





## Nattivak Hunters & Trappers Association

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Department of Environment  
P.O. Box 1000  
Iqaluit, NU  
X0A 0H0

Friday February 16, 2018

**RE: Nattivak HTO and its memberships input submission for the recommendation to increase BB TAH from 65-80 and sex ratio be set to 1:1 ratio**

On behalf of the Board of Directors and its membership in the community of Qikiqtarjuaq supports the recommendation to increase the current Baffin Bay TAH from 65 to 80 bears, and the Baffin Bay Polar Bear harvest sex ratio be set to a 1:1 ratio.

HTO Board of Directors Input:

We want to move forward with the Polar Bear Sports Hunt in the near future, we want the Inuit in the community as our priority. If the harvesters can be supported as the Polar Bear hides are not being auctioned off; if this situation will still continue how many years are we looking at? If we look at the Female Hunts are we not overharvesting? For years to come we need to be more aware.

The Biologist do community visits often now to do a survey as harvesters and the Elders have the traditional knowledge as male Polar Bears being harvested may be a concern. We now have to follow with the survey results and we can not do something about it. Many people believed the Government more; the harvesters words are true regarding the food security.

Regarding the Polar Bears, years back our elders were more likely to eat polar bear meat. Whether this community made a law for Polar Bear hides to be made for additional funding. Now the law we use is when only the Polar Bear Hunt opens our elders gets to eat polar bear meat. When our elders use to go polar bear hunting using sleds there were not many polar bears on sights; only they use to go to the community once in a long while following the meat on sight.

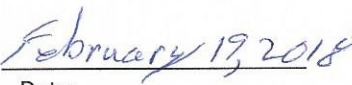
Harvesters and the Membership Input:

Regarding the Polar Bear defence kills when the hides are cleaned and dried some goes to waste once it has been stored for ages, maybe it's best if the hides are giving to Inuksuit School and or Arctic College for training on traditional clothing. This is a great suggestion if it can be amended as for many years we have seen Polar Bear Hides going to waste in the community.

If you have any questions, concerns, and or comments you can contact the Chairperson Jacopie Audlakiak to HTO Office during regular business hours to: (867) 927-8836

With Regards,

Jacopie Audlakiak  
  
Nattivak HTO Chairperson

  
Date:

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