Inuit Homelessness: Knowing, Growing and Going to make a Difference

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Statistics relevant to homelessness, Iqaluit and Nunavut Territory [population. 37,177 (2016)]

[Absolute homelessness means the person had no home, and were forced to seek other forms of shelter.]

- Number of absolute homeless: 72 (February 2014)
- Of whom:
- Homeless for more than a year (territory-wide): 82% (February 2014)
- Staying in shelters (territory-wide): 69% (February 2014)
- Staying in cabins/shacks/tents (territory-wide): 29% (February 2014)
- HOUSING
- Approximate number of units of social housing (Iqaluit): 462 (2017)
- Approximate percentage of population living in public housing (Iqaluit): 22% (2017)
- Social housing gap (Igaluit): 160-180 units (2017)
- No. of households in core housing need (territory-wide): 3,350 (2011)
- Total percentage of households in core housing need (territory-wide): 39.2% (2011)
- Vacancy rate (Igaluit): 7.2% (2016)
- Average Cost of Rent (2 bdrm) (Iqaluit): \$2,597/mo. (2016)
- SOCIAL ASSISTANCE
- Annual welfare incomes exclusive of housing costs, (2016): (single person, \$5946, single parent, 1 child, \$15,497; 2 parent, 2 children, \$25,487 (Tweedle, Battle and Torjman, Nov. 2017, Wefare in Canada, 2016, Ottawa, Caledon Institute)
- Number of social assistance cases (territory-wide): 4,236 (2016)
- Number of social assistance beneficiaries (territory-wide): 14,337 (2016)
- Percentage of population receiving social assistance: 22% (2009)

Nunavut Housing Corporation's Appearance before the Standing Senate Committee on Aboriginal Peoples - March 23, 2016

Declining SHA

The impact of declining SHA funding is amplified by the two-fold pressure on already limited Government of Nunavut budgets.

- 1. Comensating for diminishing SHA funding
- 2. Maintaining all units as housing stock grows

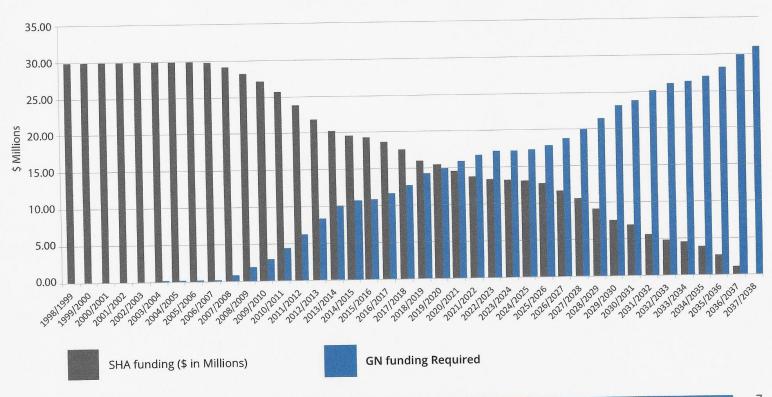


Figure 3. Summary of housing issues, various communities in Nunavut, 2009/2010

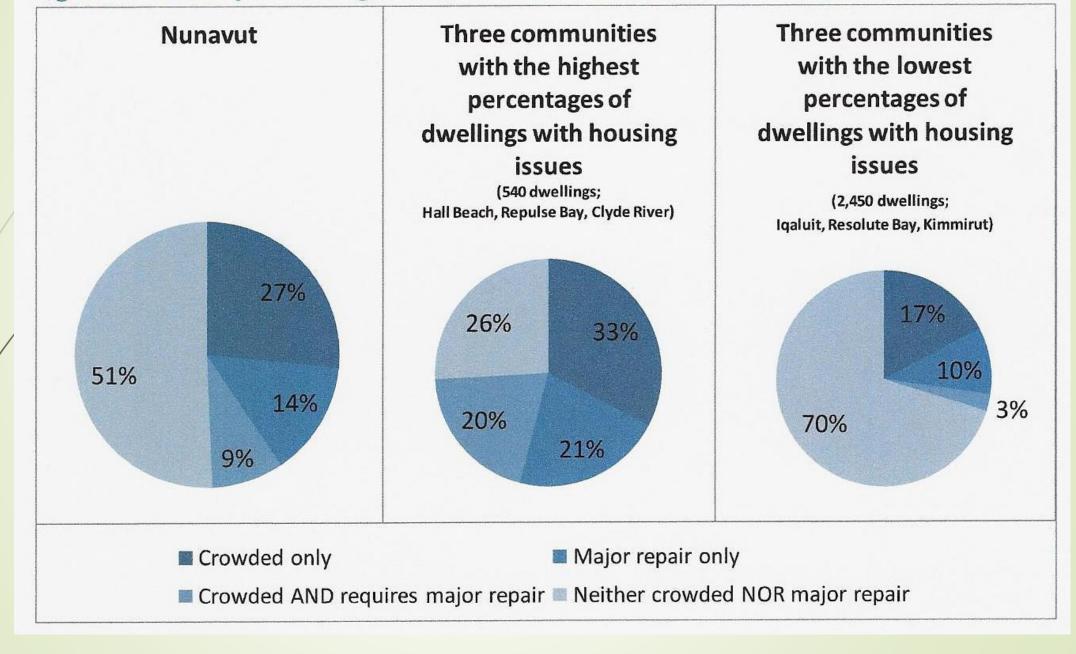
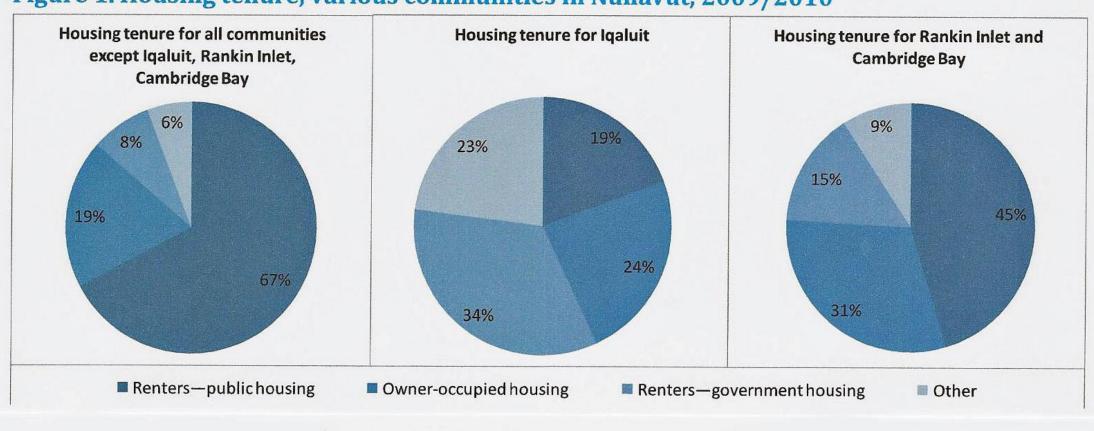


Figure 1. Housing tenure, various communities in Nunavut, 2009/2010



James O'Connor

With a new introduction by the author

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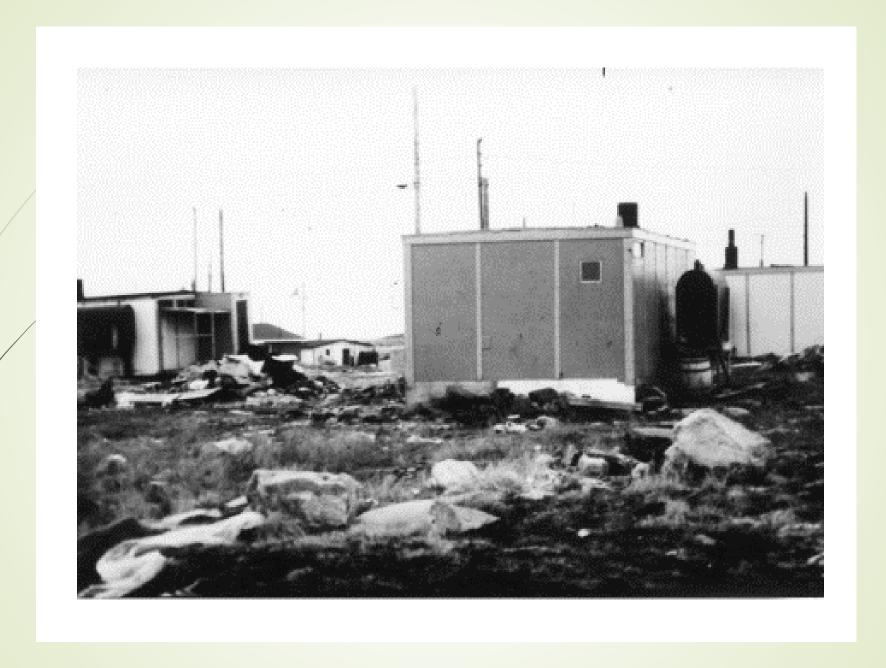


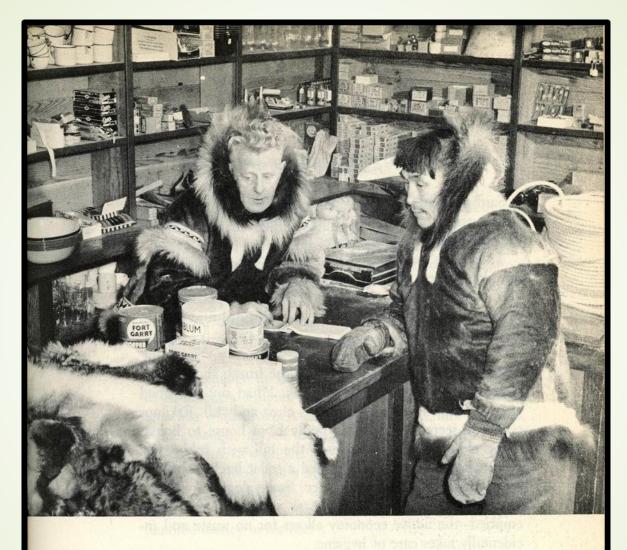












Inside Hudson's Bay Company store at Coppermine—Leo Manning trading with Eskimo, Arctic Fox furs on counter. Store is unheated, temperature Arctic low

\$240M for Nunavut housing 'nowhere near' what territory needs, says housing corp.

The \$240 million for Nunavut translates to about 48 new homes per year, says the president of the housing corporation.

Terry Audla says it would take about 60 years to address Nunavut's housing crisis at this rate

CBC News · Posted: Dec 06, 2017 4:52 PM CT | Last Updated: December 6, 2017



A young family in Igloolik, Nunavut, lived in this poorly constructed wooden shed. New federal funding allocates \$240 million to Nunavut, which will be used to build new homes, says housing corporation. (WE CAN DO BETTER: Housing in Inuit Nunangat, Senate report)

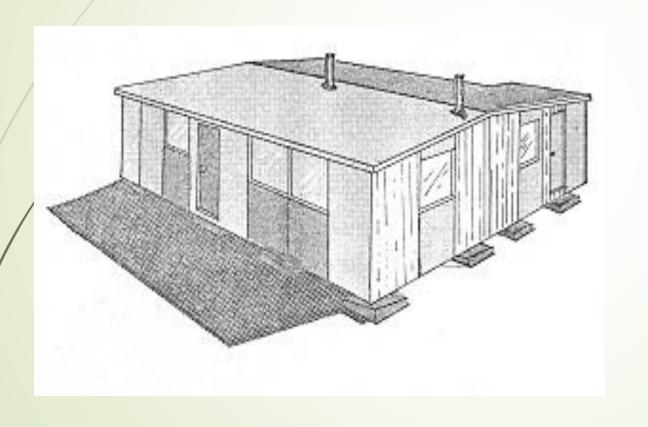
The president of Nunavut Housing Corporation says the \$240 million contained in last month's national housing strategy will be a fraction of what the territory actually needs — only producing a few dozen more homes in Nunavut per year.

Terry Audla says the new money, spread out over the next 10 years, only allows for "business as usual" and is not the cash influx the territory needs to catch up on its housing deficit.

"That translates to \$24 million per year, which comes to about 48 newly constructed units per each year," said Audla.

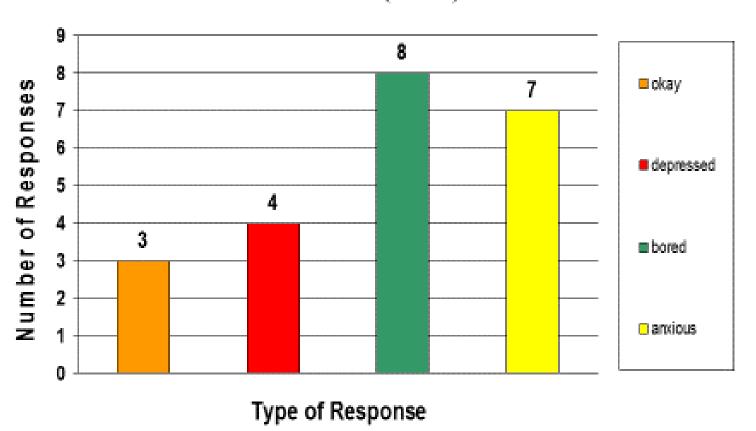
Making Space: What's changed?

Social Housing Design, 1965





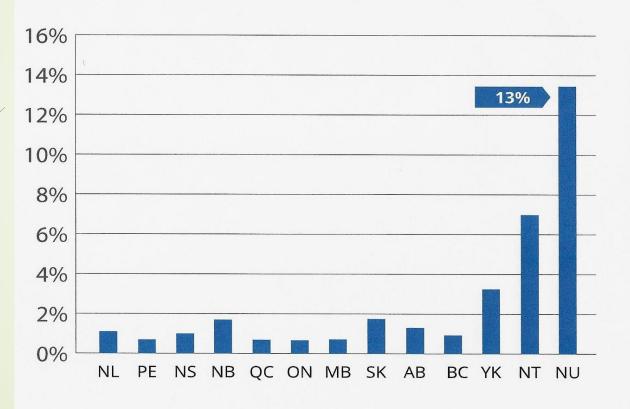
Impact of Not Being Able to Get out Onto the Land – Females (N=22)

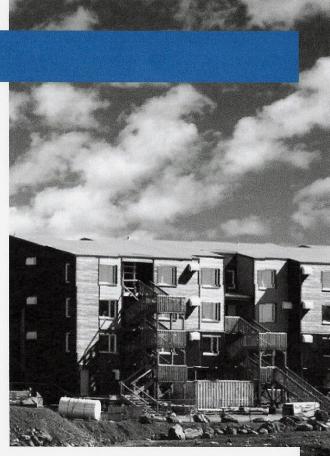


There were 47 women in the sample. Twenty-five indicated they had the equipment necessary to go onto the land and 22 did not. Ten of these women were coupled and 12 were singles. That average age was 31.4.

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Housing expenditure as a % of Total Revenues





Between 1999 and 2009, the average housing expenditures by the Government of Nunavut were 13.3% of the territory's revenue. Over 13 times greater than other provinces and territories.





