# NUNAUVAT WILDLIFE MANAGMENT BOARD

## **MINUTES: CONFERENCE CALL No. 6**

#### **MONDAY, 3 OCTOBER 1994**

### **Participants:**

Ben Kovic Chairperson
Kevin McCormick Member
Gordon Koshinsky Member
Malachi Arreak Member
Andy Theriault Member
David Igutsaq Member
David Aglukark Member

#### **Not Available:**

Marius Tungilik Member (with cause)
Joannie Ikkidluak Member (with cause)

#### 1. Call to Order

The Chairperson, Ben Kovic, convened the Conference Call at 2:00 p.m.

### 2. Unauthorized Bowhead Harvest: Igloolik

Mr. Kovic advised that the main purpose of the Conference Call was to provide a briefing on the recent harvest of a bowhead whale at Igloolik. Ben, along with Board Members Andy Theriault and Joannie Ikkidluak, were attending meetings in Ottawa when the incident occurred.

- Ben noted that the incident is still under investigation by DFO. It is not clear if charges will be laid.
- Ben advised that he, on behalf of the Board, had issued a press release characterizing the incident as "regrettable" since it did not follow or adhere to the terms of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement.
- Kevin McCormick stressed that enforcement in this matter is the purview of DFO. The Board should confine its attention to obtaining regular and complete updates.

- Andy Theriault stressed the need and the right of the Board to have access to the same information as DFO develops and obtains, in order to facilitate the Board's management role.
- David Aglukark expressed concern that, in the absence of NWMB authorization of a bowhead hunt, the incident could undermine the Board's credibility and authority among Nunavut beneficiaries. There was general agreement of the need to counteract this interpretation. An opportunity will be presented when the Chairperson is interviewed on CBC later today.
- Gordon Koshinsky asked whether any other agencies or individuals supported
  the stand that NWMB had taken on the matter. Andy Theriault replied that
  similar statements of regret, in some cases combined with supportive
  communication to NWMB, were issued by NTI, BRIA, ITC, and possibly other
  agencies. Local comment, on the other hand, tended to support the hunters
  unequivocally.

#### 3. Other business

- Ben Kovic noted that many HTOs have expressed a requirement for interim funding.
- Ben Kovic advised that the 1994 report of the Southeast Baffin Beluga Co-Management Committee has now been translated.
- Andy Theriault advised that the Chairperson's employment situation vis-à-vis GNWT Renewable Resources and the Board was becoming untenable and required resolution.

#### 4. Adjournment

Minutes Approved by:  Chairperson	