



THE HUDSON BAY CONSORTIUM

Roundtable 2024

The 2024 Roundtable Youth Delegation

Overview

For the 2024 Roundtable in marine Emergency Response delegates familiar with this area of focus travelled from each of the 28 coastal communities to Winnipeg to participate in the proceedings. The event reached maximum capacity with 125 attendees.

With support from regional Indigenous organizations and governments, and Polar Knowledge Canada, the 2024 Roundtable also included the Consortium's first Youth Delegation. Six youth (ages 18-30) from around the Bays shared their unique perspectives, resources and experiences with participants while actively demonstrating their appreciation for intergenerational knowledge exchange.

Enhancing Youth Engagement: Strategies from the Summit



Creation of the youth delegation was driven by Summit participants, using the Consortium forum as a space for knowledge mobilization and the facilitation of future stewards of the region. Concrete steps were outlined for future meaningful youth involvement, including preparation, funding, and sustainable engagement. Cultural ties, networking, and effective communication were also highlighted for engaging youth effectively.

Preparatory sessions

Prior to the Roundtable, three preparatory sessions were held with the youth delegates, covering the Hudson Bay Consortium's overview, Code of Conduct, governance structure, meeting details, and travel logistics. Leading up to the event, and at the event, youth were supported by a Youth Engagement Coordinator.

At the meeting

The youth delegation shared invaluable insights and resources throughout the Roundtable, and made notes to share with their youth colleagues upon their return to their communities and youth councils. During networking sessions, the Canadian Coast Guard, and the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites shared insights on youth recruitment. During the meeting, the youth worked alongside the Youth Engagement Coordinator to explore ways to increase the youth delegation at future events.

Summary of successes and challenges

Feedback regarding the inclusion of youth delegates was positive. Youth delegates acknowledged a learning curve with the roundtable format, having limited experience with the Consortium beyond preparatory sessions. Many youths faced capacity constraints due to existing commitments, with half participating as part of their job and the other half participating beyond other work and family commitments. Long-term funding support for youth delegations is imperative for sustained success and addressing these challenges effectively.

Next Steps



Summit participants expressed the need for a permanent youth coordinator role for consistent youth engagement in Consortium events. This role would ensure continuity and reliable coordination for future Consortium activities, including Working Groups, Roundtables, and Summits. Additionally, a targeted communications strategy is necessary to reach both youth delegates and the broader youth population around Hudson Bay and James Bay, sharing information about the Consortium's work and creating a platform for understanding youth priorities. The Secretariat will implement these outlined steps to maintain youth participation and foster ongoing momentum for youth involvement in Consortium activities.

If you are interested in joining or learning more about the Hudson Bay Consortium Working Groups and Steering Committee, please contact: info@hudsonbayconsortium.com

For the 2024 Roundtable Report, and full list of sponsors please visit: [2024 Roundtable](#)