INUIT LEADERSHIP
Supporting the advancement of Inuit leadership, governance and adherence to Inuit research processes, this project is led by Inuit from the Nunatsiavut region and the NunatuKavut region. A Steering Committee is guiding this project, with members from the Nunatsiavut Government, NunatuKavut Community Council, Torngat Secretariat, and academic researchers.

GOAL
In partnership with Inuit from the Nunatsiavut and NunatuKavut regions, this project characterizes the ways in which changing caribou populations impact the health and wellbeing of Inuit through the co-production of community-based, research-oriented, participatory documentary film work.

CONTEXT
In Labrador, Canada, Inuit from the Nunatsiavut and NunatuKavut regions have sustained a deep reliance with caribou for generations. This relationship has been challenged in recent years, as caribou herds have experienced precipitous population declines, including a 99% decline of the George River Caribou Herd since 2001, which resulted in a total hunting ban in 2013.

METHODS
This project is informed by decolonizing and community-based participatory research frameworks. It is incorporating two participatory video research methods:

- 84 In-Depth Interviews
- Participatory Video Editing

RESULTS
Inuit across the Nunatsiavut and NunatuKavut regions explained how caribou are an important element of Inuit identity, cultural continuity, and overall wellbeing. The changes in caribou populations are resulting in losses to cultural knowledge, alterations to Inuit perceptions of self, and concern about the future of caribou-Inuit relationships. While Inuit are adapting to the caribou population changes in a variety of ways, “you can never replace the caribou.”

ANALYSIS
A video-based qualitative analysis was carried out, whereby video-interviews were used as the data. The coding and analysis capabilities in two video-editing softwares were utilized: Lumberjack Builder and Final Cut Pro X. Codes were applied to a quote that was linked to a video clip.