



July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018

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President of Nunavut  
Tunngavik Inc.

Joe Ashevak  
Chairperson of the Kitikmeot  
Regional Wildlife Board

Christine Cleghorn and Stas  
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Bear Administrative  
Committee

Charlie Watt  
President of  
Makivik  
Corporation

**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***

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.



## 2. Background

On June 5<sup>th</sup>, 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 2<sup>nd</sup>, 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 19<sup>th</sup>, 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 26<sup>th</sup>, 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 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018 teleconference, the NWMB sent a letter (June 19<sup>th</sup>, 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 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

## 3. Date and location of the hearing

Considering that no comments were provided by the July 11<sup>th</sup>, 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 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> day of November 2018, at the Cadet Hall in Iqaluit. The hearing will start at 9:00 AM on the 13<sup>th</sup> 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.



#### 4. NWMB Funding for representatives of Inuit harvesters

## 5. Best available information and NWMB Hearing Rules

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## 6. Invitation to the public hearing

**Please take note that, unless persuasive written and translated reasons are provided to the Board for late filing, the NWMB will not consider materials for this hearing that are not filed on time.**

