

Climate Change and Global Security Implications for Canada



Climate Change and its Impact on National Security Symposium
12-13 Feb 18 - Toronto

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Commander Joint Task Force North

Discussion Points

- Is Climate Change a real concern?
- Canada's Arctic and Climate Change.
- Global Impacts and Security.



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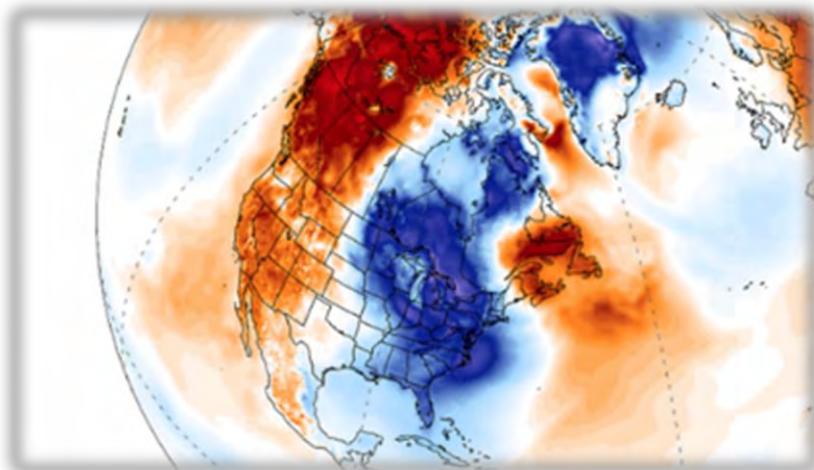


Simplifying Climate Change

What is climate change?

Climate change *occurs when long-term weather patterns are altered.*

Global warming *is effect of climate change, and is a rise in the average global temperature.*



Climate Change – a Security Concern?

“Since 1900, the global average temperature has risen by 0.7 degrees Celsius, and the northern hemisphere is substantially warmer than at any point during the past 1,000 years.”

David Suzuki Foundation Oct. 2017



“Fort McMurray and the Fires of Climate Change”
The New Yorker May 2016

“Eastern US Arctic Invasion and Winter Storm January 2018 – Global Warming’s Cold Displacement”
New York Times Jan. 2018



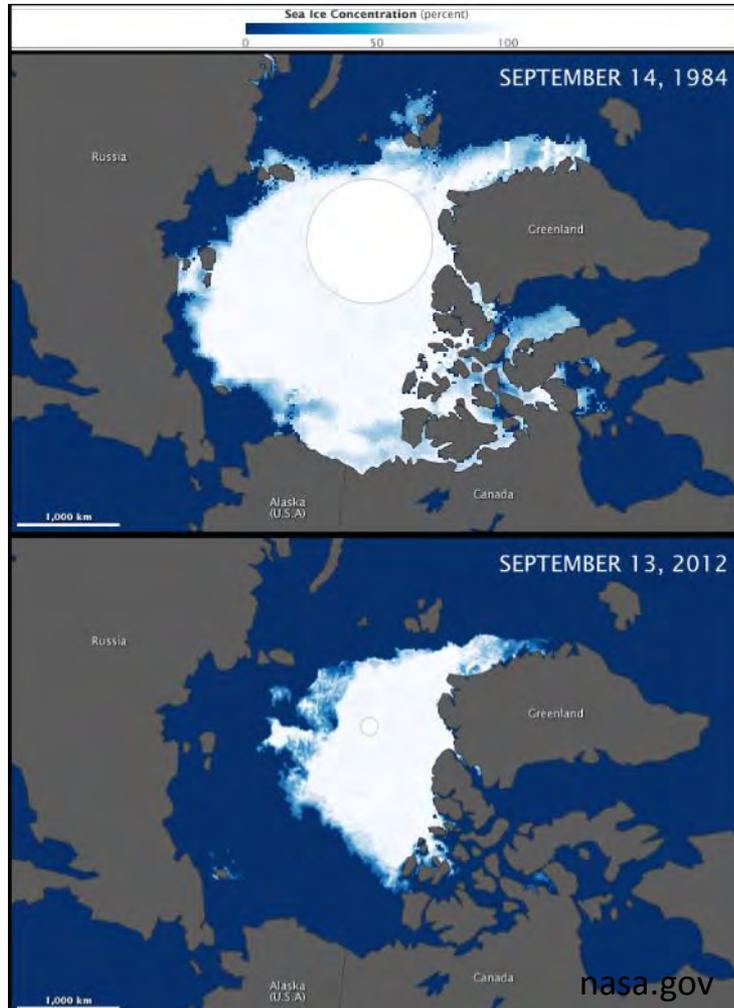
Climate Change in Canada's Arctic



Severe and unpredictable weather



Climate Change in Canada's Arctic



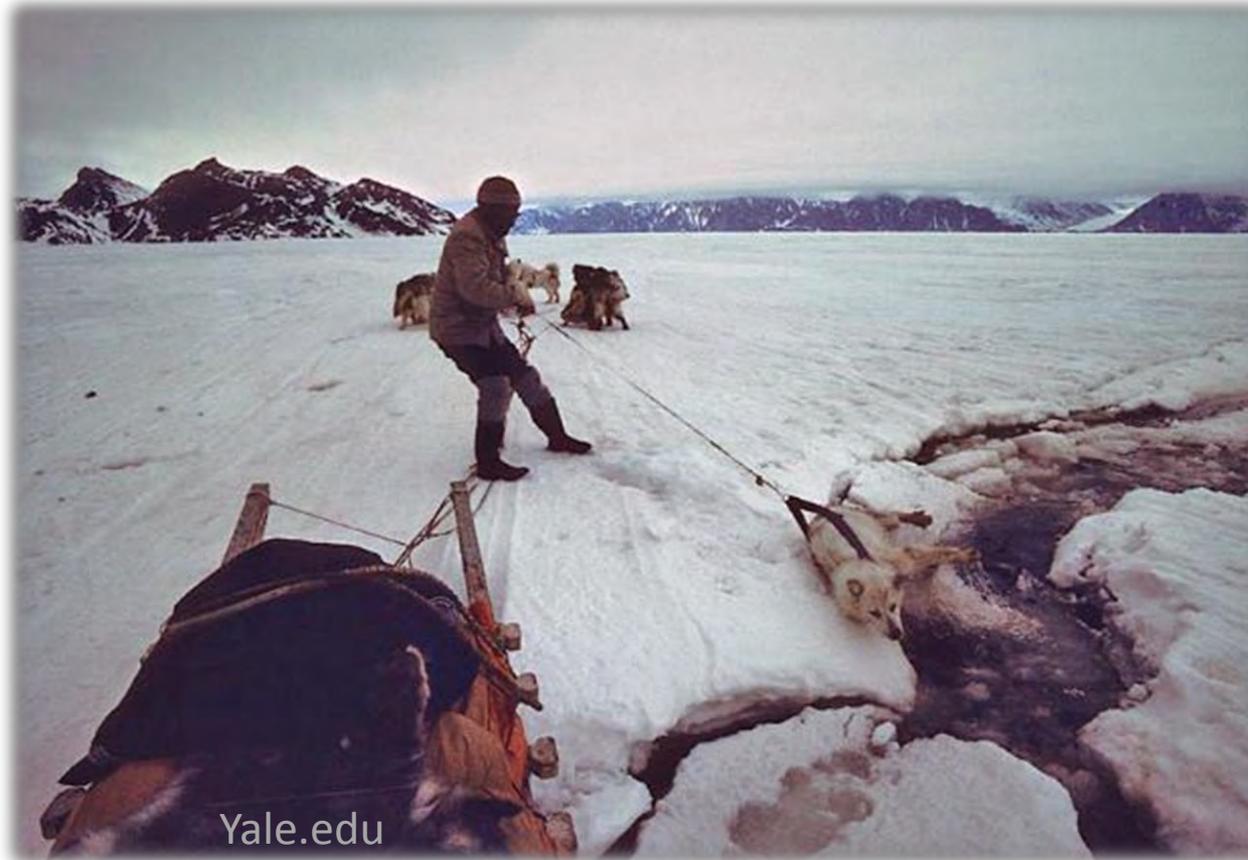
Climate Change in Canada's Arctic



Permafrost melting



Climate Change in Canada's Arctic



Impacts to traditional lifestyles



Climate Change and Global Security Impacts

Impacts

- Severe Weather
- Rising Sea Levels
- Warming Temperatures

Possible Security Concerns

- Increase in Humanitarian Crisis
- Human Migration
- Food Shortages
- Increased Competition



How will climate change effect Canada's ability to be Strong at home Secure in North America, and Engaged in the World?

How should Canada adapt and prepare?

- Capability areas of focus?
- Departmental lead?
- Contingency force preparation?
- Identification of vulnerable areas?
- Identify and leverage resilient areas?



Implication Spatial Scale	Impact (+/-)	Security	Response	<i>5 likely effects of climate change</i>
Canada				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Unpredictable weather</i> <i>2. Shrinking ice</i> <i>3. Permafrost degradation</i> <i>4. Warming temperatures</i> <i>5. Rising sea levels</i>
North America				
Global				

Scenario: *Projected 50 years into the future...*

How are we going to deal with the implications of climate change at different spatial scales?

Questions?



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