

Prno, J., J. Wandel, B. Bradshaw, B. Smit, and L. Tozer. Living with change: Community vulnerability to climate change in the context of other risks in Kugluktuk, NU. Submitted to *Polar Research*.

Abstract

Climate change in the Canadian north is, and will be, managed by communities that are already experiencing social, political, economic and other environmental changes. Hence, there is a need to understand vulnerability to climate change in the context of multiple risks at the community level. This paper responds to this perceived knowledge need based on a case study of the community of Kugluktuk in Nunavut, Canada. A vulnerability approach is used to identify both current climatic and non-climatic exposure-sensitivities along with their associated contemporary adaptation strategies. This documentation of current vulnerability is used as a basis to project a picture of Kugluktuk's future vulnerability to climatic change. Although there is widespread recognition in Kugluktuk that climatic conditions are changing, and numerous adaptations are being employed as a result, many community members view climate change as a minor concern, outweighed by social issues. More generally, this research suggests that northern communities are challenged by multiple stresses, beyond just those posed by climate, and hence effective adaptation to climate change requires consideration if not resolution of social and other issues within communities.