

IGLOOLIK

Iglulik

Background Info. (not necess. current)

Location

69°23' N, 81°48' W. Elevation 53 m at the airstrip, 362 air km NE of Repulse Bay, 1641 air km NE of Yellowknife, in the Baffin Region.

On Igloolik Island in Foxe Basin Lowlands bounded on the north by Fury and Hecla Straits and separated on the south from the mainland by Hooper Inlet.

Topography

Limestone lowlands covered with muskeg and ponds, with the settlement area underlain by sand and gravel, and Arctic meadow flora.

Climate

Average annual precipitation: 19.1 cm snowfall. July mean high 7.8°C, low 3.3°C. January mean high -23.3°C, low -32.8°C. Winds N at 21 km/h.

History

Among archaeological sites in the Canadian Arctic, Igloolik provides a unique record of unbroken Inuit habitation. Shortly after the hills of Igloolik Island rose from the sea at the end of the last glaciation, the first human settlements were established there. The oldest site, c. 2,000 BC, belongs to the Sarqaaq (Denbigh) culture. The Dorset culture (c. 1,000 BC-AD 1100) probably began in this area as an outgrowth of the Denbigh culture. The whale-hunting Thule, the last wave of Alaskan migration, c. 800 AD, with their highly developed implement technology, absorbed the Dorset people and left the most plentiful archaeological evidence behind them. The Iglulik Inuit of today are the descendants of the Thule, although colder climatic conditions and the gradual disappearance of the large baleen whale caused the culture to shift more to a walrus and seal-hunting economy.

The first qallunaag to visit the Igloolik area was Thomas Burton, who, in 1613, sailed up Roes Welcome Sound, but, believing it to be a bay, did not penetrate into Foxe Basin. Captains Parry and Lyon of the Royal Navy spent the winter of 1822-23 at Igloolik, and established friendly relations with the local Inuit. Both later wrote detailed accounts of the people's way of life. Other explorers, such as Rae and Hall, also travelled extensively in the area during the 19th century, and in its latter half, whalers occasionally penetrated into Foxe Basin. However, when the Fifth Thule Expedition under Rasmussen, Freuchen and

Matthiassen arrived in 1921, they found the way of life of the Iglulik Inuit still very much as it had been 100 years before. The Inuit hunted walrus in fall and winter, seal in spring, and caribou on Melville Peninsula and Baffin Island in summer, with char fishing as a supplementary activity performed by women.

In the early 1920s, an Inuk, Umik of Pond Inlet, set up a mission at Igloolik where he preached his own version of Christianity; and in 1931, Father Bazin of the Oblates set up a Roman Catholic mission nearby, baptizing the leading Inuit couple, Itruksaarjuat and his wife Ataguttaaluk. The introduction of the Peterhead boat by the Hudson's Bay Company in the early 30s helped the permanency of the settlement. The depletion of game resources and the withdrawal of the whalers in the Repulse Bay area eventually led to a migration towards Igloolik. Until 1939, when the Hudson's Bay Company set up its first post, the Igloolik Inuit had to travel long distances to the posts at Pond Inlet or Repulse Bay to trade. Resupply was irregular owing to difficult ice conditions up to 1947.

There was some further growth at Igloolik after 1955, with the establishment of the DEW Line station at Hall Beach and of a school and government facilities in 1959. The Igloolik Co-operative was incorporated in 1963. In the past decade, Igloolik has contributed a number of leaders to the aboriginal rights movement, and the community has become known for its independent-mindedness and cohesiveness.

Demography

Population, June 1981, 746. 1986 Census, 857. June 1988 GNWT estimate: 922.

1986 sex distribution: 52% male, 48% female.

1986 age distribution: 0-4, 16%; 5-14, 31%; 15-64, 50%; 65+, 2%.

1987 ethnic distribution: 0% Dene, 2% Metis, 93% Inuit, 5% non-native.

Languages spoken: Inuktitut, English.

Political Organization

Hamlet status, April 1, 1976.

Mayor: Paul Haulli.

Senior Administrative Officer: Joanasi Sarpinak.

Hamlet office: (819) 934-8830. Fax (819) 934-8757.

Liquor Plebiscite March 13, 1978; community controls.

MLA Titus Allooooloo (Amituq); MP Jack Anawak, LIB (Nunatsiag).

Economy

Major Activities — Marine mammal harvesting; hunting/fishing; trapping; handicrafts; research centre.

Banks — None.

Co-ops — Igloolik Co-operative Limited.

Renewable Resources — Fish: Arctic Char, Lake Trout.

Marine mammals: Right Whale, Ring Seal, Bearded Seal, Beluga, Narwhal, Walrus, Killer Whale.

Game: Caribou, Wolf, Fox, Polar Bear.

Quotas: Caribou, 150; Polar Bear, 18; Barren-Ground Grizzly Bear, 5.

Renewable Resources Officer: Josiah Kadlutsiak.

Igloolik HTA.

Total number of trappers (1987-88): 23.

Total dollars earned: \$7,560.

Non-renewable Resources — Minerals: nothing known. Medium uranium potential, high iron potential, North Baffin Island.

Tourism — Research centre; unusual church; museum; archaeological sites. Arts and crafts: ivory, stone, bone and sealskin crafts.

Prices and Income — Private Households Average Income, 1985: \$26,604. Food prices, 1987: 71% higher than Yellowknife.

Local Businesses — The following services are provided by locally based business in addition to those noted above. This list includes both primary and secondary businesses and does not include all services available. For more information consult the NWT Business Directory.

Building contractors, taxis, general retail, food, sporting goods, hotels, outfitters, restaurants, amusement centres.

Infrastructure

Power — NWTPC (Area Office Iqaluit), diesel generator, 1,350kW capacity. 1989 rates, Domestic Service (non-government): 15.04¢/kWh for the first 300kWh per month, 30.72¢/kWh for all over 300kWh per month; Commercial Service (non-government): 33.76¢/kWh, Domestic Service (government): 36.46¢/kWh, Commercial Service (government): 36.46¢/kWh.

Water — Source, surface run-off entering South Lake and Airstrip Lake 4 km from community; screened intake, rock reservoir filled in summer; hypochlorinator. Distributed by truck, contracted to Hamlet.

Sanitation — Health centre and research centre have pumpout tanks and use humus toilets. 50% of all homes have pumpout tanks. Bagged sewage picked up by open box wheeled trailer, contracted to Hamlet. Solid waste collected at same time as sewage. Sewage and waste unsegregated at disposal site 0.8 m north of hamlet, bulldozed and covered in summer; waste water dumped on ground beside homes.

Fuel — Capacity in use to September 30, 1989, P-50, 2,771,179 litres; gas, 647,642 litres. Resupply tanker. 1989 GNWT retail prices: P-50 heating, \$.48 per litre; diesel, \$.62; gasoline, \$.61; naphtha, \$1.25.

Transportation

Air — Airport Operator: Hamlet of Igloodik (GNWT).

Take-offs and landings, 1988: 681.

Airport Facilities: Licensed 1097 m x 30 m; gravel runway; taxiway and apron. Airfield lights consisting of runway/taxi/apron edge lights, runway end, threshold and identification lights, apron floodlights. ARCAL, VASIS, rotating beacon, and lighted wind sock. Navaid — NDB; Air terminal building.

Services: Community Airport Radio Station (CARS) - Weather/Communications: Limited airfield maintenance; Aircraft parking plugs. **Scheduled Service:** First Air via Iqaluit.

Water — Eastern Arctic Sealift; operator, Transport Canada from Montreal.

Communications

Postal code: X0A 0L0. Service twice weekly. Telephone: Bell Telephone (Anik), local and long distance. CBC-TV (Anik),

Protection Services

Police: RCMP two man detachment.

Justices of the Peace: Carmen Idlout, Caleb Apak.

Coroners: Caleb Apak, Carmen Idlout, Carolyn Wynes.

Other legal and court services: Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik, Iqaluit.

Fire Chief: Koverk Qitanirk.

Fire Department: volunteer 11 person brigade; triple combination pumper; call boxes.

Medical/Social Services

Community Health Centre: five beds, one bassinet, two cribs.

Medical staff: Seven person.

Social Services Facilities: One person Com-



The Igloodik area has been inhabited for thousands of years. Tessa Macintosh, GNWT

munity Social Services Office. Community-based social services and projects: Alcohol Education Committee, Transient Centre.

Education

School: Attagutaluk, K-10, Principal, Ian Smith.

Student Enrolment (1988/90): 322.

Teachers: 17, with 4 classroom assistants. **Community Education Council:** Igloodik Education Council.

School year (1989/90): August 21-June 15.

Vocational and Continuing Education: adult education centre, resident adult educator, Outreach Worker, Arctic College extension program.

Housing and Accommodation

NWT Housing Corporation units (1989): 128.

HAP housing allocations 1980-89: 22.

GNWT staff housing units: 18 houses.

Commercial accommodation: Tujormivik Hotel, accommodates 15, shared bath.

Recreation and Culture

Community hall; school gym, outdoor skating rink, playground, arena/indoor pool. Amitturmiut Library. Inummarit Cultural Association Museum. Recreation Committee.