

Arctic Information and Communication Technology Assessment (AICTA)

*Prepared by
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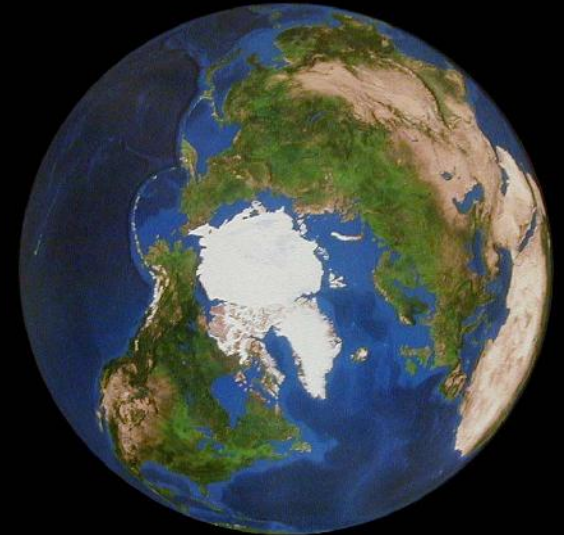
Sustainable Development Working Group, Arctic Council
Vadsø , Norway

The Institute of the North

“Most of the Arctic, like most of the world, is commonly owned.

With ownership comes the obligation to manage our resources for the benefit of the total. To do that we must understand the reality, the richness and the responsibility of the North.”

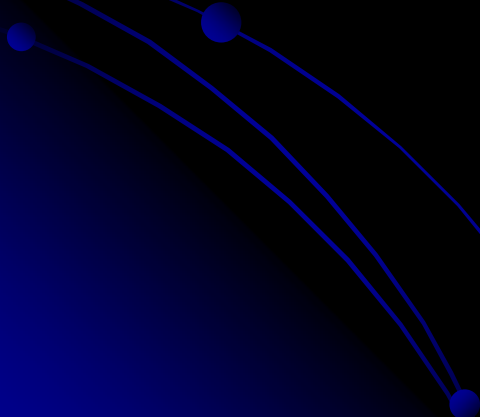
*-- Walter J. Hickel
Institute of the North founder and chairman*



AICTA Goal



Determine how Information and Communications Technology (ICT) can increase the human and social capital in the North, contribute to northern economic development and improve the quality of life in the Arctic.





Past Network meetings, workshops

 ICT Network meetings in the USA, Finland and Canada 2005 - 2007

 CISCO Systems initial scoping session, spring 2007, California, USA

 CISCO follow-up workshop, summer 2007, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Why an Arctic ICT Assessment?

-  There is no existing ICT study that focuses on the collective nations and the area of the Arctic.
-  The AICTA study will connect ICT to the other sectors of social, economic and cultural activity important and significant to the Arctic people and nations, as well as highlighting the technologies and infrastructure of ICT.

Phased Approach



Phase One





- ◆ Create, distribute and assess Arctic ICT survey
- ◆ Complete Chapter 1 (history and why an assessment)
- ◆ Funding provided (USA and Canada)
- ◆ Target completion date: Spring SDWG meeting 2008



Phase Two

- ◆ Submit annotated chapter outline for assessment
- ◆ Provide budget for assessment completion
- ◆ Funding **NOT** secured (Additional US funds possible provided other AC support forthcoming)
- ◆ Target completion date: Fall/Winter 2009

AITCA Status Report

-  ICT Assessment survey for Arctic nations is being ground truthed by members of the ICT Network.
-  Draft Assessment survey can be viewed on the SDWG website.
-  Seeking input for the next two weeks.
-  Mid-November is the target date to send survey tool to SDWG representative to be directed to IT experts within each member country




Phase Two Methodology

- 📄 Member countries would agree on lead countries to take responsibility for one or more chapters of the assessment
- 📄 Interdisciplinary author/research teams from across the Arctic would be nominated to prepare chapters
- 📄 One or more editors-in-chief would be retained at the appropriate time to consolidate the chapters into a final, publishable report
- 📄 Data would be collected so comparisons could be made with similar ICT data collected by other international studies

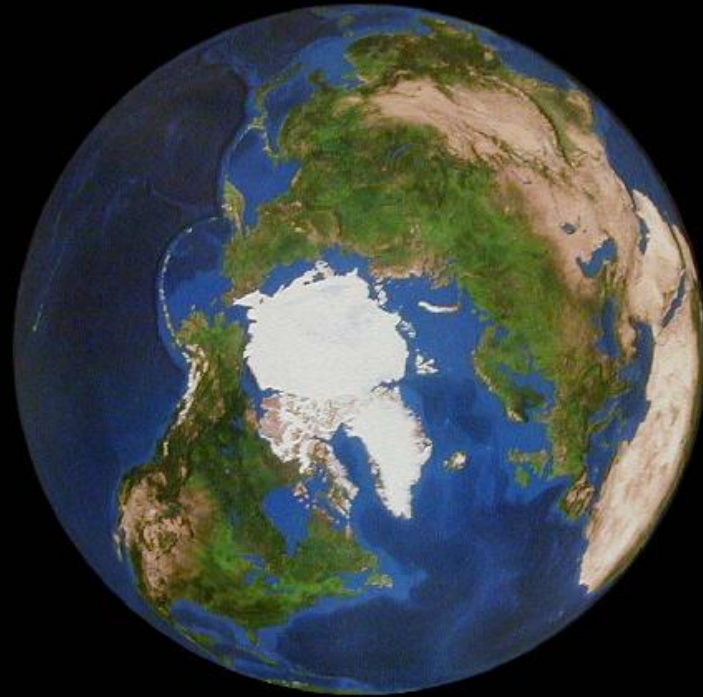
Assessment Management

- 📁 The USA (Steve Smith, CIO University of Alaska) assessment chairman
- 📁 ICT Network will serve as the steering committee (Additional members welcomed)
- 📁 Expert groups from educational and research institutions would be engaged to collaborate by providing contributing papers and information (Phase Two)
- 📁 The Institute of the North, in collaboration with the SDWG Secretariat, will provide assistance as required (arrange meetings, provide website service, etc.)

Related Arctic ICT Development

-  The USA (University of Alaska and the Institute of the North) have met with the secretariat of the UN's Global Alliance for ICT Development to explore an Arctic ICT Regional Network. (Once established, open to all interested parties.)
-  Network will focus on harnessing the potential of ICT for advancing education; health care; entrepreneurship and e-governance (enhancing citizens' participation and promoting accountability, transparency and efficiency in governance.)
-  Current GAID regional networks include: Latin America and Caribbean; Costa Rican Centre of Excellence; Asia Pacific; Korean Centre of Excellence; Regional Networks in Transition Countries (Azerbaijan); African; Arab; European.

Our goal?



A connected Arctic