



QIKIQTANI MAKIMAJJUTISSAT

A VISION FOR PROTECTING OUR LANDS, WATERS, AND CULTURE

The Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA) believes that protecting our lands and waters is essential to the long-term health and success of Inuit culture, communities and the environment.

Qikiqtani Makimajjutissat will be developed through the Project Finance for Permanence model, which allows for the complete and total funding of a project through investments made by philanthropic donors and the federal government.

Qikiqtani Makimajjutissat is built on the principles of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and Inuit Societal Values. This means, in

addition to ecological protection, Qikiqtani Makimajjutissat is also a tool to help fund and achieve priorities for our communities.

The Qikiqtani Region is an intact, globally significant, climate-vulnerable ecosystem that supports many critical marine mammals, birds, and fish, which Inuit depend on to support our way of life.

The rich coastal ecosystems and waters of QIA are home to beluga, bowhead whale, narwhal, migratory birds, polar bear, caribou, and ringed seal – all of which support the culture, economy, and health for Qikiqtani Inuit.

WHAT IS CURRENTLY PROTECTED?

Currently, 606,462 km² in the region are covered, but these protections don't go far enough to benefit Inuit. These include:

- Parks
- Migratory Bird Sanctuaries
- National Wildlife Areas
- Marine Refuges
- Marine Conservation Areas
- Key Wildlife Habitats

Qikiqtani Makimajjutissat is proposing 195,000 km² of new protection, stronger standards for what's already protected, and that all 801,462 km² would eventually be fully and permanently protected and managed by Qikiqtani Inuit. Dated March 1, 2022, at Iqaluit, Nunavut.

GOALS:

- Total protected area expanded to 801,462 km², highly protected, and Inuit governed.
- Adequate and sustainable finance in place to support Inuit management of these lands and waters.
- Fairer allocation of fishing quotas to Inuit rights holders.
- Increased economic and job opportunities for Qikiqtani Inuit.
- Sustainably managed fisheries.
- Community development through infrastructure.
- Support for Inuit led research and knowledge on the land and water.
- Pathways to Inuit leadership and professional development.

Once we complete two engagement sessions in each community, we will report back to the QIA board on what we heard and a path forward.



