

Mapping the Road to Failure: From  
the Kyoto Protocol to the Paris  
Climate Change Agreement and its  
Impacts on the Indigenous Peoples of  
Nunavut

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Kayla Slade

University of Wollongong

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*Google Maps, 2017*

## Anthropogenic Climate Change and the Indigenous Peoples of Nunavut

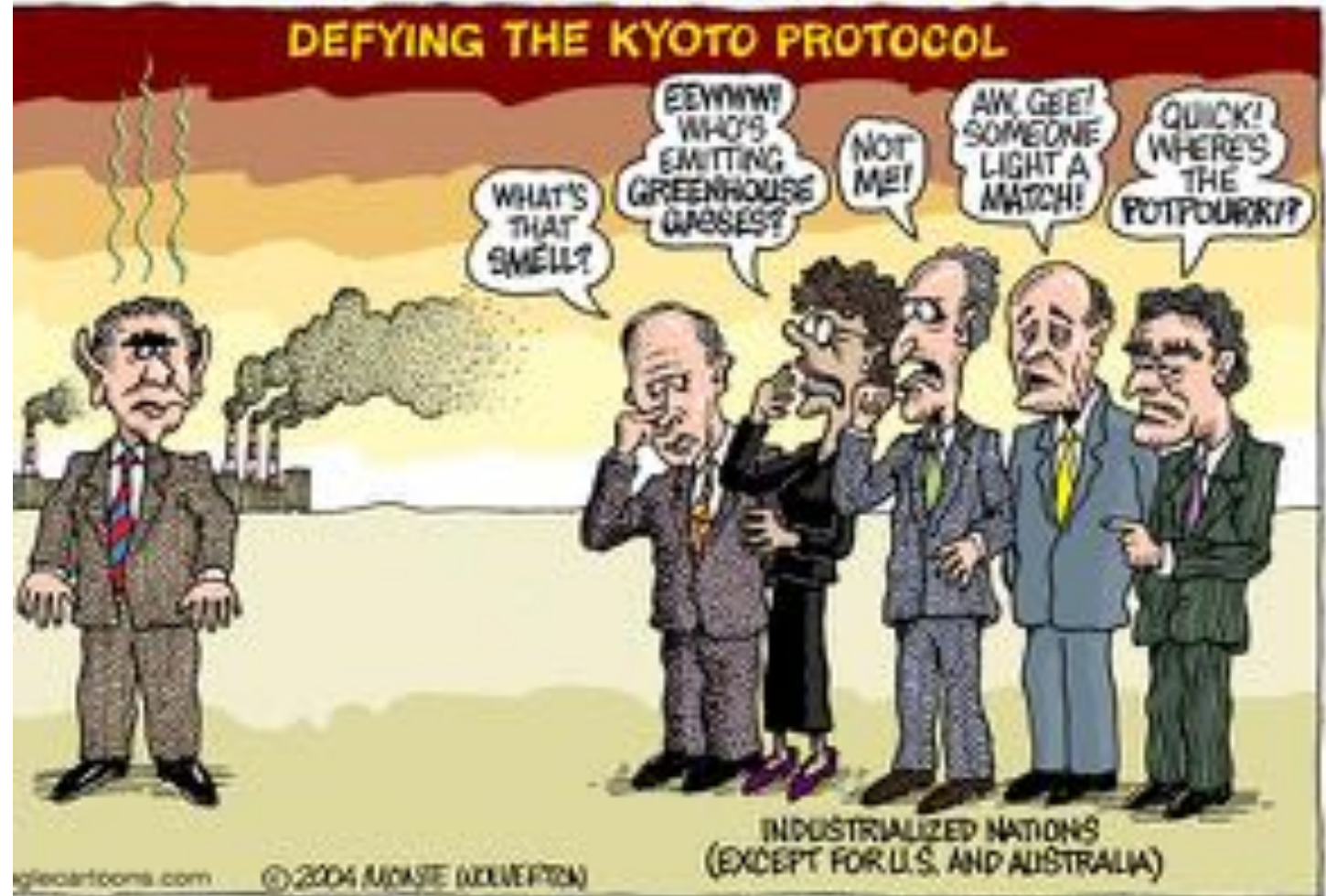
- Temperatures in the Arctic Circle are rising double the rate of the rest of the world.
- Presence of other stresses further exacerbate vulnerabilities to global warming.
- Nunavut: mixed economy – decreasing food availability and overly expensive western food.
- Nunavut: traditional practices at risk due to permafrost degradation, changing ice conditions, and increased extreme weather events.



<http://www.thecampingcanuck.com/arctic-warmest-year/4900/>

# The Kyoto Protocol

- Largest failure of the Protocol was the lack of commitment.
  - United States pulling out of the agreement .
  - Power is the priority.
  - When countries fail to ratify, regimes risk failure.
- Non-progressive emissions targets.
- The Protocol was made overly pliable through The Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)
  - Displacing costs from the North to the South.



# The Copenhagen Conference and Accord

- Continual lack of commitment.
- The negotiations reached gridlock, with no legally binding treaty.
- Did take on the task of ensuring that global temperatures do not rise about the 2-degree mark.
- Agreed on financial aid to developing countries.
- However, still was only a good foundation for future agreements.



## The Paris Agreement and its Flaws

- The agreement has various links and continuities with the Kyoto Protocol and the environmental management regime.
- REDD+ - seemingly promoting continuous economic growth through relying on fossil fuels.
- Paris Review Mechanism is voluntary – states did not manage to comply with their meagre pledges during the Kyoto Protocol.



<http://enb.iisd.org/climate/cop21/signing-ceremony/>

# Paris and its Effects on The Indigenous Peoples of Nunavut

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- Without alterations to the Paris Agreement the Arctic will warm another 4-7 degrees.
  - Positive feedbacks will further enhance this.
- Food security will continue to decline.
- Infrastructure will be damaged due to melting permafrost.
- Economic stability may be found through sea ice cover decreasing and warmer temperatures.
  - Potential for oil spillage and further environmental devastation.



# Conclusion

- Environmental regimes will only succeed if states believe everyone is gaining equal opportunities.
- Kyoto and Copenhagen shows how nations are unwilling to commit to change.
- The flaws of Kyoto continued into the Paris Agreement.
- The Paris Agreement is still not enough create change.
- The Indigenous peoples of Nunavut are in a precarious position due to this lack of commitment.