

# Pan-Territorial Adaptation Partnership Outreach

During November 2013, the Pan-Territorial Adaptation Partnership (PTAP) held the Pan-Territorial Permafrost Workshop in Yellowknife, NT. This Workshop aimed to bring together experts and decisions makers to encourage action in adapting to changing permafrost conditions in the Canadian North.

## CONTEXT

The Pan-Territorial Adaptation Partnership (PTAP) is a collaboration between the Governments of Nunavut, Northwest Territories, and Yukon. PTAP is a mechanism for identifying and realizing climate change adaptation outcomes in the North.

Permafrost is of a large concern across the three territories as warmer air temperatures degrade and thaw the permafrost that acts as foundation for buildings and infrastructure. The ability of PTAP to mitigate these impacts is limited, and therefore adaptation is key to dealing with permafrost issues in the future.

*Pan-Territorial Adaptation Partnership*



## OBJECTIVE

The Pan-Territorial Permafrost Workshop (PTPW) was held in Yellowknife November 4-7, 2013 and aimed to bring together decision makers and permafrost knowledge-holders to spread information on permafrost thaw impacts and to brainstorm adaptation approaches and potential barriers.

## APPROACH

The workshop had more than 200 participants from around Canada and all different walks of life. A pre-workshop shortcourse on permafrost was held on November 4<sup>th</sup>, followed by the workshop from November 5-7. The workshop was broken up into different sectors of permafrost impacts, such as infrastructure, and presentations were given on the subject before a breakout group session was held to discuss potential impacts, barriers and solutions, to the topic.

In addition to the main workshop, a public information session, a poster session and an evening gala were held throughout the week of the PTPW. These events brought out many individuals and helped to disseminate information on permafrost in a more casual setting.

## EXPECTED RESULTS

The PTPW is expected to generate understanding on permafrost and to enable decision-makers the knowledge to properly identify and resolve permafrost impacts, and to put knowledge holders into direct contact with the people being impacted by permafrost degradation. This two-way dialogue will result in a closer relationship between the two parties and the resulting cooperation will lead to stronger adaptation abilities within the North.

PTPW also resulted in a report on the outcomes of the workshop, including a detailed breakdown of the presentations, breakout sessions and outcomes from the workshop. This report is available at:

<http://www.northernadaptation.ca/>

## Significance

*Sharing best practices between Pan-Territorial Partners will help ensure consistency and a lack of redundancy between climate change adaptation approaches.*

## Partners

- GNWT Environment and Natural Resources, Environment Division
- Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

## FOR MORE INFO

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