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Nunavunmi Anngutighatigut Aulapkaijiktut Katimajiat
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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Tammaqtailinahuarniriit anngutighat atuqhugit Inuit qaujimajatuqangillu ilihimaniillu ilitquhiannin
Conserving wildlife through the application of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and scientific knowledge

July 20th, 2018

Hon. Catherine
McKenna Minister of
Environment and
Climate Change
Canada,
Government of Canada

Hon. Jeannie Ehaloak
Minister of
Environment,
Government of
Nunavut

Aluki Kotierk
President of Nunavut
Tungavik Inc.

James Qillaq
Chairperson of the
the
Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board

Stanley Adjuk
Chairperson of the
Kivalliq Wildlife Board

Joe Ashevak
Chairperson of the Kitikmeot
Regional Wildlife Board

Chairpersons of the
Nunavut Hunters and
Trappers Organizations,
c/o the Executive
Director of the Nunavut
Inuit Wildlife Secretariat

Vicki Trim and
Gregor Gilbert
Chairpersons of the
Polar Bear Technical
Committee

Christine Cleghorn and Stas
Olpinski
Chairpersons of the Polar
Bear Administrative
Committee

Paul Crowley
Vice-President,
Arctic,
World Wildlife Fund
Canada

Charlie Watt
President of
Makivik
Corporation

Dear Colleagues:

Re: Nunavut Wildlife Management Board in-person public hearing to consider the Government of Nunavut Proposal on the revised *Nunavut Polar Bear Co-Management Plan*

1. Introduction

Through this letter, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) is extending an invitation to your department or organization to attend the Board's in-person public hearing regarding the Government of Nunavut - Department of Environment (Department of Environment) revised *Nunavut Polar Bear Co-Management Plan* (Plan). The NWMB is also inviting your department or organization to provide written, translated submissions and supporting documents for the Plan hearing.



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Nunavunmi Anngutighatigut Aulapkaïjĩtkut Katimajiat
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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2. Background

On June 5th, 2017, the NWMB provided public notice of its decision to adjourn the in-person public hearing on the Department of Environment’s Proposal to consider the revised *Nunavut Polar Bear Co-Management Plan*. The NWMB made this decision after it received correspondences from the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board (May 26 and June 2, 2017), and the Kivalliq Wildlife Board (June 2nd, 2017) announcing their decision to boycott the hearing because the NWMB did not provide enough funding to cover travel and accommodation costs for all affected Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTO) to attend the hearing.

On June 19th, 2017, the NWMB held a teleconference with its co-management partners to re-iterate the Board’s commitment to a fair and representative hearing process and to attempt to reach consensus on an appropriate time to resume the hearing as soon as reasonably possible.

On April 26th, 2018, the NWMB held a second pre-hearing teleconference to inform hearing parties of its proposed way forward to resume the hearing and to discuss and obtain feedback regarding:

- the location and potential dates of the hearing;
- proposed hearing format and time allocation between parties;
- funding for community participation; and
- any relevant issue that the parties wished to make.

Following the April 26th, 2018 teleconference, the NWMB sent a letter (June 19th, 2018 – attached as Appendix A) to all the hearing parties to distribute the minutes of the meeting and to seek additional feedback on the issues discussed at the meeting (minutes of the meeting attached as Appendix B).

Environment and Climate Change Canada expressed support for the Board’s proposed way forward. No other additional comments or suggestions were received by the deadline on July 11th, 2018.

3. Date and location of the hearing

Considering that no comments were provided by the July 11th, 2018 deadline, the NWMB will resume the in-person public hearing to consider the Department of Environment’s revised *Nunavut Polar Bear Co-Management Plan*. The Plan hearing will take place over four (4) days— from the 13th to 16th day of November 2018, at the Cadet Hall in Iqaluit. The hearing will start at 9:00 AM on the 13th of November. The rest of the daily schedules are set out in the hearing Agenda attached to this correspondence as Appendix C. Please note that the NWMB reserves the right to modify details of the agenda, including the daily schedules.

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