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ΛጋላርΔርσቴ ÞLዛቴቴ ላቴժበቦጋЈ ላጋናበርÞσቴቦና ΔΔΔና ቴbÞትLσጋቴቴቄቦና ላቴLጋ ቴbÞትኒናበ፥Lሲር ቴbÞትLσቴዮና Tammaqtailinahuarniriit anngutighat atuqhugit Inuit qaujimajatuqangillu ilihimaniillu ilitquhiannin Conserving wildlife through the application of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and scientific knowledge

July 16<sup>th</sup> 2014

Honourable Johnny Mike Minister of Environment Government of Nunavut

James Qillaq Chairperson of the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board

Michel Akkuardjuk Chairperson of the Arviq Hunters and Trappers Organization Cathy Towtongie President of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated

Noah Kadlak Chairperson of the Coral Harbour Hunters and Trappers Organization

Barney Aggark Chairperson of Aqigiq Hunters and Trappers Organization Ross Tatty

Chairperson of the Kivalliq

Wildlife Board

Quvanaqtuliaq Tapaungai Chairperson of the Aiviq Hunters and Trappers Organization

Paul Kanayok

Chairperson of Kangiqliniq Hunters and Trappers

Organization

Dear Colleagues:

Re: Invitation to file additional written submissions for the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's ongoing Southampton Island Caribou Public Hearing

## 1. Introduction

This letter is a follow-up to the May 28<sup>th</sup> 2014 correspondence to you from the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board), which announced the NWMB's adjournment of phase 2 of the Southampton Island (SHI) Caribou Public Hearing until the fall of 2014. Phase 2 of the hearing was originally scheduled to take place in Iqaluit, on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 2014. The reason for the adjournment was that more time was required to obtain important evidence - primarily from the Government of Nunavut (GN), but also potentially from Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI) - for consideration at the hearing.

The intention of this letter is (i) to inform the parties of developments since May 28<sup>th</sup> related to the hearing, (ii) to set out a schedule for the filing of additional written submissions, and (iii) to invite all hearing parties wishing to file additional submissions to do so within the timelines provided. Once the final filing deadline for those additional submissions is reached, that will mark the close of written submissions - and the NWMB will then be in a position to re-schedule phase 2 of the hearing.

## 2. Developments relating to the SHI Caribou Public Hearing since May 28th 2014

With respect to developments since the Board issued its May 28<sup>th</sup> 2014 correspondence:

- 1. In response to a request from the NWMB in its May 28<sup>th</sup> letter, the GN and NTI met on June 6<sup>th</sup> 2014 to discuss additional evidence necessary from each party for a proper determination of the Basic Needs Level for SHI caribou.
- 2. In response to an invitation from the NWMB, also in its May 28<sup>th</sup> letter, the GN and NTI each filed written submissions on June 10<sup>th</sup> 2014 concerning their June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting and future plans. NTI also filed brief follow-up correspondence on June 11<sup>th</sup>.
- 3. In response to a request from the GN and NTI following their June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, lawyers for the NWMB, the GN and NTI met by phone on June 13<sup>th</sup> and July 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014, to discuss a proposed reasonable schedule for the timely filing of additional written submissions, as well as other procedural aspects of the hearing. Those discussions were fruitful, and at least one additional legal counsel meeting is planned prior to phase 2, to help further ensure that the hearing proceeds on the basis of a fulsome evidentiary record, and in an orderly and timely manner.
- 4. On June 27<sup>th</sup>, the GN filed a written "Status Report and Further Response to the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board's May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 request for new materials concerning the Southampton Island Caribou Public Hearing (Status Report), including eight appendices (Appendices A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H).
- 5. On July 1<sup>st</sup> 2014, the GN Minister of Environment made an interim order ("Southampton Island Caribou Herd Total Allowable Harvest Interim Order (July1, 2014 to June 30, 2015)") to reduce the SHI caribou total allowable harvest from 1,000 to 800 animals.
- 6. NTI has committed to filing a written, translated reply submission to the GN's June 27<sup>th</sup> Status Report by no later than July 22<sup>nd</sup> 2014.

All of the submissions filed since May  $28^{th}$  – along with the written records of the two legal counsel meetings, as well as a number of additional documents comprising the best available hearing information to date - are available for review and download from the

NWMB's *Public Hearings Registry* on its website (<u>www.nwmb.com</u>), or by contacting the NWMB at the following coordinates:

## NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Ikaluktuutiak Drive P.O. Box 1379, Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0 Phone: (867) 975-7300

Fax: (888) 421-9832

E-Mail: receptionist@nwmb.com

Please note that the Board intends to have NTI's written, translated reply submission to the GN's June 27<sup>th</sup> Status Report available for review and download on its *Public Hearings Registry* within one business day of receipt of that submission.

3. NWMB invitation, schedule and instructions for the filing of additional written submissions for August, September and October 2014

The NWMB invites all hearing parties who wish to do so to file additional written submissions according to the following schedule:

- (a) All parties except NTI: File written, translated (Inuktitut/English) reply submissions to NTI's May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014 "Reply to the Government of Nunavut Supplementary Submission" by no later than 5:00 p.m. (Iqaluit time) on August 15<sup>th</sup> 2014;
- (b) **NTI only:** File written, translated (Inuktitut/English) reply submissions to any August 15<sup>th</sup> submissions by no later than 5:00 p.m. (Iqaluit time) on September 15<sup>th</sup> 2014; and
- (c) All parties except NTI: File written, translated (Inuktitut/English) reply submissions to NTI's September 15<sup>th</sup> submissions by no later than 5:00 p.m. (Iqaluit time) on October 15<sup>th</sup> 2014.

The NWMB intends that the final filing deadline of October 15<sup>th</sup> 2014 will mark the close of all written submissions for the SHI Caribou Public Hearing. Prior to reconvening phase 2 of the hearing, the NWMB wishes to be reasonably certain that all of the required written hearing evidence and arguments have been submitted. Accordingly, if any hearing party has a concern with the content or the timelines set out in the above schedule, please inform the Board in writing by no later than August 1<sup>st</sup> 2014, setting out your concerns and accompanying reasons, as well as any proposed solution.

Subject to relevant confidentiality or privacy concerns, all submissions and supporting documentation will be placed on the NWMB's *Public Hearings Registry*, and will be available for download, within one business day after they are filed with the Board.

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

Materials may be filed with the Board in person, by courier or by mail. They should be clearly marked as pertaining to the *NWMB Public Hearing for SHI Caribou*. Delivery of the materials may also be made through fax or electronic transmission, but only if your department or organization confirms by phone with the NWMB – by no later than 5:00 p.m. (Iqaluit time) on the submission deadline date – that a complete and legible copy of the transmission has been received by the Board. Materials are deemed to have been filed on the actual day of receipt by the NWMB.

Please keep in mind that the more thorough, reliable and persuasive supporting evidence and justifications are, the more weight they will be given by the NWMB in the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* decision-making process.

If you require further information with respect to the matters addressed in this letter, please do not hesitate to visit the NWMB website or to contact the Board directly.

Yours sincerely,

for Ben Kovic,

Chairperson of the

Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

c.c. Drikus Gissing, Director of Wildlife, Government of Nunavut-Department of Environment;

Mitch Campbell, Kivalliq Regional Biologist, Government of Nunavut-Department of Environment;

Bert Dean, A/Director of Wildlife, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.;

Glenn Williams, Wildlife Policy Advisor, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.;

Janet Dionne, Acting Executive Director, Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat;

Leah Muchpah, Kivalliq Regional Liaison, Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat;

Jackie Price, South Baffin Regional Liaison, Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat