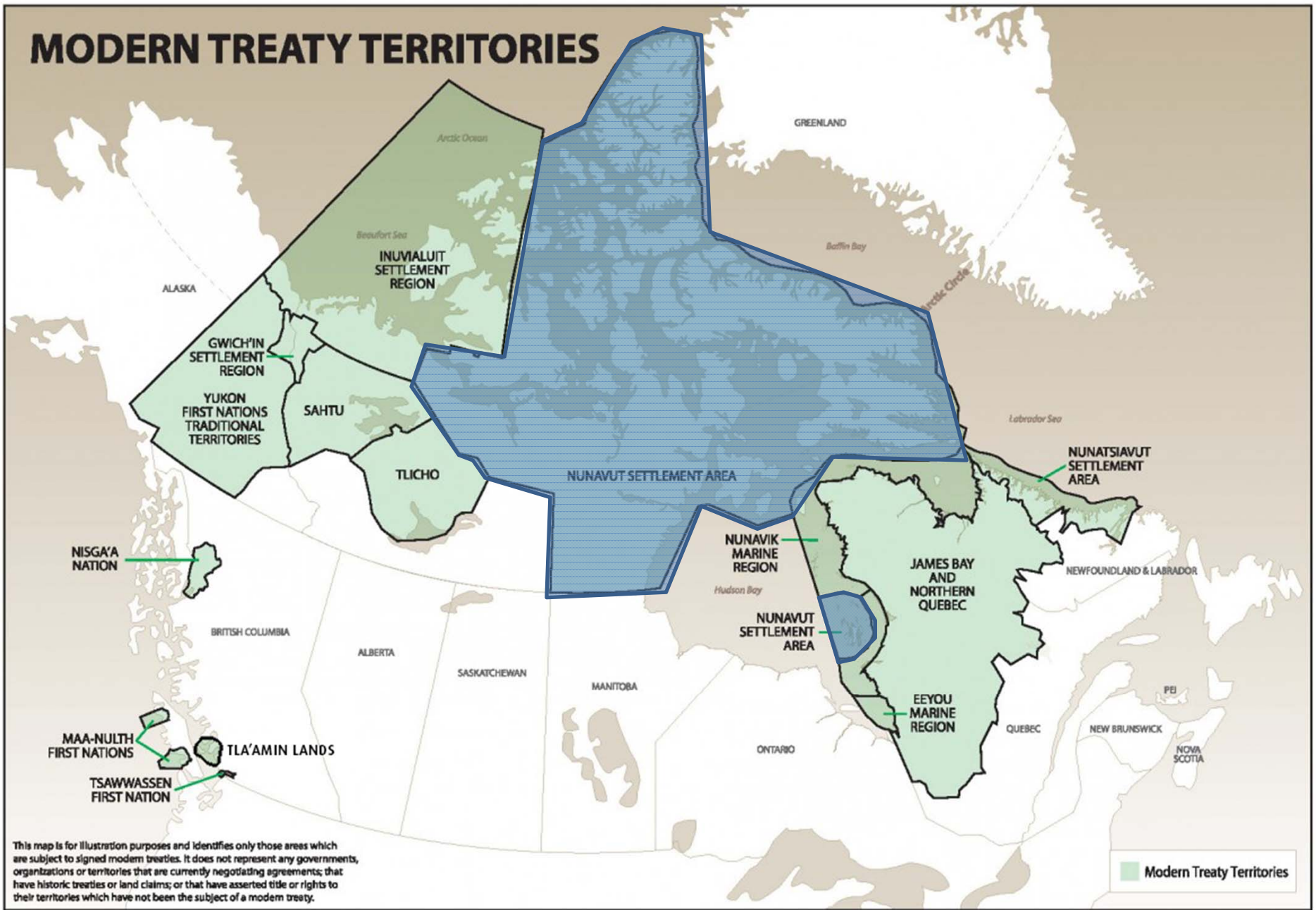


"The Freeze on Future Oil & Gas Licensing in Canada's Arctic Offshore"
Arctic Oil & Gas Symposium, Calgary, AB – March 20, 2018



Protecting and promoting the well-being of the Environment and Nunavummiut through our work

MODERN TREATY TERRITORIES

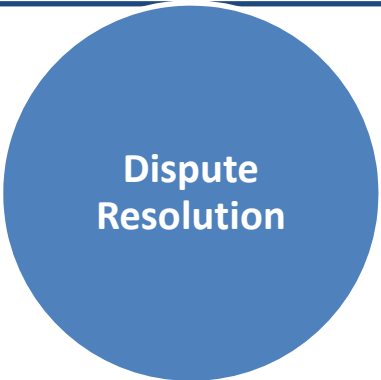


This map is for illustration purposes and identifies only those areas which are subject to signed modern treaties. It does not represent any governments, organizations or territories that are currently negotiating agreements; that have historic treaties or land claims; or that have asserted title or rights to their territories which have not been the subject of a modern treaty.

Modern Treaty Territories



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 NUNAVUT SURFACE RIGHTS TRIBUNAL
 KANGGANIITONIK ANGGIKTITAJUTIT
 LE TRIBUNAL DES DROITS DE SURFACE DU NUNAVUT



Dispute
 Resolution



Water Use
 Licencing



Wildlife
 Management



Land &
 Resources



Impact
 Assessment



Land Use
 Planning



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 Nunavunmi Parnaiyit
 Nunavut Planning Commissior
 Commission d'Aménagement

Nunavut Impact Review Board

Chairperson
Elizabeth Copland
(NIRB-GOC)

Board Member
Allen Maghagak
(NTI-GOC)

Board Member
Phillip Omingmaktok
(GN)

Board Member
Henry Ohokannoak
(NTI-GOC)

Board Member
Marjorie Kaluraq
(GN)

Board Member
Guy Alikut
(NTI-GOC)

Board Member
Vacant
(GOC)

Board Member
Madeleine Qumuatuq
(NTI-GOC)

Board Member
Vacant
(GOC)

**Up to 9 Members comprise the NIRB,
including the Chairperson**

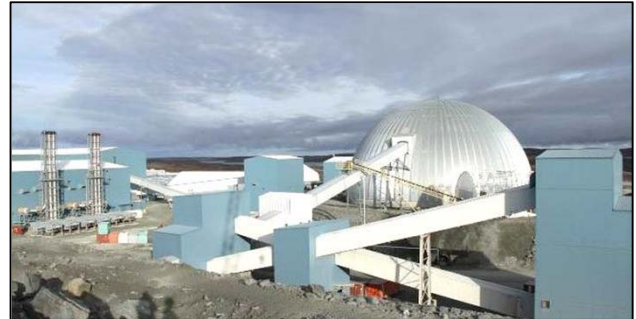
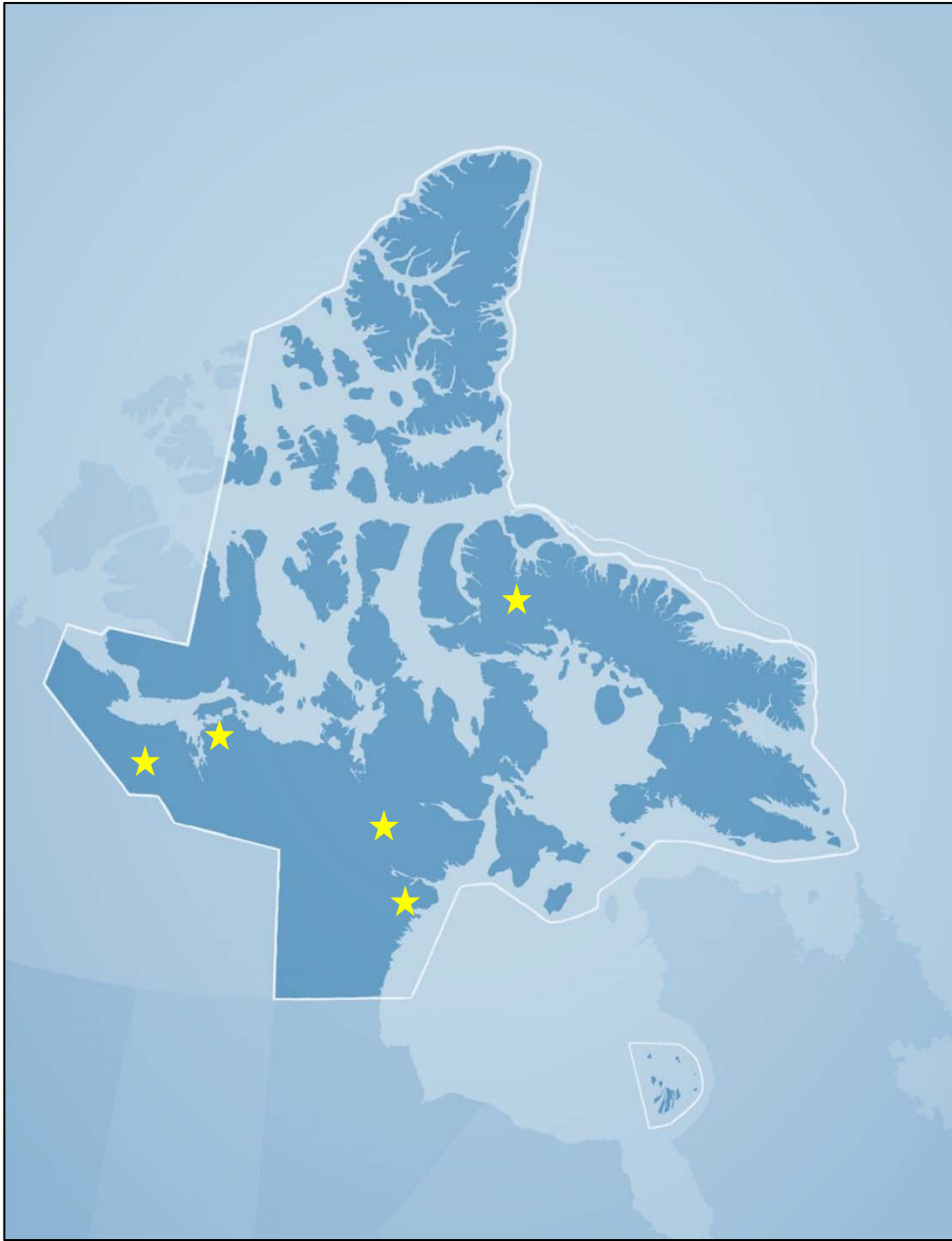


Nunavut Impact Review Board

- Screen project proposals to determine whether or not a review is required
- Gauge and define the extent of regional impacts
- Review ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts of project proposals
- Determine whether project proposals should proceed, and if so, under what terms and conditions
- Monitor projects that have been approved to proceed



NIRB compliance monitoring and effects monitoring provide feedback into ongoing impact assessments



Strategic Environmental Assessment

- Project-specific environmental assessments are a common step in the regulatory process for obtaining necessary approvals for development in Canada
- A **strategic environmental assessment (SEA)** may be applied to systematically and comprehensively assess the potential environmental effects of a policy, plan, or program in a defined geographical area or for a specific industrial sector.
- A SEA is typically undertaken earlier in the overall planning of resource management than project-specific assessment, and therefore offers key benefits that may improve the quality of resource management generally and project-specific EA in particular.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

SEA benefits can include:

- broader stakeholder engagement
- earlier identification of sensitive areas
- establishment of development or impact thresholds
- consideration and analysis of alternatives
- potential for establishment of comprehensive databases
- streamlining of future project-specific EA and regulatory processes



SEA in Baffin Bay and Davis Strait

- Concerns raised by Nunavut communities regarding seismic surveys in Baffin Bay
 - Transboundary effects
 - Consultation efforts
- Legal challenge
- Initiation of EA-SEA
- Calls for broadening scope, involving NIRB
 - SEA in Baffin Bay and Davis Strait

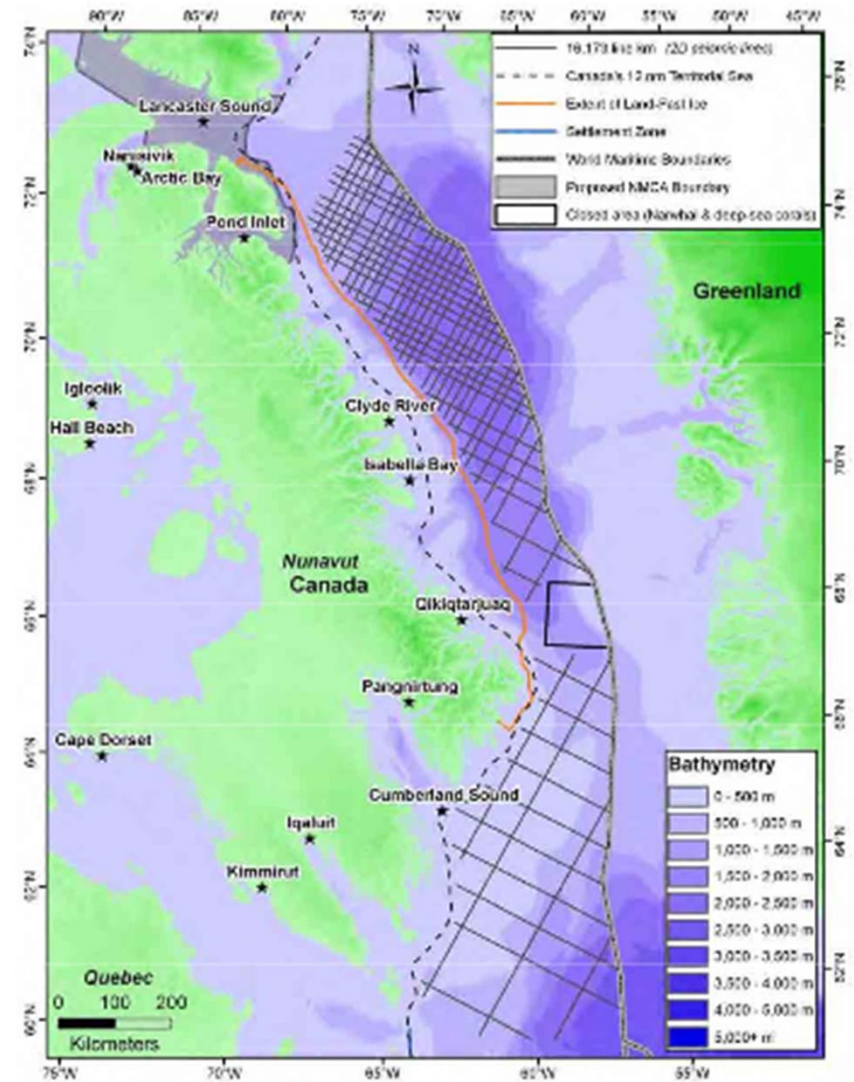
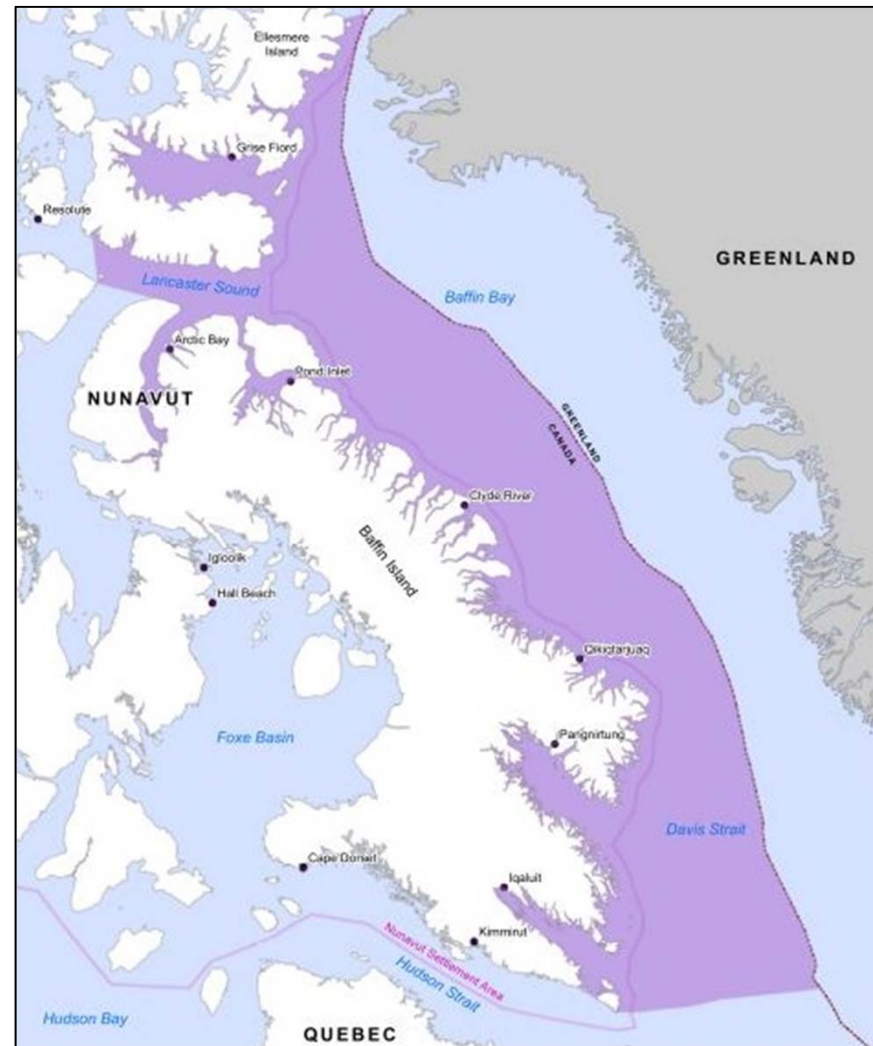


Figure 1. Location of Survey

SEA in Baffin Bay and Davis Strait

- SEA referred to NIRB in February 2017
- Seek to better understand the potential effects of oil and gas activities and to examine the risks and benefits of the full life cycle of oil and gas activities in the Eastern Arctic, by relying on traditional and scientific knowledge.
- Engagement with 10 communities in Nunavut
- NIRB Final SEA Report due March 2019



SEA Working Group

Nunavut Impact Review Board



Indigenous and Northern
Affairs Canada



Indigenous and
Northern Affairs Canada

Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.



Qikiqtani Inuit Association



Government of Nunavut



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Building *Nunavut* Together
Nunavut luqatigiingniq
Bâtir le *Nunavut* ensemble

SEA in Baffin Bay and Davis Strait

The SEA has been designed to:

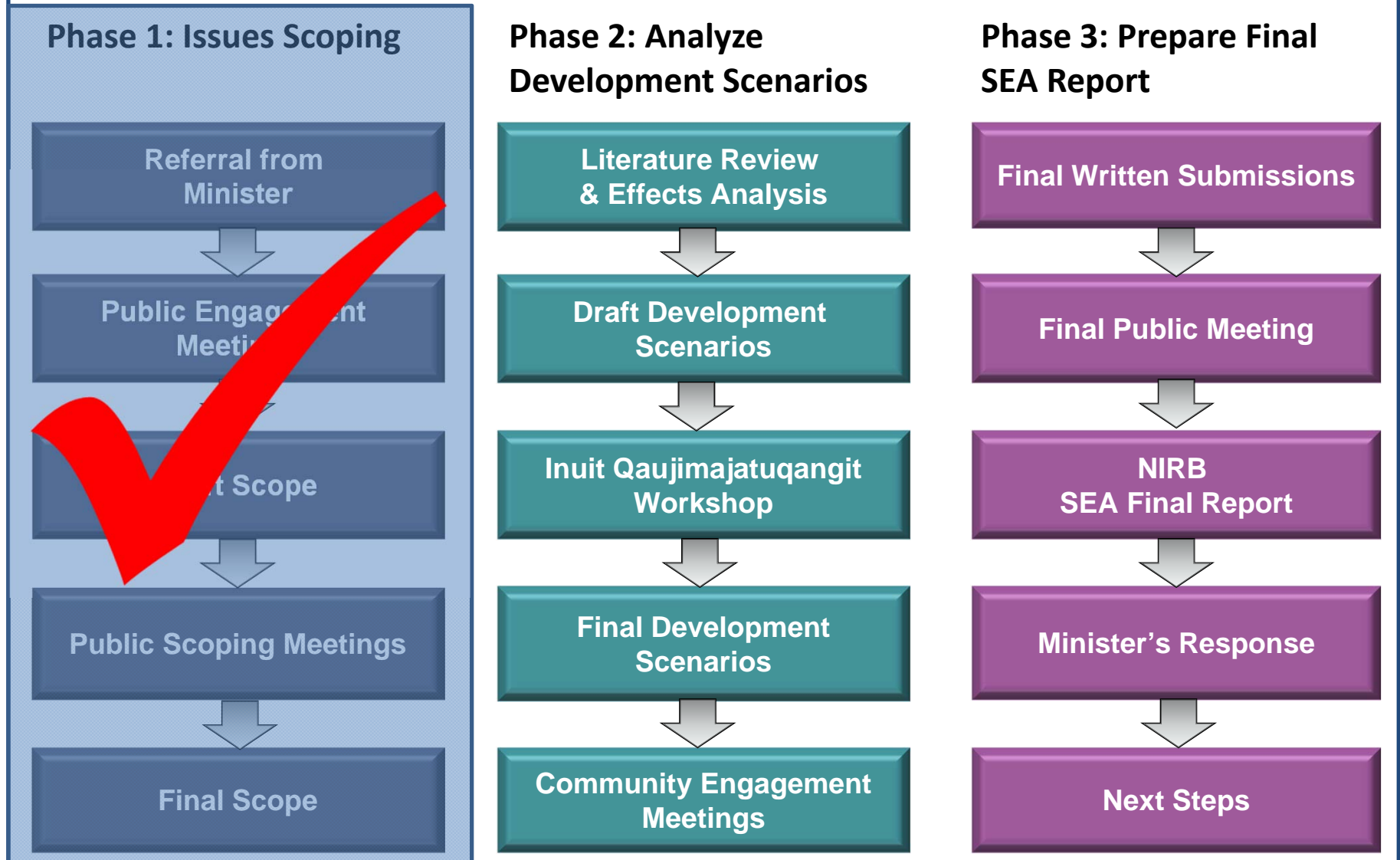
- Provide background information
- Describe potential challenges, obstacles, and other factors relevant to possible oil and gas development
- Describe possible oil and gas development scenarios
- Assess the potential impacts and benefits
- Identify knowledge and data gaps, areas of concern
- Facilitate extensive public engagement
- Result in a Final Report and recommendations to serve as a key consideration in the five-year review of the Government of Canada's decision to designate Canadian Arctic waters as off limits to future oil and gas licences

SEA in Baffin Bay and Davis Strait

- Information will be collected to develop an improved understanding of potential types of oil and gas-related exploration and development that could one day be proposed within the Canadian waters of Baffin Bay and Davis Strait, their associated risks, benefits, and management strategies
- Gaps in currently available knowledge and information, and opportunities for further study, will be identified
- Focus on facilitating public engagement and ensuring available Inuit Qaujimagatut is considered



SEA in Baffin Bay and Davis Strait



SEA in Baffin Bay and Davis Strait

In addition to Nunavut communities we've had participation from:

- Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
- Qikiqtani Inuit Association
- Government of Nunavut
- Danish Centre for Environment and Energy/
Greenland Institute for Natural Resources
- National Energy Board
- Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
- Natural Resources Canada
- Parks Canada
- Coastal and Ocean Resources
- Greenpeace
- World Wildlife Fund
- Interested members of the general public

SEA in Baffin Bay and Davis Strait

www.nirb.ca

- Online public registry with all SEA documents
- Summary reports with comments from each community visit
- Register account to receive all notifications

The screenshot shows the Project Dashboard for the Strategic Environmental Assessment in Baffin Bay/Davis Strait. The dashboard includes a 'Back to Registry' button, a 'Comments' button, and a 'Contact Us' button. The project status is 'ACTIVE S.E.A.'. The dashboard displays the following information:

- Project Dashboard:** NIRB File No: 17SN034, Application No.: 125087, Project Type: Other, Project Name: Strategic Environmental Assessment in Baffin Bay/Davis Strait.
- Summary:** Documents (163), Notifications, Upload Additional Documents.
- Applicant:** Nunavut Impact Review Board, Nunavut Impact Review Board, S.E.A., P.O. Box 1360, 22 Milk St., Cambridge Bay, Nunavut X0B 0C0 Canada, nirb@nirb.ca.
- Primary Contact:** Nunavut Impact Review Board, Nunavut Impact Review Board, S.E.A., P.O. Box 1360, 22 Milk St., Cambridge Bay, Nunavut X0B 0C0 Canada, 867264-600, Fax: 8672622504, nirb@nirb.ca.
- Regulatory Authorities:** [Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada](#).
- External Links:**
- Project Summary:** Non-technical Summary of the Nunavut Impact Review Board's Strategic Environmental Assessment in Baffin Bay and Davis Strait. Following a referral from Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), received on February 9, 2017, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) is initiating a Strategic Environmental Assessment in Baffin Bay and Davis Strait (the SEA). INAC had previously commenced an SEA to support the Minister's decision-making on whether, where, or when companies could be invited to bid on parcels of land for oil and gas exploration licenses in the Canadian waters of Davis Strait and Baffin Bay. Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI) and the Qajaqsit Inuit Association (QIA) had requested that the NIRB be involved, given the Board's extensive experience leading project-specific assessments in Nunavut. After considerable discussion with the NIRB and representatives from NTI, QIA, and the Government of Nunavut (GN), INAC has formally referred the important initiative to the Board pursuant to section 17.2.4 of the Agreement Between the Inuit of the Territory of Nunavut and the Government of Canada.
- Assessment Phase / Activity:** S.E.A. table with the following activities:

Activity	Date
SEA File Created	2017-02-08
INAC Referral	2017-02-08
Open file and start strategic environmental assessment process	2017-02-08
Initial SEA Process	2017-02-08
Initial SEA Process	2017-02-08
NIRB issues Notice of Dates and Location of Community Engagement Sessions	2017-02-24
- Region:** Transboundary, North Baffin.
- Project Images:** No images.

Next Steps

- Engagement with oil and gas development scenarios
- Ensure community knowledge and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit highlighted
- More community visits
- Public commenting opportunities
- Final Public Meeting, Late 2018
- NIRB Final SEA Report, March 2019
- Government response
- Action plan to address recommendations



Thank you!

Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)

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Cambridge Bay, NU

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