

Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge: Inuit Guiding Principles and Concepts

Source: Nunavut (Canada) Wildlife Act 2003

Pijitsirniq/Ihumaliukti,

A person with the power to make decisions must exercise that power to serve the people to whom he or she is responsible;

Papattiniq/Munakhinik

The obligation of guardianship or stewardship that a person may owe in relation to something that does not belong to the person;

Aajiiqatigiingniq/Pitiakatigiiklotik,

People who wish to resolve important matters or any differences of interest must treat each other with respect and discuss them in a meaningful way, keeping in mind that just because a person is silent does not necessarily mean he or she agrees;

Pilimmaksarniq/Ayoikyumikatakhimanik,

Skills must be improved and maintained through experience and practice;

Piliriqatigiingniq/Havakatigiiklutik,

People must work together in harmony to achieve a common purpose;

Avatimik Kamattiarniq/Amiginik Avatimik

People are stewards of the environment and must treat all of nature holistically and with respect, because humans, wildlife and habitat are inter-connected and each person's actions and intentions towards everything else have consequences, for good or ill;

Qanuqtuurunnarniq/Kaujimatukanut,

The ability to be creative and flexible and to improvise with whatever is at hand to achieve a purpose or solve a problem;

Qaujimanilik/Ihumatuyuk,

A person who is recognized by the community as having in-depth knowledge of a

subject;

Surattittailimaniq/Hugattittailimanik, also called *Iksinnaittailimaniq/Ikhinnaittailimanik*,

Hunters should hunt only what is necessary for their needs and not waste

the wildlife they hunt;

Ililjaqsuittailiniq/Kimaitailinik,

Even though wild animals are harvested for food and other purposes, malice

towards them is prohibited;

Sirliqsaqtittittailiniq/Naklihaaktitihuiluhi,

Hunters should avoid causing wild animals unnecessary suffering

when harvesting them;

Akiraqtuutijariaqanginniq Nirjutiit Pijjutigillugit/Hangiaguikluhi,

Nekyutit InuupPiutigingitait,

Wildlife and habitat are not possessions and so hunters should avoid disputes over the

wildlife they harvest or the areas in which they harvest them; and

Ikpigusuttiarniq Nirjutilimaanik/Pitiaklugit nekyutit,

All wildlife should be treated respectfully.

Source: Nunavut Wildlife Act 2003, Section 8 [cf. also Section 9].

<https://www.canlii.org/en/nu/laws/stat/snu-2003-c-26/latest/part-1/snu-2003-c-26-part-1.pdf>