

# INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR COUNCIL

Okalik Egeesiak,  
Chair,  
Inuit Circumpolar Council

# ARCTIC BIODIVERSITY CONGRESS: PLENARY PANEL

December 2, 2014

*“Inuit Perspectives on Arctic Ecosystems”*

Sustainable Utilization of Arctic Biodiversity

Ancient and Modern Relationships



1. How do you see changes in Arctic ecosystems affecting ecosystems outside the Arctic?
2. How do you see actions taken outside of the Arctic affecting Arctic ecosystems?



Photo © Bill Hess



160,000 Inuit live in the Arctic spread across Greenland, Canada, Alaska (USA) and Chukotka (Russia). The Inuit Circumpolar Council advocates for Inuit rights internationally.

# CHANGE IN THE ARCTIC





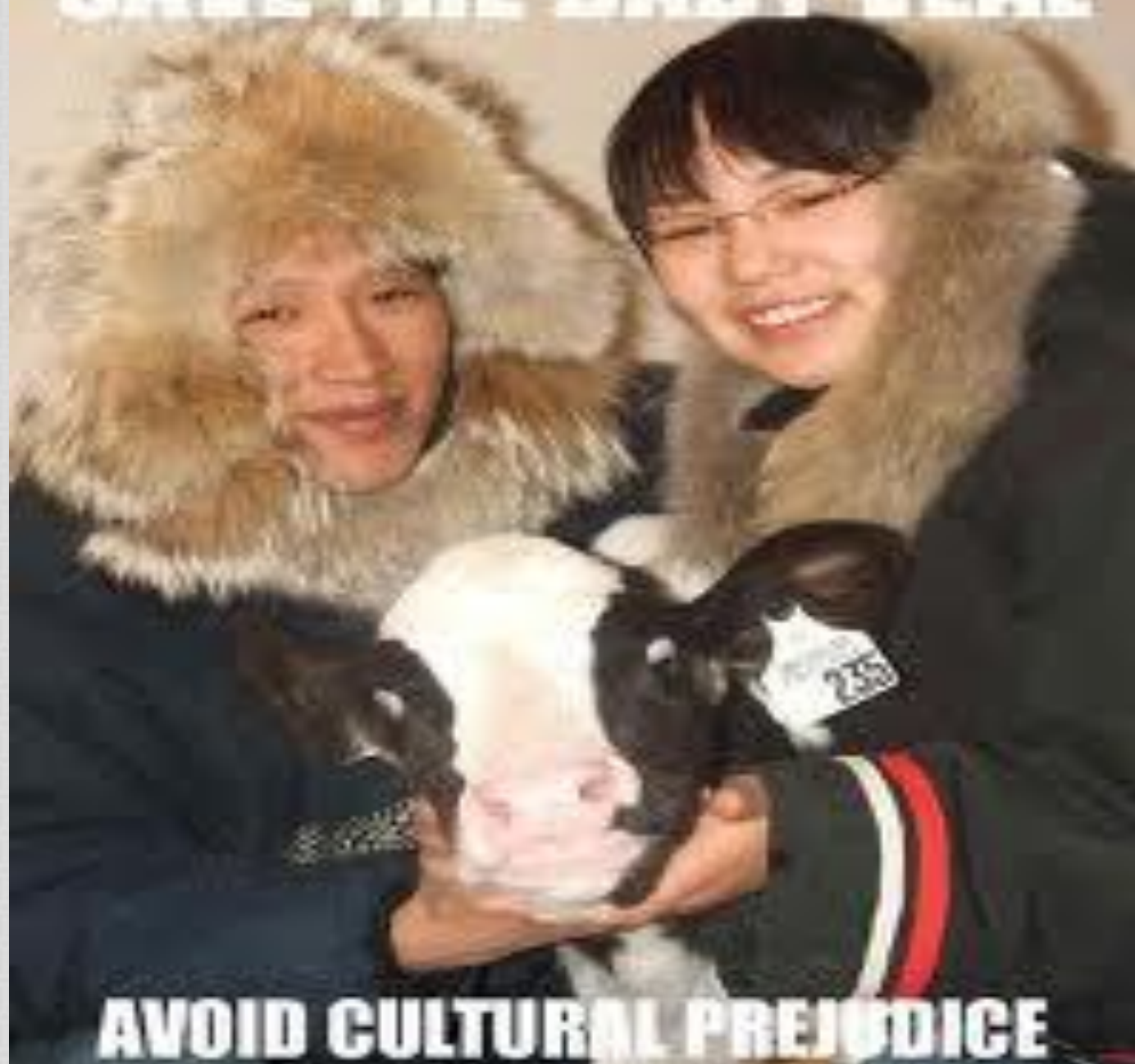
- Inuit food security is dependent upon Arctic biodiversity and is our cultural identity
- Traditional knowledge and western knowledge are both needed for adaptive decision making;
- Community based monitoring has been ongoing as part of Inuit survival for thousands of years and is a valuable source of knowledge; and,
- Inuit must be part of policy or research that involves or impact Arctic wildlife.



# How does the changes in the Arctic impact the peoples and environments to the south?

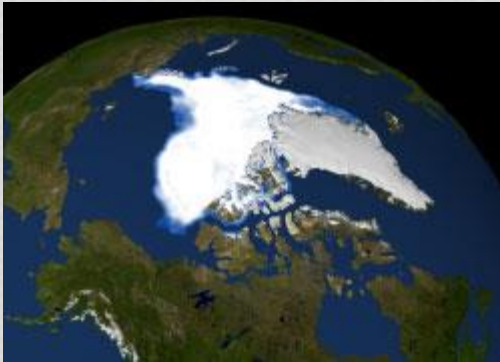


**SAVE THE BABY VEAL**



**AVOID CULTURAL PREJUDICE**

# HOW DO YOU SEE ACTIONS TAKEN OUTSIDE OF THE ARCTIC AFFECTING ARCTIC ECOSYSTEMS?





# KITIGAARYUIT DECLARATION

This Declaration contains the Inuit agenda for the next 4 years in relation to:

- the Arctic Council and other international fora;
- Environmental Stewardship;
- Safe Shipping and Fisheries;
- Sustainable Economic Development;
- Inuit Health and Well-Being;
- Food Security;
- Communication;
- Education and Language; and
- Traditional Knowledge and Science.



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