

# SSHRC STORYTELLERS CHALLENGE 2024

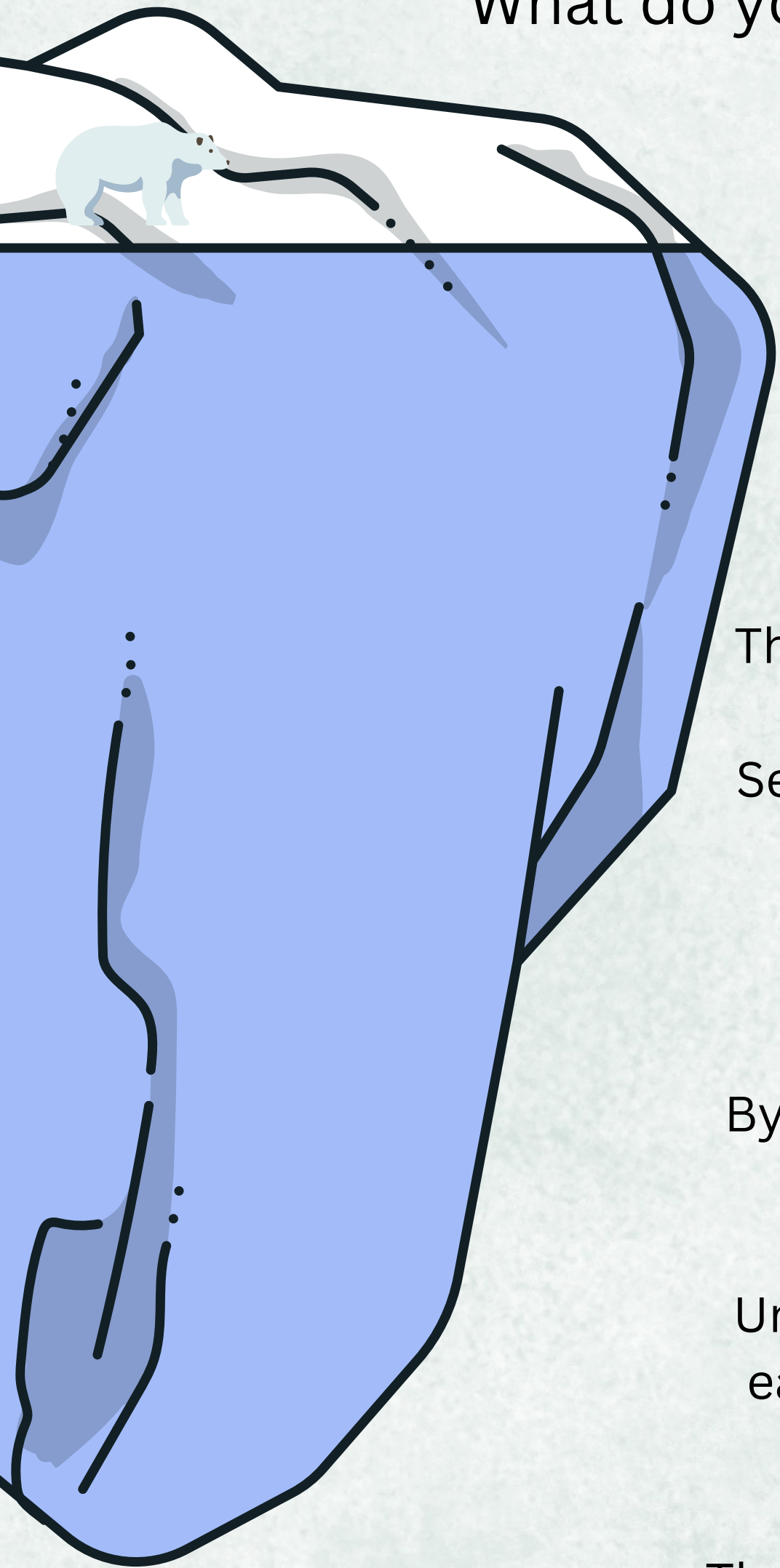
Top 20 Finalists

*CONCOURS J'AI UNE HISTOIRE À RACONTER 2024 DU CRSH*

20 finalistes



What do you picture when you think of the Canadian Arctic?  
Polar bears prowling the untouched wilderness?  
Icebergs towering in the distance?



The Arctic is warming faster than anywhere else on the planet.

Sea ice and permafrost are melting, changing the physical and political landscape in the North.

Soon, the Canadian Arctic will be unrecognizable.

By the end of the 2030s, the Arctic Ocean will be ice free in the summer.

Untapped natural resources will be exposed, the region will be easier to access, and international competition over shipping routes, minerals, gas and oil there will increase.

The Government of Canada is not prepared for these changes.

Military infrastructure in the Arctic is few and far between and is mainly relics from the Second World War and Cold War.

Cost of living for communities there is already enormous and citizens lack necessities like internet, running water, and roads.

This lack of infrastructure also affects industry in the North, making it more expensive to do business.

At the University of Toronto's Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, Kate Todd is researching how Canada can develop new multipurpose infrastructure that supports military activities, communities, and industry.

By April, she will have written two reports, interviewed over 20 academic, business, Indigenous, political, and military leaders, and come up a solution for how the Government of Canada can work with businesses, territorial governments, communities, and Indigenous peoples to build coordinated, strategic, multipurpose infrastructure in the Canadian Arctic.

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