

Sector Overview

Harvesting plays many roles in Nunavut society and is an important component of the northern economy.

Much of Inuit culture flows from experiences on the land and working with products of the harvest. The values and relationship developed from working on the land form the core of the Inuit Societal Values that guide and inspire the work of the Government of Nunavut.

Experience on the land is important for developing interpersonal relationships and contributing to mental health and wellbeing. Traditions surrounding country food are an anchoring force in Nunavut's culture and heavily influence community wellbeing.

Harvesting contributes to physical health as well. Country food is fresh, high quality, nutritious, and often locally procured.

Improving the ability of harvesters to provide food to communities is one of six themes in Nunavut's Food Security Strategy and Action Plan, and the department's programming is expected to have a direct impact on the rate of food insecurity in Nunavut.

One goal of the department is to improve the viability of the harvesting economy. In the current economy very, few hunters are financially rewarded for their contributions to their communities.

Our goal with the Country Food Distribution Program is to help improve the economic viability of harvesting through encouraging and supporting economic development initiatives that build on and add value to the harvesting sector.

The program's investments in the local

harvesting economy will promote and support the use of harvesting skills and community- based solutions to enhance access to nutritious food throughout the territory.

Program Report

Current Approach

The Country Food Distribution Program supports the harvesting economy through two schedules: Schedule A – Community Harvesting Transfer and Schedule B – Community Harvesting Infrastructure.

Schedule A provides applying communities annual contributions for the purpose of improving the local harvesting economy and country food distribution system. Eligible activities under this schedule include community-identified initiatives that will improve the viability of the local harvesting economy (e.g., harvester skills development). Additionally. where the utilities or maintenance costs of the local community freezer or other country food infrastructure are not covered by another Government of Nunavut department, this schedule provides an additional \$10,000 for utilities, basic maintenance, and small year. improvement costs per The department may approve utilities and maintenance costs above \$10,000 if program funds are available.

Under Schedule A, each community is initially eligible for \$30,000. Depending on program subscription, additional contribution agreements may be made to applying communities on or after October 1.

Schedule B provides applying communities contributions for the renovation, construction, or expansion of infrastructure that supports the harvesting economy. Examples of eligible activities under this

schedule include repairs and upgrading of existing community freezers, community markets or cut and wrap facilities; design, purchase and installation of country food, community market or cut and wrap infrastructure.

Under Schedule B, the maximum funding amount for this program is \$400,000 per year, and, subject to the availability of funds, up to \$800,000 per project.

Spending Report: Schedule A

In 2020-21 and 2021-22 communities used Schedule A to finance local harvests for atrisk members of the community, and to pay for community feasts or country food related events that promote community wellbeing. Schedule A was also used to support the operations and maintenance of community freezers across Nunavut.

These projects impact local food security and help to create a grassroots commercial system that will scale to take advantage of future opportunities surrounding country food.

Spending Report: Schedule B

In 2020-21, the Hunter's and Trapper's Association in Sanirajak initiated a new community freezer project, and Baker Lake substantially finished their freezer project. Whale Cove was able to purchase shelving for their freezer, and two projects were started in Rankin Inlet.

In 2021-22, the Country Food Distribution Program supported two projects – a seacan-based freezer for the Qajuqturvik Food centre and the materials to renovate the Pangnirtung community freezer.

Spending Report: Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency - Harvesting Infrastructure Investments Project

In 2020-21 the department administered funding received from the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor) for the "Harvesting Infrastructure Investments Project" (project funding duration: 2019-2021). In 2020-21 the funds were used to support community freezer repairs (Kugluktuk and Kugaaruk), a community freezer project (Sanirajak), and the distribution of country food (Igaluit).

Spending Report: Canadian Agricultural Partnership

In 2020-21, the department administered funding from the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) (agreement funding duration 2018-2023). In 2020-21 the funds were used for the community freezer projects (Baker Lake and Rankin Inlet).

In 2021-2022 the funds were used for new freezer shelving (Whale Cove), freezer repairs (Naujaat) and a freezer expansion (Rankin Inlet).

Detailed Spending Report: 2020-21

Recipient	Project Description	Community	Amount (\$)
Schedule A			
Hamlet of Arctic Bay	Purchase Country Food 1 of 2	Arctic Bay	10,000
Hamlet of Arctic Bay	Purchase Country Food 2 of 2	Arctic Bay	10,000
Clyde River Hunters and Trappers	Community Freezer Operations Support	Clyde River	39,986
Iviq Hunters and Trappers	Community Freezer Operations Support	Grise Fiord	40,000
Hamlet of Igloolik	Purchase of Country Food for Distribution	Igloolik	30,000
Qajuqturvik Food Centre	Purchase of Country Food for Distribution	Iqaluit	37,971 ¹
Hamlet of Pangnirtung	Purchase of Country Food for Distribution	Pangnirtung	30,000
Municipality of Qikiqtarjuaq	Purchase of Country Food for Distribution	Qikiqtarjuaq	30,000
Sanikiluaq Hunters & Trappers	Purchase of Country Food for Distribution	Sanikiluaq	19,305
Hamlet of Arviat	Country Food Distribution	Arviat	20,000
Hamlet of Coral Harbour	Purchase of Beluga Whale	Coral Harbour	10,000
Hamlet of Coral Harbour	Purchase of Country Food for Distribution	Coral Harbour	14,250
Hamlet of Coral Harbour	Purchase of Country Food for Distribution	Coral Harbour	22,500
Ikurraq Food Bank Society	Purchase of Country Food for Distribution	Rankin Inlet	30,000
Ikurraq Food Bank Society	Purchase of Country Food for Distribution	Rankin Inlet	30,000
Hamlet of Whale Cove	Purchase of Country Food for Distribution	Whale Cove	11,700
Hamlet of Whale Cove	Community Freezer Operations Support	Whale Cove	32,000
Hamlet of Whale Cove	Purchase of Four Caribou for Distribution	Whale Cove	1,000
Ekaluktutiak Hunters and Trappers	Country Food Distribution	Cambridge Bay	25,745
Hamlet of Gjoa Haven	Purchase of Country Food for Distribution	Gjoa Haven	30,000
Hamlet of Gjoa Haven	Community Freezer Operations Support	Gjoa Haven	12,500
Hamlet of Kugaaruk	Purchase of Country Food for Distribution	Kugaaruk	30,000
Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association	Purchase of Country Food for Distribution	Kugluktuk	30,000
Hamlet of Taloyoak	Purchase of Country Food for Distribution	Taloyoak	12,500

2020-21, 2021-22 Annual Report: Country Food Distribution Program

Recipient	Project Description	Community	Amount (\$)	
Spence Bay Hunters & Trappers	Purchase of Country Food for Distribution	Taloyoak	30,000	
Subtotal – Schedule A			\$ 589,457	
Schedule B				
Amaruq Hunters and Trappers	Development of Processing Space	Iqaluit	154,000	
Hall Beach Hunters and Trappers	Community Freezer	Sanirajak	233,570	
Hamlet of Baker Lake	Construction of Community Freezer	Baker Lake	105,846	
Hamlet of Rankin Inlet	Community Freezer Feasibility Study	Rankin Inlet	13,915	
Kivalliq Arctic Foods Ltd	Community Freezer Expansion Project	Rankin Inlet	527	
Hamlet of Whale Cove	Community Freezer Shelving Units	Whale Cove	37,917	
Subtotal – Schedule B			\$ 545,775	
Total – Schedules A & B			\$ 1,150,232	
Canadian Agriculture Partnership (CAP)				
Hamlet of Baker Lake	Community Freezer	Baker Lake	423,384	
Kivalliq Arctic Foods	Community Freezer	Rankin Inlet	103,700	
Total – CAP			\$ 527,084	
Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency – Harvesting Infrastructure Investments Project				
(CanNor Harvesting)				
Hamlet of Kugluktuk	Community Freezer Repairs	Kugluktuk	15,000	
Hamlet of Kugluktuk	Community Freezer Repairs	Kugluktuk	12,500	
Hamlet of Kugaaruk	Community Freezer Repairs	Kugaaruk	12,500	
Hall Beach Hunters and Trappers	Community Freezer	Sanirajak	230,000	
Qajuqturvik Food Centre	Distribution of Country Food	Iqaluit	15,000	
Total – CanNor Harvesting			\$ 285,000	

Detailed Spending Report: 2021-22

Recipient	Project Description	Community	Amount (\$)
Schedule A			
Clyde River Hunters and	Community Freezer Operations	Clyde River	40,000
Trappers	Support		
Qajuqturvik Food Centre	Distribution of Country Food	Iqaluit	10,588
Hamlet of Pond Inlet	Distribution of Country Food	Pond Inlet	40,000 ¹
Hamlet of Sanikiluaq	Distribution of Country Food	Sanikiluaq	30,000
Hamlet of Sanikiluaq	Distribution of Country Food	Sanikiluaq	24,000
Hall Beach Hunters and Trappers	Distribution of Country Food	Sanirajak	26,343
Hamlet of Arviat	Distribution of Country Food	Arviat	20,000
Hamlet of Baker Lake	PAL firearm safety course	Baker Lake	8,800
Hamlet of Baker Lake	Distribution of Country Food	Baker Lake	21,000
Hamlet of Chesterfield Inlet	Distribution of Country Food	Chesterfield Inlet	6,000
Hamlet of Coral Harbour	Distribution of Country Food	Coral Harbour	15,500
Hamlet of Coral Harbour	PAL firearm safety course	Coral Harbour	7,200
Hamlet of Coral Harbour	Distribution of Country Food	Coral Harbour	18,375
Hamlet of Coral Harbour	PAL Firearm Safety Course	Coral Harbour	25,200
Ikurraq Food Bank Society	Distribution of Country Food	Rankin Inlet	32,000 ^{2,3}
Ikurraq Food Bank Society	Distribution of Country Food	Rankin Inlet	5,620 ^{2,4}
Ikurraq Food Bank Society	Distribution of Country Food	Rankin Inlet	30,000 ^{2,5}
Hamlet of Whale Cove	Distribution of Country Food	Whale Cove	9,000
Hamlet of Whale Cove	Community Freezer Power Subsidy	Whale Cove	27,500
Ekaluktutiak Hunters and Trappers	Distribution of Country Food	Cambridge Bay	27,143
Gjoa Haven Hunters and Trappers	Distribution of Country Food	Gjoa Haven	30,000
Hamlet of Kugaaruk	Community Freezer Operations	Kugaaruk	10,000
Hamlet of Kugaaruk	Distribution of Country Food	Kugaaruk	30,000
Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association	Distribution of Country Food	Kugluktuk	30,000
Hamlet of Kugluktuk	Community Freezer Operations	Kugluktuk	30,000
Spence Bay Hunters and Trappers	Distribution of Country Food	Taloyoak	30,000
Hamlet of Taloyoak	Community Freezer Operations	Taloyoak	35,000
Subtotal – Schedule A			\$ 619,268
Schedule B			
Qajuqturvik Food Centre	Community Freezer Renovation	Iqaluit	30,000
Pangnirtung Hunters and	Community Freezer Repair	Pangnirtung	168,500
Trappers			
Subtotal – Schedule B			\$ 198,500
Total – Schedules A & B			\$ 817,768
Canadian Agriculture Partnership	· · ·		
Hamlet of Whale Cove	30 Green Epoxy Freezer Shelving	Whale Cove	58,025
Hamlet of Naujaat	Community Freezer Repair	Naujaat	103,155

2020-21, 2021-22 Annual Report: Country Food Distribution Program

Recipient	Project Description	Community	Amount (\$)
Kivalliq Arctic Foods	Freezer Building Expansion	Rankin Inlet	61,446
Total – CAP			\$ 222,626

¹ The contribution agreements for these projects were signed after October 1. As such, the \$30,000 maximum stipulated in Schedule A of the Policy was not applicable.

² All three project applications were supported and endorsed by the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet. Prior to approving each of these project applications, the Department verified that sufficient funds were available in the CFDP budget. In addition to budget room, ED&T Kivalliq approved these applications to support the hamlet's response to the pandemic.

³ An error occurred in the total amount of this contribution agreement. As such, the total amount exceeded the \$30,000 maximum stipulated in Schedule A of the Policy.

⁴ This contribution agreement was processed in early 2022 during the height of COVID-19 outbreaks in Rankin Inlet. Ikurraq Food Bank Society was presented an opportunity to partner with the Hamlet of Rankin Inlet, Second Harvest, Food Banks Canada, and a local business to coordinate a one-time distribution of locally processed country food. For the project, Ikurraq Food Bank Society contributed country food, the local business provided food preparation services and the other partners provided additional food supplies. Factors that contributed to ED&T Kivalliq's decision to support this particular project included: the one-time occurrence of the project; support from national food security agencies, a local business, and the community; the ongoing pandemic.

⁵ This contribution agreement was processed in March 2022 – towards the end of significant COVID-19 outbreaks in Rankin Inlet. During this period, Ikurraq Food Bank Society continued to be under tremendous pressure to help address food insecurity that was brought on by COVID-related impacts. Ikurraq Food Bank Society was serving a record number of families on a weekly basis. For the above reasons, in addition to the sufficient funds available in the CFDP budget, ED&T Kivalliq determined that providing additional funding would not only be well invested from a food security perspective but would also be a strong pandemic-response initiative on behalf of the GN.