Evolving uses of technology in Nunavut research practice: How physical, health and social scientists use technologies to collaborate, conduct, and report on research
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Stuart And Juno visiting Apex Hill
Photo: Stuart Anderson
Overview

Research Question
How has the use of technologies evolved alongside research practice when collaborating, conducting, and reporting on research in Nunavut?

Objectives
1. Identify effective communication technologies used by researchers to collaborate with community partners;
2. Characterize which and how technologies are used to conduct research in field- or community-based research;
3. Describe/explore technologies used for knowledge mobilization;
4. Examine the infrastructure, accessibility and community factors affecting choice of technologies;
5. Assess how technologies in Nunavut have changed over time; and,
6. Explore objectives 1-5 through the lens of each scientific discipline (physical, health and social science).
• I identified **top 20 license-holding Principal Investigators** from physical, health and social science using *Isirvik* (NRI licensing database).
• I engaged **participants in semi-structured interviews** to discuss technologies they have used in their research in Nunavut.

(Polidoro et al. 2022)
Interviews - Completed

Total interviews conducted (48) and breakdown by discipline

PI affiliation by discipline

- Principal Investigator
- Referral
- Physical
- Health
- Social

University
Government
Hospital
Other

Physical
Health
Social
• **Conditions**
  ○ Under what conditions is a technology being used?

• **Relationships**
  ○ Which relationships are needed or established because of or through a technology?

• **Actions**
  ○ How is a technology used? Who can use it?
  ○ How/where is training done?

• **Feelings**
  ○ How do researchers and community partners feel about technological change?
  ○ How do they feel about the choice they are provided?

• **Themes**
  ○ Optimal community-based research technologies.
  ○ “Simple”, “basic” and “invisible” technologies.
  ○ Social media: preference and use.
  ○ Satellite technology: communication and conducting research.
  ○ Technology as media.

Seal skin preparation, and the “simple” technologies used to do so, can help develop relationships, transfer knowledge about other topics, and help individuals feel connected to each other and the land.
Experiential Learning at Research Hubs

• Proposed sites: Cambridge Bay, Iqaluit, Arviat, and Resolute Bay.
• Verify:
  ○ Available technologies;
  ○ Types of research; and
  ○ Community engagement.
• Benefits to research hubs:
  ○ Video/photos of facility;
  ○ Inventory of technologies;
  ○ Improved communications; and
  ○ Extra hands for daily tasks.
References

Thank You!

Photo: Stuart Anderson
https://straightupnorth.ca/making-research-work-for-nunavummiut/