

# Sulingituk Government Fictional Case Study

## OVERVIEW

Sulingituk Government is a fictional Self-Governing Indigenous Government that is used as a case study throughout the Data Governance and Management Toolkit. The name comes from the Inuttitut language of the Nunatsiavut Inuit, and is a general translation of the English term “fictional.” Sulingituk Government has the following characteristics:

- About 700 members, with around 400 living in the home community – the rest living mostly in a nearby urban centre, and remaining spread throughout the rest of their province/territory and Canada/U.S.
- In addition to general governance responsibilities, Sulingituk has authority over lands & natural/heritage resource stewardship, cultural programs, economic development, local community services, capital assets, and housing. The administration consists of 8 departments with about 80 staff in total.
- Sulingituk has assumed responsibilities for services for public health programs, prenatal and early childhood support, educational supports (but not a school), employment training support, income assistance, social services, Elder outreach and home care, and language revitalization.
- The elected government includes a Chief and seven Councilors (one of whom is designated as Deputy Chief). The Executive Director is the head of the administration, and directly oversees corporate functions like IT support, records and information management, purchasing, communications, and human resources.

## INITIATIVES & AREAS OF FOCUS

- **Education** - Focus on improving education outcomes by supporting students learning and social needs, working together with the local school district.
- **Employment** - Helping connect citizens with employment opportunities, and negotiating for employment positions through IBAs (there are IBAs with 2 large resource development corporations in the area).
- **Health** - Providing support for good nutrition from prenatal through to Elders; support for people struggling with addictions, including facilitating access to treatment and harm reduction programs.
- **Language & Culture** - Developing cultural programs to build community resilience and to divert youth from the justice system; language revitalization through a master/apprentice program along with community learning sessions and language outreach.

- Sulingituk has not yet developed an overall community well-being framework and strategy, but they are aware of other Indigenous Governments' work in this area.
- Sulingituk currently does not have an organization-wide approach to Records & Information Management (RIM) – each department manages its own files.

**NOTE:** The org chart below summarizes the branches of Sulingituk Government. It is generally consistent with the Governance methodology developed under Canada's Collaborative Self-Government Fiscal Policy (the "Green Book").

