

September 4th, 2015

Honourable Johnny Mike
Minister of Environment
Government of Nunavut

Honourable
Leona Aglukkaq
Minister of Environment
Government of Canada

Cathy Towtongie
President
Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.

Stanley Adjuk
Chairperson
Kivalliq Wildlife Board

Chairperson (Vacant)
Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife
Board

James Qillaq
Chairperson
Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board

Marsha Branigan and
Gregor Gilbert
Chairpersons
Polar Bear Technical
Committee

Dag Vongraven
Chairperson
IUCN Polar Bear Specialist
Group

Drikus Gissling
Chairperson
Polar Bear Administrative
Committee

David Miller
President and CEO
World Wildlife Fund
Canada

All Nunavut Hunters and
Trappers Organizations

Dear Colleagues:

Re: Written hearing of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board concerning the proposed Nunavut Polar Bear Co-Management Plan

The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) will be conducting a written public hearing to consider the Government of Nunavut-Department of Environment's proposal for NWMB decision (Proposal) requesting the approval of the Nunavut Polar Bear Co-Management Plan. A copy of the Proposal is attached to this letter.

A written public hearing is one in which all submissions are filed in writing, and the hearing does not have an oral component.

Background

On June 9th, 2015 the NWMB received a request from the Government of Nunavut-Department of Environment to approve the proposed Nunavut Polar Bear Co-Management Plan. The Government of Nunavut worked cooperatively with co-management partners to develop this plan. If approved this plan will replace the current

Memoranda of Understanding which were developed in 2004 and signed by all Regional Wildlife Organizations and Hunters and Trappers Organizations.

After reviewing the Proposal during its In-camera meeting on June 10th, 2015, the NWMB decided to hold a written hearing on this matter.

The filing of submissions:

The NWMB is inviting interested organizations or persons, including any member of the public, to file written response submissions and supporting documentation concerning the Proposal by no later than **5:00 p.m. Iqaluit time on October 30th 2015. Unless persuasive written reasons are provided to the Board for late filing, the NWMB will not consider materials for this hearing that are not filed on time.**

The hearing rules and a number of documents comprising the best available information to date are available for download from the NWMB's website (www.nwmb.com) or by contacting the NWMB at the following coordinates:

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

3rd Floor, Ikaluktuutiak Drive

P.O. Box 1379, Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

Phone: (867) 975-7300

Fax: (888) 421-9832

E-Mail: receptionist@nwmb.com

Submissions and their supporting documentation may be filed with the Board in person, by courier or by mail. They should be clearly marked as pertaining to the *NWMB Written Hearing concerning the Nunavut Polar Bear Co-Management Plan*. All submissions must be submitted in both English and Inuktitut. 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 - prior to the filing deadline - 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.

Subject to relevant confidentiality or privacy concerns, all submissions and supporting documentation will be placed on the NWMB's website and will be publicly available for download. Please keep in mind that the more thorough, reliable and persuasive submissions and supporting documentation 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, please do not hesitate to visit the NWMB website or to contact the Board directly.

Sincerely,

Ben Kovic,
Chairperson of the
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

c.c. Paul Irngaut, Director of Wildlife, Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.;
Drikus Gissing, Director of Wildlife, Government of Nunavut, Department of
Environment;
Lisa Pirie, A/Head of Eastern Arctic Section, Canadian Wildlife Service;
Jenna Boon, Nunavut Field Unit Superintendent, Parks Canada Agency;
Paul Crowley, Director, Arctic Program, World Wildlife Fund Canada;
Ema Qaggutaq, Kitikmeot Coordinator, Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board;
Jackie Price, Coordinator, Research Planning, Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board;
Jason Mikki, Qikiqtaaluk Regional Coordinator, Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board; and
Leah Muckpah, Kivalliq Coordinator, Kivalliq Wildlife Board.