Climate change, along with other influences such as global economic shifts, increasing security concerns and issues of national sovereignty will have far-reaching consequences for tourism in the Canadian north. This research addresses the urgent need to understand how communities can mitigate any negative impacts associated with increased cruise tourism while taking advantage of any development opportunities which would directly benefit local people. The goal of the study is to categorize community-level adaptation strategies that are identified by, and could be implemented by, local residents, stakeholders and relevant decision-makers. This approach underscores the importance of generating solutions within local communities and for local communities in order to ensure local benefit from changing tourism conditions in the Arctic. How residents deal with cruise tourism will be unique to each community, and will depend heavily on the opinions, desires and values of local residents.
The objectives of the study include to:

1. Identify historic changes in cruise tourism across the Canadian Arctic;
2. Inventory and analyze current regulations and policies governing cruise tourism in the Canadian Arctic;
3. Assess views and opinions of the benefits and drawbacks of cruise tourism now and in the future from the perspectives of local residents, cruise operators, and policy makers/regulators;
4. Identify what is currently being done to deal with cruise tourism and what necessary adaptation strategies are required in the future;
5. Discuss project results with relevant policy-makers and multi-scale regulators.

For Additional Information Contact:

Margaret Johnston:  
Professor  
Lakehead University  
Canada  
mejohnst@lakeheadu.ca

Jackie Dawson:  
Canada Research Chair  
Environment, Society & Policy  
Assistant Professor  
University of Ottawa  
Canada  
jackie.dawson@uottawa.ca

Emma Stewart:  
Senior Lecturer  
Lincoln University  
New Zealand  
Fellow - Arctic Institute of North America  
emma.stewart@lincoln.ac.nz