

Sustainable Arctic Infrastructure Forum (SAIF)

An IASC Cross-cutting Workshop

Arctic Science Summit Week 2017

Clarion Congress Hotel, Prague, Czech Republic, 3 April 2017





Sustainable Arctic Infrastructure Forum (SAIF)

An activity of the Rapid Arctic Transitions due to Infrastructure and Climate (RATIC) initiative

- An IASC cross-cutting workshop involving principally the IASC Terrestrial, Social and Human, and Cryosphere working groups.
- Thirty-nine individuals participated (see notes on slide 1).
- The program consisted of:
 - ✧ A series of introductory talks (Walker, Kumpula, Schweitzer, Kofinas)
 - ✧ Keynote student presentation by Will Tyson
 - ✧ Breakout sessions to address scientific and policy issues related to major types of infrastructure
 - ✧ Discussion to address a journal publication and a RATIC strategy document.



The SAIF activity

Breakout groups to address the cumulative effects of four major types of infrastructure systems:

Major infrastructure systems

- Indigenous infrastructure (e.g., camps, trails, corrals, migration corridors, etc.)
- Onshore oil & gas fields (networks of roads, drilling and facility pads, pipelines, etc.)
- Remote communities (village infrastructure)
- Urban infrastructure (cities)

Breakout group activities:

- identify the science questions and policy issues that were common to all types of infrastructure and those that were unique to one or two types,
- Develop a strategy for addressing the questions and issues based on the tools, approaches and institutions identified by each breakout group.



Plan for publications and strategy document

- Use the RATIC white paper as a foundation, focusing on the major conclusions and recommendations.
- Summarize the results from the breakout groups:
 - ❖ Science questions and policy issues that were common to all types of infrastructure and those that were unique to one or two types
 - ❖ Develop a strategy for addressing the questions and issues based on the tools, approaches and institutions identified by each breakout group.
 - ❖ “Corridors” and “nodes” emerged as an organizing framework for developing research themes to address various types of infrastructure.



Prague Sustainable Infrastructure Scientific Research Agenda

The following tasks are to be completed by RATIC in the next five years:

- Develop a strategic plan by December 2017
- Promote the topic of “sustainable infrastructure development” as a key IASC research theme
- Involve scientists, local communities, governments, industry and the general public in this research
- Publish a synthesis of sustainable Arctic infrastructure research findings in peer-reviewed scientific journals
- Pursue funding to continue the RATIC initiative