30 March 2017

Expectations to SAON from ICC

ICC has the expectation that SAON will act as a go-to-place for scientists, Indigenous Knowledge holders, communities, managers and decision makers to access information and data about the Arctic. However, SAON should not only facilitate access to scientific data, it should provide a well-versed view on all information available when it comes to the Arctic, including data from community-based monitoring activities and Indigenous Knowledge. Since SAON is meant to act as a “network of networks”, it should provide access to other platforms where this information can be found, but also offer summaries on certain topics for an easily accessible overview. An example would be platforms such as the CBM atlas, which offers an overview about CBM activities in the Arctic. SAON should highlight and promote such platforms on its own website, enhance their visibility, and, if necessary, assist in funding efforts to ensure sustainability.

ICC further expects that SAON promotes ethical research standards and guidelines (from the Arctic Indigenous peoples point of view), including on data sharing, how to properly do research in the Arctic (i.e. in full partnership with Arctic Indigenous Peoples, in a co-production of knowledge approach), information on how to communicate research results properly, etc. All this information should be assembled (in many Arctic regions such information is already available) and be made very prominently accessible on the SAON website.

ICC would further like to see SAON to actively promote (and in the near future, help to fund) research partnerships between scientists who are interested to do research in the Arctic, and Arctic Indigenous Peoples (where the first point of contact should be the Permanent Participant Organizations).