"From sea unto sea unto sea" takes on even more significance as 25,000 people, mainly indigenous, celebrate the birth of their new territory and a new government within the Canadian confederation. This special News in Review report documents the division of the former North West Territories into two separate legislative entities. Largely unknown to most southerners, Nunavut in many respects is a vast and new frontier. Its creation however has raised a new awareness of Canada's far north.

Introduction
Updating the Canadiana Quiz
Broadening Your Knowledge
Steps to Independence
Creating a Government
In Their Own Words
Northern Lights
Challenges to Overcome
Reclaiming A Culture
Discussion, Research, And Essay Questions.

Indicates material appropriate or adaptable for younger viewers.
Comprehensive News in Review Study Modules

Using both the print and non-print material from various issues of News in Review, teachers and students can create comprehensive, thematic modules that are excellent for research purposes, independent assignments, and small group study. We recommend the stories indicated below for the universal issues they represent and for the archival and historic material they contain.

"Canada Now: A Diverse Landscape," A 1992 Hour-long Special
"Davis Inlet: Moving From Misery" March 1993
"NWT Election: The North In Transition," November 1995
"Ice Station Sheba: The Warming Arctic," September 1998
On April 1, 1999, Canadian history was made. The new territory of Nunavut was welcomed into Canada, and the face of the Canadian map was changed for the first time in 50 years. Nunavut is an aboriginal territory where 85 per cent of the population is Inuit. Commemorating the event with a host of special events, the Inuit were joined by a number of excited politicians and dignitaries from outside the region. And indeed, the creation of Nunavut deserves to be celebrated by all Canadians. The political hurdles that had to be overcome so that this territory could be created demonstrate that the Canadian political federation is flexible, strong, and able to accommodate such a change within our existing political and constitutional framework.

This is also an event worthy of celebration by all Canadians because it is the first large-scale experiment in native self-government. The territorial and regional concerns of the people of Nunavut will now be dealt with closer to home than was the case previously when the seat of government was located in Yellowknife, in the former Northwest Territories. As well, since the government is now Inuit, the hope is that the new system will be more responsive to the traditions and cultures of the people it represents. There is also hope that an Inuit government will be better able to address many of the serious socioeconomic problems that exist in the region: substance abuse problems, unemployment, and high suicide rates.

It is hoped that the creation of Nunavut will also restore pride in traditional customs and skills that have slowly been eroded. Inuit culture is tied to the land so much so that the people chose the name Nunavut, meaning "Our Land" for their new territory. Although access to television and exposure to southern cultural values have forever changed the Inuit, elders hope that by educating children in their language, Inuktitut, and teaching their children the old customs of...
kayaking, hunting, trapping, and preparing animal hides, they will be able to restore pride and self-esteem among their people. The hope is that this pride, together with economic growth, will help the region tackle its social problems.

Nunavut is now in the hands of its first elected government: 18 men and one woman. Headed by the youngest premier in Canada, 34-year-old Paul Okalik, the new government will be starting from scratch. Although Nunavut has inherited hundreds of territorial laws and regulations from the Northwest Territories, these laws are considered to be temporary, and will be replaced by new Nunavut regulations as they are created. The new government will reflect the values of Inuit culture and will operate on a consensus basis; all members of the government will be consulted and have to agree on the terms of any laws. The new Legislative Assembly that will house the government is still being constructed, but even this building reflects the values of the region. The Assembly members will sit on benches in a circle facing each other. There are no desks or writing tables, which are seen as obstacles to the face-to-face contact required by the culture of this people in open discussions. There is, however, a podium in the centre of the circle for speeches. According to Premier Okalik, who is aware that some outsiders are expecting Nunavut to fail, the new government will now proceed at its own pace, trying to avoid doing too much too fast. Reflecting on the new territory's aspirations and challenges, he smiled and said, "Well be able to make our own mistakes and fix them up. That would make a nice change."

Introduction
Updating the Canadiana Quiz
Broadening Your Knowledge
Steps to Independence
Creating a Government
In Their Own Words
Northern Lights
Challenges to Overcome
Reclaiming A Culture
Discussion, Research, And Essay Questions.

Indicates material appropriate or adaptable for younger viewers.
As Canadians, most of us are aware that the new Territory of Nunavut was officially welcomed into Canada on April 1, 1999. But how much else do we know? Before viewing this News in Review report, test your knowledge about Canada's newest territory by completing the following quiz. Then check the answers given on the next page and consider their implications.

1. Canada is 9,970,610 square kilometres in size. How big is Nunavut in square kilometres?
   (a) 500,000
   (b) 1,000,000
   (c) 1,900,000
   (d) 2,500,000

2. Which of the following countries is most similar in size to Nunavut?
   (a) Greenland
   (b) Germany
   (c) China
   (d) Sweden

3. Which of the following is the capital of Nunavut?
   (a) Grise Fiord
   (b) Rankin Inlet
   (c) Coppermine
   (d) Iqaluit

4. The population per square kilometre in China is 120.4 people. What is the population per square kilometre in Nunavut?
   (a) .01
   (b) 2.7
   (c) 13.5
   (d) 30.1
5. The Inuit population in all of Canada is approximately 41,000. What is the approximate Inuit population in Nunavut alone?
(a) 9,500
(b) 12,500
(c) 17,500
(d) 20,000

6. What is the average temperature in degrees Celsius in Nunavut in the month of January?
(a) -46
(b) -30
(c) -15
(d) -10

7. How many hours of daylight does Iqaluit get per day in the month of June?
(a) 8
(b) 10
(c) 12
(d) 24

8. How many hours of daylight does Grise Fiord get per day in December?
(a) 0
(b) 4
(c) 6
(d) 8

9. How many kilometres of paved highway are there in Nunavut?
(a) 20
(b) 200
(c) 2000
(d) 20,000

10. Which of the following languages is least spoken in Nunavut?
(a) English
(b) French
(c) Inuktitut
(d) Inuinnaqtun
Introduction
Updating the Canadiana Quiz
Broadening Your Knowledge
Steps to Independence
Creating a Government
In Their Own Words
Northern Lights
Challenges to Overcome
Reclaiming A Culture
Discussion, Research, And Essay Questions.

Indicates material appropriate or adaptable for younger viewers.
NUNAVUT: BIRTH OF A TERRITORY

Broadening Your Knowledge (Answers to Canadiana Quiz)

Following the viewing of this News in Review story, you will make a short presentation individually or in small groups of as much relevant information as you can recall from the following pre-assigned subject areas.

- The people of Nunavut
- Places of interest
- Geographical information
- The system of government in the new Territory of Nunavut
- Inuit culture and the culture of the North

Then, as a class, discuss answers to the following questions.

1. In what ways have people been responsible for the creation of Nunavut?
2. How will the geography of Nunavut affect the development of the region?
3. Explain the role that each level of government will play in the new territory.
4. Suggest similarities and differences between Nunavut culture and the culture of your own region.

Answers To "Updating the Canadiana Quiz"

1. 1 900 000 Suggest practical reasons why the size of this new territory is significant.
2. Greenland Consult a map or an atlas and suggest how comparing the size of Nunavut with Greenland gives you a new perspective on this territory.
3. Iqaluit Suggest why Iqaluit might have been chosen capital.
4. .01 What is the importance of population density in any populated area?
5. **20 000** 25 000 people reside in Nunavut, about 20 000 of whom are Inuit. The total population of Inuit across Canada is approximately 41 000. Suggest the implications these figures could have for Inuit culture.

6. **-30** Most Canadians would not know how to live from day to day in temperatures like this. Suggest specific and practical things southerners would have to learn to do in order to live in Nunavut in the month of January.

7. **24** How do the number of hours of daylight affect how we live?

8. **0** Locate Grise Fiord on a map. What, in your opinion, is its geographic importance?

9. **20** Why is the question of "paved highways" in the north as opposed to the south like comparing apples and oranges?

10. **French** Why is language so important to the survival of a culture?

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**Introduction**

**Updating the Canadiana Quiz**

**Broadening Your Knowledge**

**Steps to Independence**

**Creating a Government**

**In Their Own Words**

**Northern Lights**

**Challenges to Overcome**

**Reclaiming A Culture**

**Discussion, Research, And Essay Questions**.

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There are two particularly important aspects to the creation of Nunavut on April 1, 1999: proprietorial and constitutional. The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Act of 1993 resulted in one of the most significant land claim settlements in Canadian history. And the Nunavut Act of 1993 created a new legislative jurisdiction within the Canadian Confederation to come into effect seven years later. These were historic events in Canadian life that didn't just happen. They were the result of decades of negotiating and planning. Examine the following timeline, which summarizes critical steps in the creation of Nunavut. Suggest why each step is significant.

1973 The Government of Canada establishes the Comprehensive Land Claims Policy. This policy is intended to give aboriginal peoples rights and benefits in return for settling land claims.

1976 The national political organization of Nunavut, called the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, calls for the creation of Nunavut. It is hoped that the creation of Nunavut will help to settle Inuit land claims in the Northwest Territories.

1977 A proposal to create Nunavut is signed by the Inuit, the federal government, and the government of the Northwest Territories.

1982 A plebiscite is held in the Northwest Territories, and 56 per cent of voters say yes to the division of the region.

1985 The final report of the Royal Commission on the Economic Union and Development Prospects for Canada is released. The report states that the creation of a new territory in the Eastern Arctic would make Canada's north "more governable" and would better accommodate different rates of political and constitutional development in the region.
1993 The Nunavut Land Claim Agreement Act and the Nunavut Act—the latter to create Nunavut—are enacted by Parliament. The Nunavut Implementation Commission is established. This nine-member commission, six of whom must be residents of Nunavut, advises all parties on the funding and design of training plans, the timetable for transferring services, and the process for holding the first election for the Government of Nunavut.

The land claim settlement is the largest land claim in Canadian history. The 1993 agreement gives the Inuit—who had never before signed a treaty with the Canadian government—ownership of 350,000 square kilometres of land, mineral rights in about one-tenth of the area, and a financial settlement of $1-billion over 14 years. As part of the deal, the Inuit agree to give up claim to all other land in the North.

Under the Nunavut Act, the territory of Nunavut is designated as a 1.9 million square kilometre parcel of land to be separate from the Northwest Territories. It is determined that Nunavut will have the same territorial powers and responsibilities as the Northwest Territories; however, because the Inuit make up 85 per cent of the population, the territory will be ruled by native self-government.

1995 Iqaluit is chosen over Rankin Inlet as Nunavut’s capital city.

1997 The federal government appoints Jack Anawak to serve as interim Commissioner of Nunavut.

1999 On February 15, Nunavut residents elect 19 members to the new Legislative Assembly. On April 1, Nunavut and its new government are legally constituted. The Nunavut flag and coat of arms are unveiled.
The creation of the Territory of Nunavut changed the face of Canada. In fact, there has not been a change like this to the Canadian map since Newfoundland joined Confederation 50 years ago. As well, this is the first time since 1867 that a region of Canada has had the opportunity to establish its own government, under its own rules. The birth of Nunavut as a distinct territory fulfils a long-held aspiration of the eastern and central Arctic Inuit to control their own destiny. The form of self-government the Inuit have chosen will be unique to Nunavut. In creating their government from scratch, the Inuit have been able to shape their government in a way that fits their own culture. Some unique features of the new government are found below. As you examine each, think about how is each unique in terms of government.

- There are no political parties. Members run as independents.
- The government will operate on a consensus basis. This means that the government members choose a premier and cabinet from among themselves and only pass laws once all members have agreed to the terms.
- Eventually, 85 per cent of government jobs will be held by Inuit. Currently the number has been reduced to 50 per cent until sufficient numbers of Inuit complete training programs.
- The government will give preference to Inuit-owned businesses for contracts.
- The government will help Inuit people become involved in successful companies.
- The government will be decentralized. The administration of the government will be spread over 11 communities.
- The new government has inherited several hundred laws from the Northwest Territories until it has the opportunity to establish its own laws. This is expected to occur in stages until the year 2009. An elected Legislative Assembly, a Cabinet, and a Territorial Court will be the primary institutions of public government. The first elected government has 19 members, 15 of whom are Inuit.
The Gender Parity Issue
As the Inuit decided what type of government they wanted to establish in their territory, one idea that was studied for more than two years was a "gender parity plan." The gender parity plan would have meant that all constituencies would be represented by two members: one male and one female. A territory-wide plebiscite was held at the end of May 1998 to decide the fate of the plan, and 57 per cent of voters said "No" to the proposal. If it had passed, voters in future territorial elections would have cast two ballots—one from a list of male candidates and one from a list of female candidates.

John Amagoalik, Chief Commissioner of the Nunavut Implementation Commission, was one of the major supporters of the gender parity plan. He, and others, believed that a gender parity plan would be necessary to ensure that women were able to play a significant role in the new government. Supporters of the plan point to the problems that exist in the Northwest Territories, where the government has the worst record in Canada when it comes to women in politics. Although women make up 51 per cent of the population of the Northwest Territories, and tend to be better educated than their male counterparts, women hold just two out of 24 seats in the Legislative Assembly in Yellowknife.

It is believed that the gender parity proposal was rejected because of conservative attitudes about women's role in Inuit society. As well, people tend to require considerable time to accept a new idea; therefore, a longer campaign might have produced different results. Others, however, argue that the plan was rejected because many northerners—excluding many women—saw the plan as demeaning and undemocratic. As one Inuit observer said, "The Yes side was painting a picture that we had to have a man and a woman, but the No side said it doesn't matter as long as we have good representation."

Discussion

1. When the first government members were elected in February 1999 to the new territorial government, only one of the 19 members elected was a female. Do you believe it is true that a "gender parity plan" is necessary to ensure women play a significant role in the government?
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of a government system where no political parties exist?
3. How would the Canadian parliamentary system have to change if it became a system based on consensus?

An International Case Study
The concept of native self-government has been debated for quite some time. Although definitions vary, self-government is usually
considered to be a type of government where aboriginal peoples establish their own governments, manage their own lands, raise their own funds, pass their own laws, and administer their own justice. Supporters of the idea believe that the failure of non-native governments to truly understand and appreciate the culture of aboriginal people has resulted in the significant economic and social problems that now plague native peoples. For instance, many natives in Nunavut were forcibly relocated off of their traditional hunting and fishing grounds and placed in areas where it was not possible to live off the land. With no other employment opportunities, native communities were forced into poverty, became dependent on government handouts, and lost touch with their traditional cultures.

Nunavut is considered to be the first true test of native self-government because roughly 85 per cent of the population is indigenous (Inuit). The fact that there is no large-scale settlement from outside means that the Inuit themselves will be able to develop the region on their own terms, and in their own language. If Nunavut successful, it could become a model for other aboriginal groups around the world seeking self-government.
One of the reasons aboriginal peoples around the world are interested in self-government is that historically these groups have been excluded from the political process that ultimately determines the quality of their lives. Self-government allows aboriginal peoples to have their own voice. It is hoped that one of the results of this will be that non-natives will learn to listen to aboriginal peoples in a new way. As you read the quotations below, consider what each speaker is saying about life in Nunavut past, present, and future.

"The feeling of pride I have today is a feeling I will not soon forget. As a mother of four boys I am especially proud of what we have accomplished. We are giving children across Nunavut a very special gift." Nancy Karetak-Lindell, Nunavut MP

"With Nunavut, the people of the eastern Arctic will run their own affairs with a government centred in Iqaluit on Baffin Island rather than Yellowknife, capital of the Northwest Territories. They will have a government that understands their problems, knows their priorities, speaks their language, and knows their history." John Amagoalik, community leader

"Whats going to be very important is for the people to realize they now have the opportunity to change a lot of things." Jack Anawak, Nunavut MLA

"I think its going to be okay. I dont mind working for [the government] although I was raised in a more traditional style. Either way, Ill stay. You cant stop time. The world changes all the time. One of the secrets of survival is adaptation." Israel Mablick, a 20-year-old resident of Nunavut
"Our forefathers dreamed of one day regaining responsibility, ownership, and accountability for their lives. They dreamed of a leadership that would incorporate Inuit traditional values into a modern style of government." Tagak Curley, president of Nunavut Construction Corporation

"We walk in two worlds now. There needs to be a change. And its starting to come. You need skills from both worlds. You need to get out and find out that this is not all that there is. If you choose to stay here, fine. But you need to know that there is a world out there with more than 500 people in it." Siobhan Arnatsiaq-Murphy, a 21-year-old choreographer and dancer

"The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement just reinforces more government bureaucracy. They're designed to keep us dependent on the government. We need to get out of this welfare state. All those governments and services, they destroyed the people." Jacopoosee Peter, a 35-year-old hunter and translator
Leadership is fundamental to all great social achievements, and Nunavut is no exception. A great many people worked very hard to ensure that Nunavut would become its own territory on April 1, 1999. The future success or failure of Nunavut will also depend in large part on its people. The 18 men and one woman elected to run the new government led by Nunavuts first premier Paul Okalik may well be the leaders of the region for a number of years to come.

However, people other than politicians also have an impact on the culture and evolution of a people. Singer Susan Aglukark is an example of a non-elected cultural leader. As you read the brief biographies below, identify the major influences in their lives, their achievements, and the ways in which they have become role models for their people.

**John Amagoalik**
While John A. Macdonald is known as the Father of Canadian Confederation, John Amagoalik known simply as John A to many is considered to be the Father of Nunavut. John A has been fighting for the establishment of a new territory for Canada’s Inuit for more than 20 years. He was appointed Chair of the Nunavut Implementation Commission in 1993, and many of his ideas have been put into practice. It was his idea to set up a decentralized government with large numbers of managers located across the new territory. And although his suggestions regarding a gender-equal legislature and direct election of the premier have been rejected, there is perhaps no other individual in Nunavut who has as much influence.

**Jack Anawak**
Jack Anawak has been involved in politics at many different levels for decades. Over 30 years ago he became an activist after the government of the Northwest Territories introduced hunting quotas on
polar bears. Anawak was angered by the fact that the hunters, the people directly affected by the quotas, were never consulted on the matter. He went on to serve two terms as a Liberal member of Parliament in Ottawa, and was recently elected as one of Nunavut’s 19 members of the Legislative Assembly (MLA). Anawak also helped to negotiate the land treaty that led to the creation of Nunavut.

**Tagak Curley**
Tagak Curley helped to launch the first Inuit political organization in 1971. The Inuit Tapirisat of Canada now represents 41 000 Inuit across Canada. Like other Inuit who ended up involved in politics, he was prodded into action by mistreatment at the hands of non-Natives. He remembers being regularly offended by officials of the old Hudson’s Bay Company stores, and he remembers the police inspecting his hunting boats without permission. These personal violations resulted in a life dedicated to improving Inuit rights.

**Jose Kusugak**
Jose Kusugak is a very important man in Nunavut. He is the head of Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., the agency that administers the interest on a $1.1-billion fund from the federal government. The fund is seen by many as the vehicle that will create jobs and economic self-sufficiency for the Inuit. Although he is now involved in the world of big business and modern technology, he keeps a tent on the balcony of his apartment so that he can remain in touch with his roots.

**Paul Okalik**
As the first appointed premier of Nunavut, Paul Okalik is only 34-years-old and has little direct political experience; however, he was a significant player in the creation of the new territory. In fact, he was one of the lead negotiators when the 1993 Nunavut Land Claims Agreement was signed. Now a lawyer, his inexperience in politics is apparently one of the reasons he was selected as Premier by his peers. As Nunavut is a new territory, a new leader with a fresh perspective was considered to be a valuable asset. As a recovered alcoholic, he has experienced many of the problems that Inuit youth face today. Born and raised in a small community on Baffin Island, he was the youngest of seven children. He was unhappy in the English-language school he had to attend, and remembers wetting his pants out of fear when called upon to answer questions by his teachers. Okalik watched his older brother Norman get into trouble with the law. Norman was jailed for theft and fined, but after his release he was unable to pay his fine and killed himself rather than have to return to jail. After this traumatic experience Okalik was sent to high school in the larger community of Iqaluit. By the time he was 17 he was an alcoholic and had been expelled from school. Returning to his hometown, he kept drinking and was arrested after breaking into a
post office and other buildings to steal money and liquor. Sent to jail for three months, he remembers not really caring what happened to him at that point. He worked at odd jobs throughout the next three years and then was lucky enough to land a job as a researcher and negotiator with the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut, which was negotiating the land claim that would later result in the creation of the new territory. But Okalik continued to drink until 1991, when his eldest daughter was born. At that point, he entered an alcohol-treatment program and went to live with his family to learn his peoples culture and ancient traditions. He was encouraged by his elders to pursue a career in law, which he eventually did at the University of Ottawa. He was called to the bar just days before the election in the new territory, thereby becoming the first Inuit lawyer from Nunavut.

Susan Aglukark
Perhaps the best known Inuit person in Canada is singer Susan Aglukark. Born in Churchill, Manitoba, 28 years ago, Aglukark moved around the Northwest Territories with her family for the first 12 years of her life. They eventually settled in Arviat, Northwest Territories, a community of 1300 people on the northwest shore of Hudson Bay. After completing high school, she moved to Ottawa, where she was employed by the Canadian Department of Indian and Northern Affairs as a linguist. Aglukark later accepted the position of Executive Assistant to the political lobby group Inuit Tapirisat of Canada. Shortly after taking this position, her musical career began to take off.

She gave her first live performance at a festival in her hometown of Arviat, but her profile was heightened after CBC radio included her in a compilation recording of Eastern Arctic performers and writers. The video "Searching" followed and won a Much Music award for outstanding cinematography. In 1992 she released her first independent recording, "Arctic Rose," which received both critical and commercial acclaim in the North. In 1993 Aglukark signed a recording contract with EMI Music Canada. Her success and reputation have continued to grow, but she still values her Inuit roots, and performed at the Nunavut inaugural ceremonies on April 1, 1999.
Introduction
Updating the Canadiana Quiz
Broadening Your Knowledge
Steps to Independence
Creating a Government
In Their Own Words
Northern Lights
Challenges to Overcome
Reclaiming A Culture
Discussion, Research, And Essay Questions.

 Indicates material appropriate or adaptable for younger viewers.
NUNAVUT: BIRTH OF A TERRITORY

Challenge to Overcome

Despite the excitement over the creation of an independent Inuit homeland, the region is faced with a number of very serious problems. These problems will have to be overcome if Nunavut is to become a successful autonomous territory. Among the problems facing Nunavut are staggering social problems and a weak economy.

Given what you now know about Nunavut, its geography, its culture, and its population size, suggest how self-government and the birth of the new territory might have an impact on the following problems.

Social Problems

- The suicide rate in Nunavut is almost six times the Canadian average.
- The rate of heavy drinking is three times the figure for Canada as a whole.
- There is excessive substance abuse. Reported marijuana use is four times the national average; LSD, speed, and cocaine use is three times as high; and abuse of aerosols and solvents is 26 times the national average.
- The death rate from accidents is four times the national average, and most commonly the victims are between 15 and 29 years of age.
- The percentage of the population in jail is nearly three times that of Canada as a whole.
- About one-third of Nunavut's residents were living on welfare in March of 1996. This is more than three times the Canadian average.
- Teenage pregnancy rates are six times higher than the national average, and infant death rates are twice that found in the rest of Canada.
- Disease rates are high. For example, tuberculosis occurs at
eight times the Canadian average, and hepatitis A occurs 18 times as often.

- Thirty-eight per cent of residents have less than a Grade 9 education.
- Domestic violence is prevalent, and sexual assault is seven times the national rate.

**Economic Problems**
The economic problems facing Nunavut are certainly daunting. The central question remains whether or not the territory can produce the wealth it needs to support people whose cost of living is 65 per cent higher than the rest of the country, and whose average income is about 50 per cent lower. As the new territory begins operating, 90 per cent of its $620-million budget will be supplied by the federal government in Ottawa.

For now, the regions traditional economy is based on hunting, trapping, and fishing. As well, arts and crafts contribute to the incomes of 30 per cent of the Inuit. The two areas that are considered to be the most promising for the future economic development of the region are mining and tourism. Three mines are already in operation, and the new government hopes to develop the regions gold, silver, lead, and zinc deposits. Tourism is already established, generating about $30-million annually to the Nunavut economy. The growth in ecological and adventure tourism is expected to benefit Nunavut. Many communities already offer kayaking, mountain climbing, floe-edge tours, and dog-team expeditions. The number of tourists is expected to increase with the birth of the new territory and the establishment of three new national parks.

**Introduction**
**Updating the Canadiana Quiz**
**Broadening Your Knowledge**
**Steps to Independence**
**Creating a Government**
**In Their Own Words**
**Northern Lights**
**Challenges to Overcome**
**Reclaiming A Culture**
**Discussion, Research, And Essay Questions.**

Indicates material appropriate or adaptable for younger viewers.
The Inuit have a long history in Canada. It is believed that the Inuit descended from the early Paleo-Eskimo cultures that crossed the Bering Strait to present-day Alaska, northern Canada, and Greenland over 4000 years ago. The people of the most recent of the Paleo-Eskimo cultures, the Thule, are considered to be the ancestors of the Inuit. The early Inuit societies were egalitarian and developed two principal traits: the sharing in the hunt to ensure survival of the group and an attitude of patience, acceptance, and enduring confidence. The second of these traits is known as *ayurnamat*, roughly translated as "Oh well, it can't be helped." This attitude also results in a culture that does not try to dominate and change nature but instead lives with nature and follows its seasons and moods.

Although the Inuit had contact with Norse explorers 1000 years ago, contact with colonizing Europeans was relatively sporadic until the 19th and 20th centuries. At that point, missionaries, mounted police officers, and Hudson's Bay Company traders began to interact with the Inuit on a more regular basis. Though no treaties were signed, the Canadian government put northern peoples under its jurisdiction in 1870, and it was not until 1960 that all aboriginal peoples gained the right to vote in federal elections.

Canadian Inuit lived primarily beyond the influence of southern society until the 1950s and 1960s. At that time, the Canadian government began providing health care, housing, and education in "settlement areas." Parents who wanted their children to read and write in English moved from the land into settlements. This had a profound impact on traditional Inuit skills since these families no longer lived off the land. Another development that had an impact on the Inuit was the launch of the Anik A-1 satellite in 1972. This brought television into the Arctic, which of course made people want southern consumer goods, exposed them to southern values, and led to a decline in the use of the Inuktitut language. These changes were
further compounded by the fact that the sealskin industry almost disappeared in the 1970s, eliminating a traditional occupation for many young men.

With the establishment of their own territory, the Inuit are hoping to reclaim their culture. Children will be schooled in Inuktitut, laws based on Inuit culture and traditions will be established, and enforced, by the Inuit, and elders hope they will be able to revive many of the traditional skills and customs that used to be common.

The Traditional Hunt
Many Inuit believe that the health of their culture is linked to the land, and that they belong to the land more than the land belongs to them. For a culture such as this, changes that have eroded the traditional skills of the people is of grave concern. In fact, in some areas, the number of "town kids" who have never been out on the land is increasing. These children have lost their traditional skills and respect for their culture, and often find themselves bored. In order to reverse this trend, many families, even if only on weekends, are getting involved in the family hunt again. This involves camping out, usually on an island, and living totally off the land. Families will hunt and spear, clean and dry meat, prepare animal skins, and give thanks for the bounty of the land. Meals often consist of raw seal liver and caribou marrow, obtained from breaking open caribou legs. By reclaiming the traditional hunt, even in a modified form, families hope they can restore pride and respect for Inuit culture in their children.
1. Visit a Nunavut information Web site at www.ntv.it/fotw/flags/ca-nu.html and view the territory's new flag, mace, and the 25 cent coin that was designed by an Inuit artist. Study these three symbols carefully and determine what they can teach us about Inuit culture.

2. The tourism industry is expected to be a profitable part of the Nunavut economy in the coming years. Conduct research into the many possible tourist activities in Nunavut, such as kayaking, mountain climbing, and dog-sled rides. After completing your research, create a travel brochure for Nunavut. You can begin your research at the Nunavut Tourism Web site at www.nunatour.nt.ca or an arctic tourist information site at www.arctic-travel.com.

3. The wildlife in the arctic region is fascinating. Many mammals, birds, and plants that live in the arctic can be found only in this region of the world. With a partner, prepare a report on one of the arctic mammals found in Nunavut. You may decide to choose from the arctic hare (Ukaliq), the arctic fox (Tiriganiaq), the polar bear (Nanuq), the snowy owl (Upikjuaq), the barren-ground caribou (Tuktu), or the lemming (Avinga). To get you started on your research, visit the Web site of Auyuittuq National Park at www.parkscanada.pch.gc.ca/parks/nwtw/auyuittuq.

4. While most Canadians know that the Inuit have a history as a hunting and trapping people, few of us know much about their culture. Prepare a report on Inuit culture to be presented to your class. Categories that you might decide to explore in your report include Music and Entertainment, Food, Customs, Family Relations,
and Importance of Community. You will find excellent information on Inuit Culture at the Web site www.arctic-travel.com.

5. In your opinion, in what ways do southern communities throughout Canada attempt to control nature or instead live interdependently with it?

6. Having studied this *News in Review* story, compare your perceptions of Canada's Far North to your previous impressions. To what extent do you think images of the north are stereotypical?

7. How does dependency on the land for survival affect culture? In order to answer this question consider agricultural life in various regions of Canada, maritime lifestyles, and the people of the Far North.

8. What traditions does your family practise that serve to maintain cultural practices and traditions? Where did these practices and traditions come from?

**Introduction**

Updating the Canadiana Quiz  
Broadening Your Knowledge  
Steps to Independence  
Creating a Government  
In Their Own Words  
Northern Lights  
Challenges to Overcome  
Reclaiming A Culture  
Discussion, Research, And Essay Questions.

Indicates material appropriate or adaptable for younger viewers.