




[First Peoples Menu](#)
[The Canada Site .com](#)
[Boer War Museum](#)
[Coming Back Alive](#)
[Goldi Productions Ltd](#)
[The Store](#)

[First Peoples](#)
[Contact & Conflict](#)
[Treaties & Change](#)
[The Metis & Rebellion](#)
[Production Credits](#)
[Email Us](#)

The Inuit

[Groups in this Region](#)

[Environment / Housing](#)

[Food / Hunting / Tools](#)

[Transportation / Migration](#)

[Religion / Ceremonies / Art / Clothing](#)

[Tribal Relations / War](#)

The Inuit lived in an area comprising a large part of northern Earth, including Northern Canada. Parts of the Yukon, NWT, Nunavut, Quebec and Labrador were settled by the first peoples of the Canadian Arctic.

Family

- Family groups were the most important social unit in Inuit culture.
- They usually lived in family groups of around 5-6 people.
- Then each family would live and hunt together with 6-10 other families.
- Marriage was important for the Inuit people. Some marriages were arranged, but most were by choice.
- There was an obvious division of labour in a marriage:
 - Men: built the houses, hunted, and fished
 - Women: cooked, dressed the animal skins, made clothing, and looked after the children



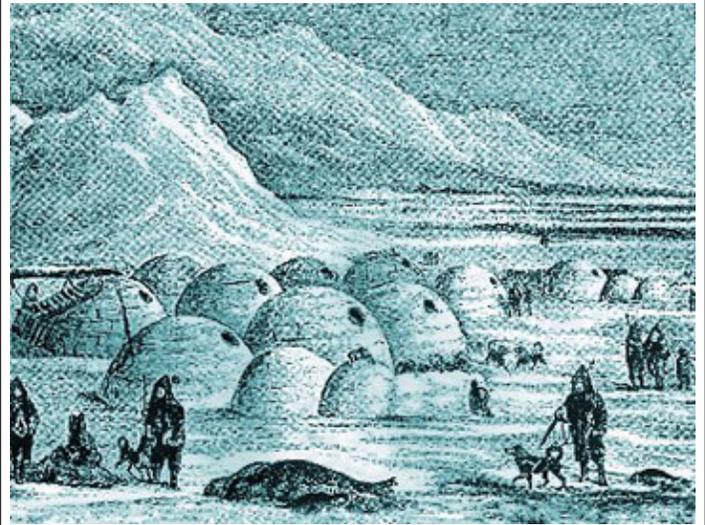
Netsilik family



Inuit Family

Social Structure / Leadership

- The Inuit lived in smaller family groups with no real leader or Chief, unlike other First Peoples groups in Canada.
- During the winter, families would live and hunt together in larger groups (several families), but during the summer they would split up to follow the hunt.
- Loose alliances would occur between different families (non-relatives), forming larger 'bands' or groups.
- There was a sense of community in Inuit culture. Food sources, game and fish, were considered to be community property, and it was expected that individuals always help one another and share any wealth.



Winter village

[Groups in this Region](#)

[Environment / Housing](#)

[Food / Hunting / Tools](#)

[Transportation / Migration](#)

[Religion / Ceremonies / Art / Clothing](#)

[Tribal Relations / War](#)

[Back to the top](#)

[Back to Canada's First Peoples Menu](#)

c Goldi Productions Ltd. 2007