



**SUBMISSION TO THE**

**NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD**

**FOR**

**Information: X**

**Decision:**

**ISSUE: Wildlife Damage Compensation Program**

**BACKGROUND**

Loss of property to wildlife damage has direct impacts on harvesters in Nunavut, and the GN is committed to providing assistance through a new wildlife damage compensation program. However, a wildlife damage compensation program that does not take into consideration the role of accepted best practices is not going to encourage pro-active efforts to prevent damage. For this reason, compensation for wildlife damage will only be considered if it is determined that all reasonable actions were taken to protect the property.

To achieve this the GN is also launching a wildlife damage prevention program which will provide harvesters with information, training, and equipment aimed at using best practices to prevent damage caused by wildlife.

**CURRENT STATUS**

The program manuals and guidelines have been drafted and will be consulted on in the coming months. The general operation of the program will be as follows:

When damage is reported the claim will be reviewed by a Conservation Officer. This, when possible will include travel to the location and inspection of the damage and surrounding area and circumstances of the occurrence. The application and results of the inspection will be provided to the community HTO who will make a joint recommendation to compensate or not to compensate. The application will then be forwarded to the Wildlife Deterrent Specialist whose recommendation or comments will also be included. The Director or designated official will make the final decision. The applicant will be provided with a letter informing them of the decision and the reason for it.

The current maximum claim amount is proposed at \$1000.00, although initial feedback is that this figure is too low.

Consultations with HTO's will be conducted this fall/winter.

Policies and guidelines are in the review process and it is our intention to have this program available to harvesters on April 1, 2011.