



June 1, 2017

Mr. D. Shewchuk  
A/Chairperson  
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board  
PO Box 1379  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent by e-mail to: [tsataa@nwmb.com](mailto:tsataa@nwmb.com)

Dear Mr. Shewchuk:

On behalf of the QWB, I am replying to your response to Mr. Kango's letter of May 26, 2017 regarding the polar bear plan hearing.

Regarding the March 30 teleconference about concerns that QWB may have (section 3, point 5), our teleconference participants could not have replied at that time. As with any Board, our staff and individual delegates cannot speak on behalf of the Board until the Executive has discussed the questions and established a position.

Further, it is not true that the QWB did not inform the NWMB about our concerns for 7 weeks.

The QWB's concerns about NWMB's proposed Hearing process were presented in person to your Executive Director during the QWB HTO Manager's Workshop of April 25-26, 2017 in Iqaluit, a full month before Mr. Kango's letter.

In our view, NWMB had enough time to discuss QWB's concerns internally, and then engage the QWB in positive discussions. The NWMB did not engage us to build a consensus.

During the April Workshop, your Executive Director (ED) heard from QWB staff about our concerns. Additionally, Paul Irngaut, Director of Wildlife, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., spoke against the NWMB's allocation of only 6 delegates to Qikiqtaaluk. He clearly requested that this position be changed by NWMB. The NWMB ED replied that QWB could send as many as it wants, if we fund their travel. In response, QWB staff raised the issue of time allocated for each HTO to speak during the Hearing. If QWB found funding to send more delegates, would each HTO across Nunavut be given an equal amount of time to speak at the Hearing?

NWMB's ED essentially replied, No. The agenda had already been set, and he was unwilling to consider changes. He stated that each region would get the same amount of time, regardless

of how many delegates they send. Therefore, NWMB would not allow each of Qikiqtaaluk's 13 HTO representatives to fairly and reasonably make their views known on par with other HTOs.

Annie Tattuinee, Executive Director, Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat, also supported QWB's position, and spoke about the meaning of fairness and representation as per the spirit of the Agreement

Over the next month, the QWB became dismayed that the NWMB's did not engage us in a timely manner.

The NWMB apparently wants to hear from 12 delegates from 12 communities that have a basic TAH allocation of about 178 polar bears, but from only 6 of 13 communities with a TAH of about 312 bears. Those other 12 delegates will be funded by NWMB, and will be given twice as much time to speak. The QWB cannot accept that as fair. We do not accept that the NWMB has met its own stated criteria for "provision of a reasonable opportunity for affected harvesters to make their views known" in a procedurally fair hearing.

Very few of our HTOs have any funding for travel, and none specifically for attending NWMB Hearings. Similarly, the QWB does not have funding allocated for sending HTO delegates to NWMB Hearings.

In a teleconference today for all members of the QWB, our Board again decided not to participate in the NWMB hearing planned for next week. We gave the reasons for withdrawing from the public hearing in Mr. Kango's letter. We believe that the NWMB attempted to inaccurately reframe our reasons in its written response of May 30, 2017. Mr. Kango's letter stands on its own.

The QWB is willing to discuss a fair in-person public hearing process. If the NWMB becomes interested in reaching a true consensus, I suggest that the current Hearing process be postponed.

Sincerely,



Jason Mikki  
Executive Director

cc. James Qillaq, Chairperson, QWB  
Chairpersons, 13 Qikiqtaaluk HTOs  
Chairpersons, Kivalliq and Kitikmeot RWOs  
Paul Irngaut, NTI  
Annie Tattuinee, NIWS