



## NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

### HIGHLIGHTS OF MEETING # 11 14-17 MAY 1996

#### IQALUIT, NU

1. This was the eleventh meeting of the NWMB, and the first in its new offices in the Parnaivik Building in Iqaluit. All members were present.  

2. Johnny Peters was sworn in as the new Board member for Makivik, replacing Jackie Koneak.
3. It was noted that the Board's three Regional Liaison Officers are now on staff and undergoing orientation. Their initial focus will be on initiating the Board's 5-year Harvest Study throughout the Nunavut Settlement Area.
4. The Board decided to commission an independent review of its hiring practices, to evaluate the degree of conformity being achieved with the Board's own policies to promote aboriginal and gender representation to reflect the composition of the population in Nunavut.  

5. The Board member from Kitikmeot posed several wildlife management concerns on behalf of his constituents. Paramount is the confusion and inconvenience caused by the recently altered boundary between the Gulf of Boothia and M'Clintock Channel polar bear management zones. The matter was directed to GNWT Renewable Resources for consultation and advice enroute to developing a solution.  

6. The Board was apprised of amalgamation plans being developed by the GNWT involving the Department of Renewable Resources, and of a new round of restructuring and downsizing planned by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. DFO in particular appears intent on moving from a "doing" to an "enabling" profile, and the Board is concerned that the agencies signatory to the Nunavut Final Agreement retain the means as well as the will to meet their obligations as negotiated. A need to meet with these agencies was identified.
7. The Board heard a presentation from Zack Novalinga, Chairperson of the Sanikiluaq HTA, on wildlife management concerns in that area. The Board decided to initiate a formal process of discussions and negotiations involving all agencies and constituents with wildlife management interests in the Nunavut-Nunavik overlap areas.  

8. The Board approved, on a pilot basis, a small walrus sport hunt by the Nunavik community of Salluit to take place in the Nottingham-Salisbury Islands (area of equal use and occupancy, as per the NFA) in 1996. Cape Dorset, Kimmirut and other communities in the

NSA who previously have expressed an interest in walrus sport hunting will be invited to reiterate their interest.

9. The Board decided to support the Canadian Wildlife Service's declaration on banning of lead shot for harvesting migratory birds. Since this represents a de facto non-quota limitation, the matter is the purview of the NWMB.
10. The Board agreed to oppose further mineral exploration in the Queen Maud Gulf Bird Sanctuary, on the grounds that mining development could not be compatible with wildlife protection objectives in the area.
11. The Board and DFO will be working to finalize the management plan pertaining to the 1996 bowhead hunt.
12. The Board decided it could not accept the role of intermediary for distribution of GNWT grants and contributions to RWOs and HTOs as per the terms proposed by Renewable Resources, and will suggest alternative terms which are less onerous to the NWMB.
13. Presentations in respect to Arctic marine turbot and shrimp fisheries were heard from Henry Copestake (on behalf of a number of interested parties) and from Peter Kilabuk (President of Cumberland Sound Fisheries). The importance of entrenching access by Nunavut residents to the adjacent marine resources was emphasized.
14. The Board reviewed with its consultant/facilitator, a draft Strategic Plan to guide its future work program. The aim is to complete this Plan before the end of June 1996.
15. The Board was unable to complete its full agenda. On account of this, and in view of other important new developments, the Board decided to reconvene in Yellowknife the week of June 10, 1996. Planning discussions with GNWT are anticipated at that time.
16. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Arviat, the week of August 12, 1996.