• One of 18 Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) jointly funded by the 3 Research Councils of Canada.

• Funded for 7 years (2004-2011) with possibility of 14 years (2004-2018) at $6.4 Million from NCE per year

• 38 research projects in natural, human health and social sciences covering the entire Canadian Coastal Arctic

• Over 130 Network Investigators from 30 universities and 8 Federal departments/agencies in Canada.

• Over 400 graduate students, research associates and technicians

• Over 150 partner organizations and 60 foreign scientists from 12 countries
What is/has been the most successful initiative of your organization and what role did international partnerships play in that success?

- The most successful initiative of ArcticNet is the Network itself.
- Networking and collaboration not only with researchers, but with partners and stakeholders such as Inuit and northern organisations, government departments and industry, nationally and internationally.
- None of the major projects and initiatives led by ArcticNet and its researchers (NOW, Amundsen, CASES, CFL, CEN, Health Surveys...) would have been possible without this solid national and international network of researchers, stakeholders, colleagues (and friends).
- Growing international partnerships over the last 20 years are at the core of our success.
What are/were the impediments to successful international partnership and coordination and how were these overcome?

- Major impediment is the funding nature of large international programs built as a series of national efforts merged to form a single program.
- Timing and level of Arctic research funding is rarely synchronized internationally (except for IPY).
- Need a lead country funding the core operation costs and logistics of the program, welcoming the world to join.
- Need a solid coordinating group made up of great staff that are excellent at coordinating operations and people.
What does the future for coordinated, international arctic science look like from the perspective of your organization?

- Coordinated, international Arctic science is the only way to address the global and circumpolar issues and challenges facing us.
- ArcticNet, by its nature, will always strive to consolidate its National network, embedded in a strong and growing framework of international collaboration.
- The essential bottom-up pressure will be there and getting stronger. We now need to better connect with the top!!
- A strong need to train the future generation of leaders and bellwethers that will take over the leadership of these Networks.