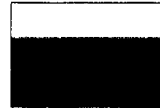


Attachment 1



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT
(CANADA) AND THE MINISTRY OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE RUSSIAN
FEDERATION CONCERNING COOPERATION ON ABORIGINAL AND NORTHERN
DEVELOPMENT**

The **DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT OF CANADA (DIAND)** and the **MINISTRY OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**, hereinafter referred to as "the Participants":

RECOGNIZING that Canada and the Russian Federation, as Arctic states, are facing a wide range of common interests and issues peculiar to the Arctic and northern regions;

CONSCIOUS of the importance of promoting and ensuring sustainable development, including environmental protection, in the Arctic and the North;

AFFIRMING mutual commitment to ensure sustainable development, including environmental protection, in the Arctic and the North;

AFFIRMING the commitment of both countries to the well-being of their northern populations, including the recognition of the unique interests and the special relationship of Aboriginal peoples of the Arctic;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the jurisdiction of the Participants with respect to northern and Aboriginal affairs in their respective countries;

DRAWING on the long relationship between Canada and the Russian Federation in the area of Arctic and northern cooperation, and wishing to contribute further to the commitment of both countries to enhanced circumpolar cooperation in accordance with the objectives of the Arctic Council; and

RECOGNIZING that for all activities carried out under the Memorandum of Understanding, the Participants wish to optimize the participation of provincial/regional, territorial and local governments, Aboriginal organizations, business and other non-governmental organizations,

HAVE REACHED the following Understanding:

1. The Participants will develop further and strengthen bilateral cooperation concerning Aboriginal and northern issues in the following areas:
 - (a) northern policy development;
 - (b) policy and legislation related to the situation of Aboriginal peoples;
 - (c) socio-economic and ethnocultural development of Aboriginal peoples;
 - (d) capacity building for Aboriginal peoples;
 - (e) northern environment and conservation;
 - (f) capacity building through partnerships;
 - (g) promotion of northern business linkages and investment in the economy of the North;
 - (h) preservation and development of traditional Aboriginal economies, traditional way of life and unique cultures of Aboriginal peoples;
 - (i) scientific monitoring and research;
 - (j) any other areas as may be mutually agreed.

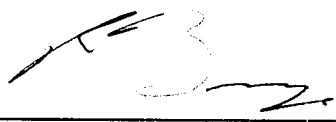
2. Cooperation between the Participants will take the following forms:
 - (a) visit by and/or exchange of officials, experts, and northern peoples;
 - (b) discussion fora on northern and Aboriginal Issues;
 - (c) co-operative projects and consultations through already existing and ongoing mechanisms involving northern regions;
 - (d) exchange of information; and
 - (e) other mutually decided forms of cooperation.

3. For the purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding, the Participants will encourage and facilitate direct contacts between regional, territorial and local governments, Aboriginal groups and organizations of the northern regions of both countries, academic and scientific institutions and the private sector, including the conclusion of working arrangements on the implementation of specific projects and programs.

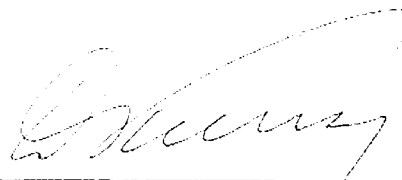
4. Cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding will be realized in accordance with the laws and regulations of each country.
5. Unless otherwise arranged between the Participants, international travel expenses, as well as in-country travel expenses, will be borne by the sending Participant. Each Participant acting as host will provide, as appropriate, support to the other Participant to facilitate visa issuance.
6. (a) To implement this Memorandum of Understanding, the Participants will hold at least bi-annually meetings of delegations of the Participants that will be headed on the Canadian side by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and on the Russian side by the Minister of Regional Development of the Russian Federation.

These meetings will be used as a vehicle for the exchange of information, consultation and review of results of cooperation between the Participants.
- (b) Coordination of activities under the MOU will be carried out by Coordinators designated by the Participants. The Participants will notify each other about their respective Coordinators additionally.
7. Cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding will be carried out in consideration of the commitments of the Participants made under other international treaties that apply to relations between Canada and the Russian Federation.
8. This Memorandum of Understanding will take effect upon signature by the Participants. It may be terminated at any time with a six month written notice.
9. This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended at any time by mutual consent of the Participants.

SIGNED in duplicate at Ottawa on this 29th day of November 2007 in English, French and Russian languages, each version being equally valid.



**FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN
AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN
DEVELOPMENT (CANADA)**



**FOR THE MINISTRY OF REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT OF THE RUSSIAN
FEDERATION**