



ARCTIC SOVEREIGNTY & STEWARDSHIP CODE

A Unified National Framework for the Canadian North

Preamble: *The Arctic is the heart of our environmental future. To secure this region, we move beyond colonial concepts of territory toward a model of sovereignty based on the living presence and traditional wisdom of the Northern peoples.*

Article I: Maritime & Territorial Jurisdiction

1.1 Internal Waters Status: Canada reaffirms the Northwest Passage as internal waters. Enforcement of this status shall be conducted in partnership with Northern coastal communities.

1.2 The Guardians Program: A permanent, federally funded Indigenous Guardians program is established to serve as the eyes and ears of the State regarding environmental monitoring and search and rescue.

Article II: Sustainable Development

2.1 Zero-Emission Mandate: All new infrastructure in the Arctic must prioritize renewable energy to protect the permafrost and local ecosystems.

2.2 Resource Sovereignty: Any extraction of resources in the North must provide direct, majority-share economic benefits to the local Indigenous governments.