



## Objectives

Throughout this research, I will strive to understand the context for small businesses and entrepreneurs in Nunavik. In the process, I will attempt to answer the following questions:

- What are some of the main challenges and opportunities faced by entrepreneurs in running their businesses, especially once they have secured funding?
- How is entrepreneurship defined and perceived in modern Inuit society?
- What are the broader implications of entrepreneurship in Nunavik?

This research could serve as a case-study illustrating a remote population trying to cope with climate change and globalization in a post-industrial world. The results published could serve the local community in order to harness growth inclusive to their culture and identities.

## Methodology

To fulfil this action research, I will spend two months during the summer of 2016 in Nunavik. I will collaborate with the [Kativik Regional Government](#) and, more specifically, with the Regional and Local Development Department Team. I will partner with local economic agents to develop a community-driven deliverable. Together, we will gather both in-depth perspectives and quantitative information on local economic development in Inukjuak, an Inuit community comprised of approximately 1,600 inhabitants.

For the greater region of Nunavik, I will spend ten (10) days in Kuuujuaq, the administrative center of Nunavik. I am collaborating with [Makivik Corporation](#), the Land Claim Organization of Nunavik, and they will support me by connecting me with entrepreneurial and small businesses in the region.

The methods used are mixed methods. On the qualitative side, I will proceed with in-depth interviews of entrepreneurs in the region (N=10) and their stakeholders. The sampling method used will be purposive sampling due to the very small population in the community. I will strive to connect with every entrepreneur and small business in the community.

On the quantitative side, I will use statistics from the *Aboriginal Entrepreneurs Survey* from Statscan which was last compiled in 2002 and the national census of 2011. Moreover, I will

collaborate with KRG to send a Nunavik-wide survey to entrepreneurs and small businesses in order to get a broader view of the region's economic challenges & opportunities.

### **Project's Approach, Significance, and Relevance**

Nunavik is in a unique position as a rural and extreme region, home to a distinctive culture that has undergone fundamental shifts as a result of globalization. The Arctic as a whole is receiving increasing attention from the Great Powers as global warming makes resources more accessible and maritime transportation a likely possibility. Unbounded economic development is likely to take place without international governance. Given their legal claims to these territories, Indigenous communities have a crucial role to play. How will the new generation of Inuit entrepreneurs shape the future of their communities? Which path to development will they adopt? An interdisciplinary approach and an open dialogue with the inhabitants of Nunavik to understand their perspective on development will enable me to answer these questions.

### **References**

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