

### 3. Project Tasks and Activities Completed

#### 3.1. Establishment of a Project Working Group and Community Open House

The Project Lead, Margaret Ireland, organized the Project Working Group consisting of seven members from JMR, and consultants from PACTeam Canada. An initial working group meeting was held on July 13, 2010. PACTeam Canada delivered a presentation to the working group about climate change in general, and the current and potential impacts climate change may have on the people and the environment of northern Canada, to demonstrate how climate change is linked to new and existing environmental, economical, cultural, and social changes that affect the health of people, communities, and wildlife in northern Canada. The discussion at the meeting also focused on:

- The goals, and objectives, and activities of this project;
- The role of the working group;
- How health is being, and can be impacted by climate change, and;
- Some initial observations and discussions about current impacts being observed and experienced in the community or out on the land.

A community open house was arranged by the Project Working Group at the JMRFN Band Office on July 14, 2010. Posters explaining climate change and future climate projections, and its impacts to the health of the community, people, culture, and the environment of the JMRFN were displayed in the gymnasium and videos about climate change were shown. Members of the working group were also available to answer any questions members of the community who attended the open house had about the project and climate change.

A one page handout was also put into each community member's mailbox at the Band Office informing them of this project, its purpose, and the need for community support for researching and responding to climate change (see Appendix 1).

#### 3.2. Literature Review

A literature review of primary sources pertaining to climate change and health included the following topics:

- Current and potential climate change impacts on people and ecosystems in northern Canada (Anisimov et al. 2007; Berkes and Jolly 2001; Berner et al. 2005; Environment Canada 1997; Fast and Berkes 1999; GNWT 2008; Guyot et al. 2006; Huntington et al. 2005; IISD 2000; Kochtubajda et al. 2006; Nuttall et al. 2005; Standing Committee on Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources 2009; Scott and Lemieux 2007; and Wrona et al. 2005).
- Examples of adaptation approaches and strategies available for small remote northern Aboriginal communities to respond to climate change (Berner et al. 2005; Berkes and Jolly 2001; CIER 2006; Daniel et al. 2007; GNWT 2008; Ford and Furgal 2009; Ford et al. 2010; Nuttall et al. 2005; Patino, 2010; and Séguin and Berry, 2007) .
- Future climate projections (ACIA 2005; IPCC 2007; Kochtubajda 2006; and NRC 2009).
- The interconnections of climatic, environmental, and social/cultural changes; and their impacts on health (Anisimov et al. 2007; Berner et al. 2005; Daniel et al. 2007; Fast and Berkes 1999; and Guyot et al. 2006).
- Western Medical Science and Dene perspectives regarding health (Parlee et al. 2007; and Séguin and Berry, 2007).
- The importance of traditional knowledge (TK) in climate change research for revealing how changes in climate are linked to changes in the environment and the community, and the importance of TK for developing adaptation strategies (Berkes and Jolly 2001; Newton et al.