


**Strengthening Maternal Child Health in Nunavut**  
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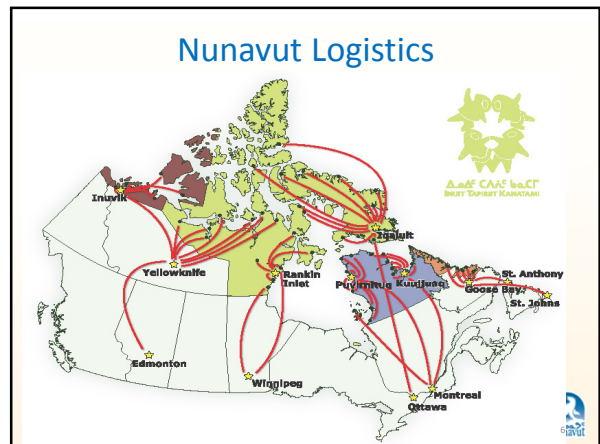
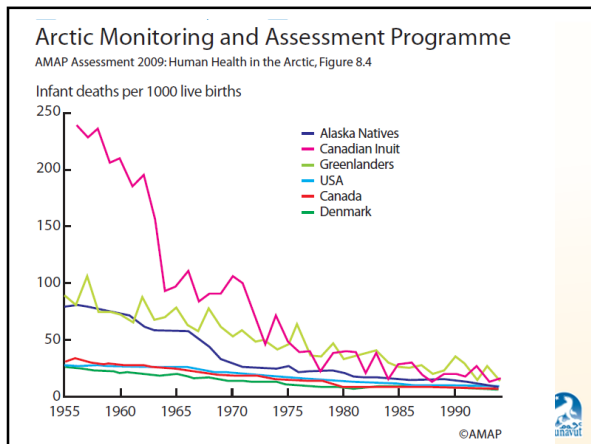
### Maternal Child Health

- Indicators of maternal child health and analysis of MCH system identified areas to strengthen.
- Steering Committee launched in fall 2014 co-chaired by CMOH and ADM Operations.
  - To support the Department in the provision of evidence-based maternal child health programs and services.



### Context


- Primary care and public health provided by Community Health Nurses (CHNs) in most communities.
  - Acute care needs may subsume public health
  - Particular issue for maternal child health
- Indicators of health status in pregnancy and infancy
  - Mothers in the territory are younger and more likely to deliver prematurely
  - Fertility rate higher – more births per woman
  - Neonatal and infant mortality rates are higher

## Principles

- Maternal child health programs in Nunavut must be grounded in community strengths as well as Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit and Societal Values to be effective.
- A comprehensive approach to maternal child health in Nunavut will need to involve both public health and primary care at the territorial, regional and community levels.
- Childbearing/childrearing families in all of the communities in Nunavut should have access to evidence-based programs and services to promote health.



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## Strengthen programs

- Review and revise health records and guidelines from prenatal, to preschool so they more effectively support provision of maternal child health care in communities.



## Increase organizational capacity

- Establish strong linkages between public health and primary care.
- Support joint planning, implementation and evaluation of maternal child health programs.



## Strengthen information and knowledge systems

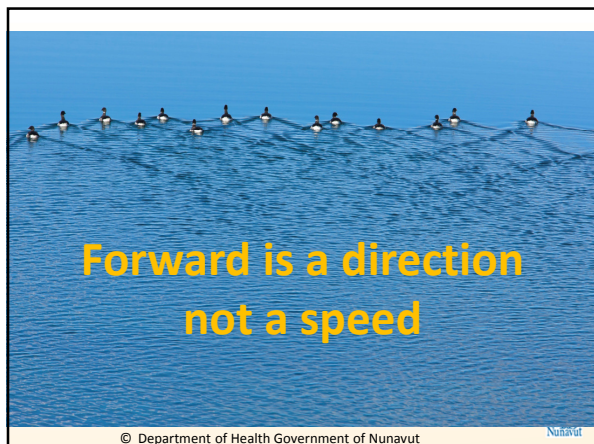
- Monitor trends in maternal child health status by identifying key indicators and a system to collect and analyse information.
  - Important to identify a limited number of key indicators that are captured accurately and reported regularly.



## Ensure sufficient and competent workforce

- Review existing public health workforce in Nunavut and make recommendations for a sufficient and competent workforce
  - Business case for dedicated PHNs.
- Co-ordinate training in maternal child health for CHNs, CHRs, CPNP workers and others working in communities
  - Build on orientation process





### Where are we now?

- Completed:
  - Indicators report
  - HTLV 1 analysis
  - Prenatal guidelines and documentation
  - Training on breastfeeding and SIDS for CHRs and CPNP workers
  - Breastfeeding position statement
  - Parent teaching materials and fact sheets
- Next Steps:
  - Early childhood guidelines and recording
  - Complete business case for PHNs
  - Breastfeeding for CHNs and hospital RNs

