



Tłıchǫ Government

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May 13, 2016

Chairperson **Via email: receptionist@nwmb**
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
3rd floor, Ikaluktuutiak Drive
P.O. Box 1379
Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0
Email: receptionist@nwmb

Re: Nunavut Wildlife Management Board Public Hearing to Consider a Regional Total Allowable Harvest for the Bluenose East Caribou Herd

Dear Mr. Chairperson

Barren-ground Caribou and in particular the Bluenose East play a crucial role in the very culture of the Tłıchǫ people. Caribou is our way of life, it defines our culture, our language and our very being.

It must come as no surprise that the decline of the Bluenose-East (BNE) herd is of grave concern for the Tłıchǫ people. We have made sacrifices over years in reducing our harvest and we are happy to see that the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board is considering the same. The Tłıchǫ People went from an approximate 6,000 harvested caribou annually (80% cow, spread over both Bathurst and BNE, 2009) to 373 caribou (100% BNE bulls, 0 Bathurst, 2015/16). The Tłıchǫ Government strongly supports the proposed Total Allowable Harvest of 340 in Nunavut for the BNE herd. We are excited to see that all users of this herd have never been this close in agreement on this sensitive issue.

Our late Chief Jimmy Bruneau said that we can only survive on the land and work together if we are: *"Strong Like Two People"*. The Tłıchǫ people still want to live by this mantra. All the original subsistence users of this herd are facing the same hardships; however, only by working together can we solve this hardship for our future generations.

If you have any questions please contact Sjoerd van der Wielen, Lands manager, Tłıchǫ Government, at sjoerdvanderwielen@tlicho.com. (our preferred communication method).

Masi,

Grand Chief Eddie Erasmus
Tłıchǫ Government

