

Science and Good Manners— Investigating the Integration and Value Placed on Inuit Traditional Ecological Knowledge within Qallunaat Scientific Enquiry.

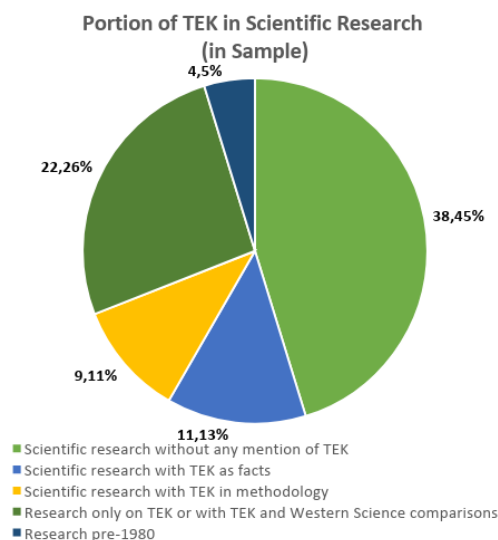
Dorothy Frances Heinrich

Department of Geography, McGill University, Montréal (Québec) Canada

2018

Supervisor: Professor George Wenzel

Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) is a highly geographical ontological framework which has long been marginalized in scientific discussions, but there is increasing consensus on the importance of using such knowledge systems in research and policy. With this in mind, this thesis examines the value placed on Inuit TEK in scientific endeavours in the Arctic, with a particular focus on the Canadian North. It first seeks to understand the complex and layered definitions of the term and its implications. Then, using thematic literature reviews of primary scientific research it examines the practical methodologies of contemporary Arctic science. It finds that sub-disciplines of Arctic research have interacted with TEK with different intensity and practices, and have tended to evolve in silos on this subject. Finally, interviews and second-hand accounts are recounted to formulate ideas about the best ways of practicing contemporary science in the North in ways that lead both to better science and to stronger relationships with communities.



Source: Author's own analysis