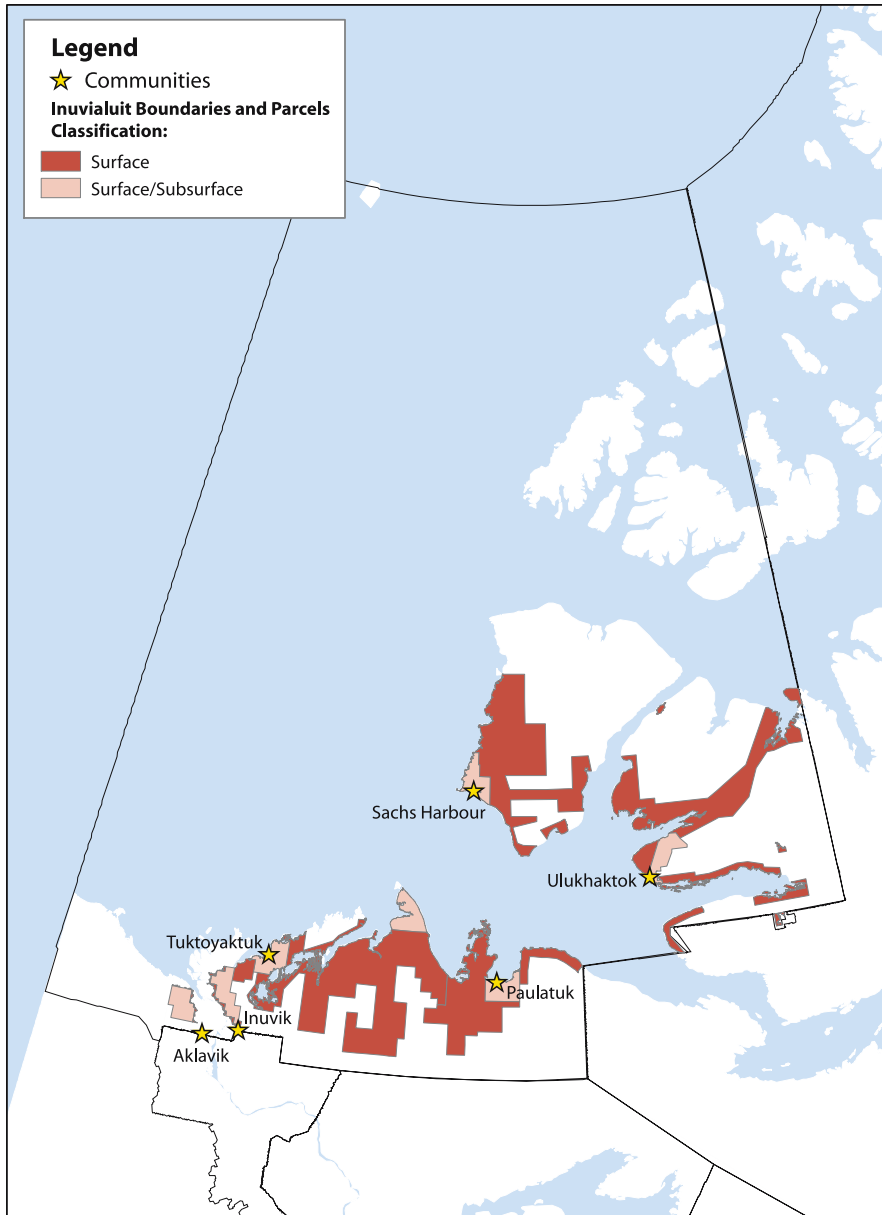




NWT Plain Facts

*On Land and
Self-government*

Inuvialuit Final Agreement



On June 5, 1984, the Inuvialuit Final Agreement was signed by the Prime Minister and the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the Minister, Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development of the Northwest

Territories Government, the Yukon Government Leader, and representatives of the Inuvialuit. It was the first comprehensive land claim agreement signed north of the 60th parallel and only the second in Canada at that time.

Highlights of the Agreement

Inuvialuit-owned land

The Inuvialuit own 90,650 square kilometres of land in the Northwest Territories. This includes subsurface (mineral) rights to 12,950 square kilometres of land.

Economic benefits

The Inuvialuit received a tax-free payment of \$152 million (1984) paid over a period of 13 years, a one time payment of \$10 million to an economic enhancement fund, and \$7.5 million to a social development fund.

Land and environmental management

The Inuvialuit have a say in wildlife and environmental management through participation on boards and councils particularly the Inuvialuit Joint Secretariat, the Environmental Impact Review Board, the Environmental Impact Screening Committee, Wildlife Management Advisory Council, the Fisheries Joint Management Committee, and the Research Advisory Council.

Hunting and fishing

The Inuvialuit maintain exclusive rights to conduct commercial wildlife activities on certain lands within the settlement area and preferential rights in the whole settlement area.

Benefits for other northerners?

The Agreement clarifies who owns and has rights to the land and resources in the Inuvialuit settlement area. This certainty will encourage economic development in the area. The Inuvialuit will be able to use their resources, including money, to be a factor in stimulating regional economic growth.

Progress Update

An Agreement-in-Principle for self-government was signed in April 2003 by the Government of Canada, Government of the Northwest Territories, the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, and the Gwich'in Tribal Council. However in the winter of 2006, the Gwich'in decided to proceed with negotiations without the Inuvialuit. The Inuvialuit are currently working with the Agreement-in-Principle as a basis towards a Final Agreement. Canada, the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Inuvialuit continue to make steady progress in their self-government negotiations.

For more information:

For more Plain Facts on land and self-government in the NWT, visit the website at www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/nt/pt

For general information on INAC policies, programs and services, visit the department's website at www.ainc-inac.gc.ca

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