

2.4.3 Nunavut

Nunavut is the newest and most easterly of Canada's three territories. Created from the Northwest Territories in 1999, it has a total area of just over 2,093,190km² — making it the largest of Canada's provinces and territories. However, with just over 31,500 people it is also the least populated and, as such, has the lowest population density at 0.015 /km² or 1.5 people for every 100 square kilometers (Statistics Canada, 2009). The capital of the territory is Iqaluit, located on the southeastern portion of Baffin Island at the head of Frobisher Bay. Approximately one fifth of the territories population lives in the capital. Nunavut follows the same curriculum as the Province of Alberta, with some additions to address their distinct language and culture.

K-12 Online Learning

Category	Yes/No	Comments
Territory-led programme	No	
Other online programmes	No	
Territorial-level policy	No	

Online Programmes

When contacted, the Ministry of Education indicated that Nunavut did not have any active K-12 distance education programmes, only that they have piloted programmes in the past and had plans for further pilot project. The Ministry did not respond when contacted for further information on these past and planned projects.

The initial *Education Act, 1996* utilised by Nunavut was a piece of legacy legislation from the Northwest Territories. In this legislature there was a provision that allowed various educational bodies to "authorise, supervise and evaluate the use of distance learning programmes in the provision of the education programme" (p. 58). However, the only reference to distance education in the current *Education Act, 2008* is a statement that a university providing "distance learning programmes by mail or by electronic means from outside Nunavut to persons in Nunavut" was not considered to be operating in the territory (p. 95).

Note that the Alberta Distance Learning Centre indicates on their website that they "serve students and schools throughout Alberta, the Northwest Territories, and *Nunavut*" (emphasis added), but this was not confirmed by the territory's Ministry of Education.