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Conserving wildlife through the application of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and scientific knowledge

2018-22, 2017

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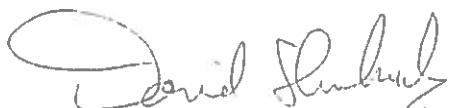
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▷▷▷ Aug 9, 2017

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Joe Santolan
J. M. B. C. S.

גָּמְנִים אֶלְעָזָר גַּדְעֹן

«ՀԱՅՈՍՏԸ ԱԽԾԱՎԸ»: ԿԱԼ Պ ՀՅ - ՇՄԻՃՎ ԵՎԸ, ՀՅՈՒՆԵՎԵՑՎԱԾ, ԶՅՈՒ



September 22nd 2017

**Honourable Joe Savikataaq
Minister of Environment
Government of Nunavut**

Dear Minister Savikataaq:

Re: Nunavut Wildlife Management Board decision concerning Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board request for a flexible quota system for harvesting Muskox on Devon Island

In July 2017, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) received a letter from the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (QWB) requesting that the NWMB implement a flexible carry-forward harvest system for muskox on Devon Island, Muskox Management Unit MX-04, which would permit unused tags to be carried forward for up to three (3) years. In the letter, the QWB explained that communities are currently unable to harvest their full quota¹ for the 2017/2018 harvest season due to the remoteness of Devon Island and the associated costs of travel to and from the island by individual hunters. The letter further stated that a flexible carry-forward system will allow communities to organise group hunts to use the accumulated tags and reduce the cost per unit harvest effort.

At the NWMB Regular Meeting (RM003-2017) on September 11th 2017 in Iqaluit, the Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment (Department of Environment) informed the Board that:

- the Devon Island muskox management unit is healthy and the flexible carry-forward harvest system proposed by the QWB does not pose a conservation concern; and
 - the Department of Environment supports QWB's proposal and will manage the flexible quota harvest system for the Devon Island muskox, if approved, pursuant to the Wildlife Act subsection 149(c).

On September 12th 2017, during its In-Camera meeting (IC003-2017) in Iqaluit, the NWMB considered the QWB request and the information provided by the Department of Environment and passed the following resolutions:

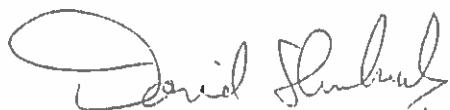
¹The Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board currently allocates the 2017/2018 Total Allowable Harvest for Devon Island Muskox to four communities, as follows: Grise Fiord (25), Resolute Bay (25), Arctic Bay (25), and Pond Inlet (25).

RESOLVED that the NWMB approve, pursuant to Section 5.6.16 of the *Nunavut Agreement*, the *implementation of a flexible carry-forward quota system of up to 3-years for harvesting Muskoxen on Devon Island.*

The NWMB looks forward to your prompt reply and timely completion of the *Nunavut Agreement* Article 5 decision-making process.

Should you or your officials have any questions or concerns about the content of this letter, please contact the NWMB.

Yours sincerely,



Daniel Shewchuk
Acting Chairperson of the
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board



October 9th, 2017

Mr. Daniel Shewchuk
Acting Chairperson
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
P.O Box 1379
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Dear Mr. Shewchuck,

Re: Nunavut Wildlife Management Board decision concerning Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board request for a flexible quota system for harvesting Muskox on Devon Island

Thank you very much for your decision concerning the flexible carry-forward quota system for the Devon Island muskoxen population.

To reiterate the decision of the NWMB:

RESOLVED that the NWMB approve, pursuant to Section 5.6.16 of the Nunavut Agreement, the implementation of a flexible carry-forward quota system of up to 3-years for harvesting Muskoxen on Devon Island.

I would like to request an extension for decision until February 2, 2018 as the current government has dissolved. Once the new government is established and the government will be in a position to make decisions and implement changes accordingly.



I welcome your correspondence on this matter and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Joe Savikataaq
Minister of Environment

Cc. Simon Awa - Deputy Minister, Department of Environment, Government of Nunavut (GN)