

- 1) ICC Resolution on a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone
- 2) article on Arctic policy, (excerpt) publ. Northern Perspectives, 1986

**I N U I T   C I R C U M P O L A R   C O N F E R E N C E**  
**Resolution on a Nuclear Free Zone in the Arctic** [adopted] 1983

WHEREAS, the Inuit Circumpolar Conference developed a fundamental policy restricting the arctic and sub-arctic to those uses which are peaceful and environmentally safe;

WHEREAS, this policy is reflected in the several resolutions adopted by the general Assembly and the Executive Council since the formation of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference in 1977;

WHEREAS, the governments of the United States and Canada intend to cooperate with each other to test the cruise missile in our northern Canadian homeland;

WHEREAS, the government of the United States has entertained the idea of basing the massive MX missile system in our Alaskan homeland;

WHEREAS, Atomic Energy Canada Limited plans to test the environmental and economic feasibility of the mini-Candu and the Slowpoke 3 (small nuclear reactors for generating electricity) in the Canadian north since they are prohibited from testing them in the Canadian south due to environmental restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the arctic and sub-arctic shall not be used for any nuclear testing or as a nuclear dump-site;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Inuit Circumpolar Conference emphatically restates its nuclear position:

1. that the arctic and sub-arctic be used for purposes that are peaceful and environmentally safe;
2. that there shall be no nuclear testing or nuclear devices in the arctic or sub-arctic;
3. that there shall be no nuclear dump-sites in the arctic or sub-arctic;
4. that exploration and exploitation of uranium, thorium, lithium or other materials related to the nuclear industry in our homeland be prohibited.

FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian government be notified of our opposition to the testing of the Cruise missile in our Canadian homeland and that they be requested to refrain from such tests;

FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED that the United States government be notified of our opposition to the placement of the MX missile in our Alaskan homeland and that they be requested to cease with any such plans;

FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Inuit Circumpolar Conference study and research current international treaties to determine whether or not they comply with the Inuit Circumpolar Conference Arctic Policy;

FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Council of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference lobby the United Nations and various international organizations to encourage members of the United Nations to adopt a policy for a nuclear free zone in the Arctic.

**Arctic Sovereignty: The Search for Substance**  
by Jeff Richstone

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The ICC has been advocating demilitarization of the North for many years. Three years ago in Frobisher Bay, at the ICC's last general assembly, Inuit from Alaska, Greenland, and Canada resolved that the Arctic and sub-Arctic be used for purposes that are peaceful and environmentally safe, and that there be no nuclear testing devices or dump-sites in the area. This year, the general assembly met again in Kotzebue, Alaska, and a major item on the agenda was the adoption of a comprehensive arctic policy dealing with a broad range of matters affecting the circumpolar region. The recommendations of the special joint committee respecting disarmament, together with its call for a "coherent" arctic policy, ought to provide ample stimulus for the Canadian government to pay particular attention to the decisions made by the ICC in Kotzebue.

Mr Clark ended his statement by declaring that the Arctic is "a heritage to the people of Canada" and that the federal government is determined to make a long-term commitment to its development, growth, and security. The Inuit have called upon the government to demonstrate that resolve; obviously, their arguments and proposals have already made a strong impression on the special committee. What remains to be seen is whether the government is prepared to take this advice.

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[www.carc.org/pubs/v14no4/2.htm](http://www.carc.org/pubs/v14no4/2.htm)

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