

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

MINUTES: CONFERENCE CALL No. 12

WEDNESDAY, 21 JUNE 1995

Participants:

Ben Kovic	Chairperson
Marius Tungilik	Member
Malachi Arreak	Member
David Igutsaq	Member
Gordon Koshinsky	Member
David Aglukark	Member
Joannie Ikkidluak	Member
Jim Noble	Executive Director
Mitch Taylor	Polar Bear Biologist DRR

Not Available:

Kevin McCormick	(with cause)
Andy Theriault	(with cause)

1. Call to Order

The Chairperson, Ben Kovic, convened the Conference Call at 1:00 p.m.

2. Agenda

The agenda was accepted as presented.

3. ITC Request for Funding: CNE "Spirit of the Arctic"

The Chairman reminded Members that the ITC request for funding was faxed to all of them prior to the Conference Call. Gordon Koshinsky and Joannie Ikkidluak had not had opportunity to review the fax, so a brief verbal review was given. The CNE is starting a 10-year "Indigenous Showcase", and the first year (1995) will be devoted to showcasing Inuit. Funding is required to assist the Minguq Sewing Group from Broughton Island to participate in this Showcase in Toronto in August.

David Igutsaq was concerned that funding this proposal would set a precedent for other groups requesting funding assistance from the Board. Malachi Arreak perceived considerable value in demonstrating attractive uses for animal skins, but felt that the Board should receive some advertising at the CNE if the Board contributed to the event. David Aglukark strongly supported the Board funding this worthwhile cause. The Chairman advised that Kevin McCormick had indicated support for this funding request but pointed out that the Board needed a policy pertaining to funding for special projects. Gordon Koshinsky questioned if contributing would bring any benefits to the Board's mandate for managing wildlife. Joannie Ikkidluak felt that this event would benefit Inuit in Nunavut and that funding should be approved. The consensus was that the project be funded for the requested amount of \$19,650. **(Resolution 96- 026)**

4. Polar Bear Management: Proposed Regulatory Changes

Mitch Taylor, Polar Bear Biologist with the Department of Renewable Resources, joined the Conference Call at this point. Mr. Taylor explained that the two-tag system for separate sexes of polar bears is not working well in some communities and should be amended. Being proposed instead is a one-tag system (male or female) in conjunction with flexible quotas. The number of tags issued in a given year would be subject to modifications depending on the size and sex composition of the previous year's harvest. Gordon Koshinsky asked if the proposed regulatory changes would have implications for accommodating American sport hunters. Mr. Taylor replied that the proposed regulations should allow more regions to "qualify" for export of polar bear trophies to the United States.

Mr. Taylor advised that if new regulations are to be ready for the 1995/96 season, the changes will have to be sent to the Department of Justice before July 1. It was agreed that Mr. Taylor and his Department will have to draft the proposed changes and circulate them to the RWOs and HTOs for comment before the Board will be able to respond.

5. Request for Turbot Quota: Broughton Island HTA

The Chairman advised the Board that the Broughton Island HTA had made a formal request for a 300 metric tonne quota from the unused portion of the Baffin Inuit 1,000 MT quota for 1995. Broughton Island proposes to charter a vessel from the south to catch the fish and land them at Broughton Island. The fish will then be air-freighted to Pangnirtung for processing and shipment south. Gordon Koshinsky requested confirmation that Pangnirtung did not object to this allocation. Ben Kovic noted that the fishery will be conducted well offshore and will not impact Pangnirtung's Cumberland Sound fishery. The Board approved the allocation request. **(Resolution 96-027)**

6. Harvest Study

David Igutsaq asked why there is no intention to record the harvests of persons other than Inuit. This was a topic of debate when the Harvest Study Co-ordinator addressed the Kitikmeot HTA earlier today. Gordon Koshinsky suggested that there are few or no benefits to be derived from recording the harvests of non-Inuit in the context of the application of the Harvest Study results as set out in the NLCA. Gordon acknowledged that not everyone is comfortable about what some see as an important omission in the Study design. It was agreed to discuss this matter in more detail at the next Board meeting.

7. Adjournment

The Conference Call adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Minutes Approved by: _____
Chairperson **Date**

