

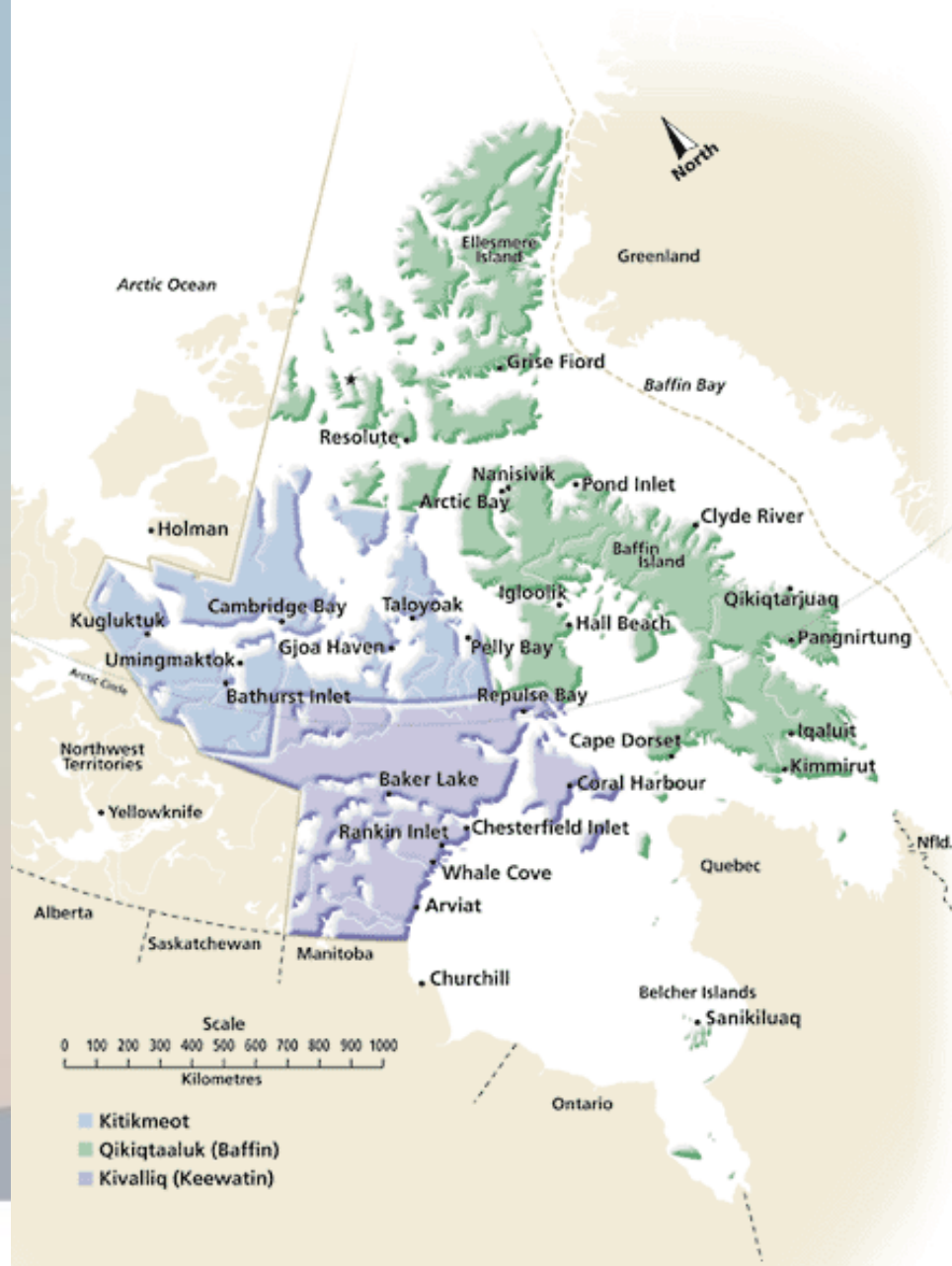


# Anesthetic Services in Remote Areas: the Nunavut Experience

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# The Nunavut Experience

- *Health care challenge:*  
to support a small, widely dispersed Inuit population in the Canadian Arctic to achieve a Canadian standard of health care



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INUIT TAPIRIIT KANATAMI







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# The Nunavut Experience: Anesthesia at QGH

- Referral centre for 20,000
- 25 bed hospital-run by FPs
- 2,000 discharges/year
- 70% adult/30% pediatric



# The Nunavut Experience: Anesthesia at QGH

- 400 deliveries per year
- ~1500 surgeries/year
- 2 fully equipped ORs
- Most common case: Dental GA on children ages 2-7





# The Nunavut Experience: Anesthesia at QGH

- General Surgeon who does sections
- 4 FP/As: do anesthesia plus clinics, Emerg, obstetrics, community visits
- FP/As are a resource for other clinicians: critical care



# The Nunavut Experience: Anesthesia at QGH

- Visiting surgeons: Gyne, Adult Ortho, ENT, Ophthalmology, Dental, Urology
- ASA 1-3 unless emergent: “low risk anesthetic practice”
- 2000 km (1300 miles) from Tertiary Care Centre (Ottawa)



# The Nunavut Experience: Partnerships: Academic and Gov

- Programs to produce FPA providers: address needs; consistent; recognized
- Community partners: eg UBC
- "Adopt a practice"





# The Nunavut Experience: Partnerships: Academic and Gov

Support for providers:

- Refreshers
- Rounds
- On call support;
- Mentors; bilateral partnerships;
- Resident placements







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