



September 20th 2017

Honourable Joe Savikataaq
Minister of Environment
Government of Nunavut

Dear Minister Savikataaq:

Re: Government of Nunavut-Department of Environment request for approval of the Nunavut Grizzly Bear Co-Management Plan

At the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) Regular Meeting (RM003-2017) on September 11th 2017 in Iqaluit, the Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment (Department of Environment) presented a *Proposal for Decision* regarding the approval of the proposed draft "*Nunavut Grizzly Bear Co-Management Plan*". The draft Management Plan (Plan) proposes several conservation management actions including voluntary protection of family groups and bears in dens, harvest monitoring and reporting, Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (IQ) research, human-bear conflicts reduction, population monitoring, and climate change impact studies.

The NWMB considered this request at its In-Camera Meeting (IC003-2017) on September 12th 2017 in Iqaluit. At this meeting, the Board made the following resolution:

RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 5.2.34(d)(i) of the *Nunavut Agreement*, the NWMB approve the draft Nunavut Grizzly Bear Co-Management Plan until a time when new Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit or science information becomes available.

In reaching this decision, the NWMB considered the following:

- The Plan does not recommend a Total Allowable Harvest or mandatory non-quota limitations on Inuit Rights to harvest;
- Consultation on the Plan was extensive in the Kitikmeot and Kivalliq Regions, with communities and organizations contributing to the Plan's goals and objectives. The Plan was approved by nine Hunter and Trapper Organizations, the Kivalliq Wildlife Board, Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board, Nunavut Tunngavik, and Environment and Climate Change Canada;
- The proposed management actions are required to ensure long-term sustainability of the Nunavut grizzly bear population and reduce human–bear conflicts; and,
- The Plan will serve as Nunavut's contribution to the federal grizzly bear management plan, as required for species listed as *Special Concern*.

The NWMB looks forward to your prompt reply and timely completion of the Nunavut Agreement Article 5 decision-making process.

Should you or your officials have any questions or concerns about the content of this letter, please contact the NWMB.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel Shewchuk". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

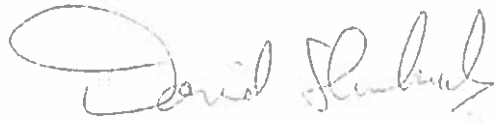
Daniel Shewchuk
Acting Chairperson of the
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

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