KITIKMEOT REGIONAL WILDLIFE BOARD
SUBMISSION TO THE
NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD
BATHURST CARIBOU IN-PERSON PUBLIC HEARING
CAMBRIDGE BAY
MARCH 5-6, 2020

INFORMATION: **DECISION: X**

ISSUE: Government of Nunavut-Department of Environment's proposal for NWMB decision to decrease the Total Allowable Harvest (TAH) for Bathurst Caribou from 30 to 0.

BACKGROUND: The Bathurst Caribou herd is harvested by Kugluktuk, Bay Chimo, Bathurst Inlet and Cambridge Bay and a family living in Contwoyto Lake. The Bathurst herd is like any other herds that go through Population fluctuations throughout high and low number cycles. We believe This herd, like any other, will rise in numbers again. It is known widely that Often, the caribou move to where its food source is plenty while waiting for The food to grow back that they just left from. This has been emphasized Throughout the north by all users of the respective herds between Yukon and Quebec. The Bathurst herd is utilized and managed by its harvesters and If the harvest is cut-off, many people will be affected.

RECOMMENDATION: The Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board recommends that the TAH remains at a "Status quo" of 30. Our rationale is that these harvests still need to continue because the caribou is the main diet for Inuit (always has been). We'd also like to point out that another family living in Contwoyto Lake harvests from the herd and they need to keep harvesting to maintain food supply for themselves. The Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board cannot emphasize enough how the TAH should not and cannot be put to zero. We believe the herd will eventually rise in numbers even if harvesting continues.

We also want to add that if the quota should remain at status quo, we would ask that all sport hunts be ended and the harvesting will only be used for subsistence purposes.

If a harvest moratorium is put in place, hardship among the people who harvest the herd will take over. We understand that this is part of the

recovery strategy but, we think it's a big price to pay for a herd that is likely to recover in numbers.

Thank you,

Bobby Klengenberg
Chairperson