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Dr. Shari Gearheard is a geographer and research scientist with the National Snow and Ice Data Center (NSIDC) at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Since 1995, Gearheard has been working with Inuit communities in Nunavut, Canada, on a variety of environmental research topics, in particular, on Inuit knowledge of climate and environmental change.

During the International Polar Year (IPY), Gearheard and a team of Inuit hunters and geomatics engineering students co-developed an Inuktitut/English, user-friendly PDA/GPS/mobile weather station system for Inuit hunters to log their observations of the environment as they travel by snowmobile or dog sled (the *Igliniit Project*). Also during the IPY, Gearheard in collaboration with others, launched *ELOKA* (the Exchange for Local Observations and Knowledge of the Arctic), an initiative to develop a data management service for local and traditional knowledge research and community-based monitoring efforts. Other current projects include the *Siku-Inuit-Hila* (Sea Ice-People-Weather) project, a multi-disciplinary and multicultural study of sea ice and sea ice use at three Arctic communities; *Silalirijit* (“those who know/think about/study weather”), a project that links Inuit and scientific knowledge of weather patterns and weather forecasting, and; the *Arnait Project*, a community-based study of women and subsistence hunting in Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq, Nunavut.

Gearheard has worked in Nunavut, Alaska, and Greenland, and is the co-founder and co-chair of the Ittaq Heritage and Research Centre in Clyde River, one of the first Inuit-led and run research centres in Nunavut. Gearheard was a lead author of the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA) (Ch. 3: Indigenous Perspectives) and an appointee to the National Academy of Sciences Study Committee on establishing an Arctic Observing Network (AON). Gearheard received her BES and MES in Environmental Studies from the University of Waterloo, Canada, and her Ph.D. from the Department of Geography/CIRES at the University of Colorado at Boulder. She completed a Post Doc at Harvard University with a fellowship from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) before starting her current position back at NSIDC. Gearheard is an avid dog teamer and lives with her husband and 20 sled dogs in Clyde River, Nunavut, where she bases her work.