

# NOTICE OF REINSTATEMENT OF NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

By notice on January 6<sup>th</sup> 2012, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) announced that it would conduct a public hearing concerning the establishment of Inuit basic needs levels for beluga, narwhal and walrus in the Nunavut Settlement Area.

By notice on February 3<sup>rd</sup> 2012, the NWMB decided to adjourn the public hearing, including the filing of written submissions, for an indefinite period of time. The adjournment decision was in response to a written request from Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI), to allow an opportunity for NTI and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) to consider addressing the subject matter of the public hearing by way of an amendment to the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* (NLCA).

**Notice is provided on May 1**<sup>st</sup> **2012**, that the NWMB has decided to reinstate the public hearing as the NWMB provided NTI and DFO a reasonable opportunity to address the subject matter of the public hearing by way of an amendment to the NLCA and no mutually agreeable solution was reached.

#### Dates and times of the hearing:

The hearing has been rescheduled for September 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> 2012, in Iqaluit<sup>1</sup>. The hearing will be held each day from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., and from 1:30 p.m. -5:00 p.m. The NWMB may also hold one or more evening sessions from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

#### **Location of the hearing:**

The location of the hearing is still to be determined and will be announced on the NWMB's website (www.nwmb.com).

#### Issue to be considered at the hearing:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Please note that the NWMB may modify the date, duration and location well in advance of the hearing (i.e. 60 days prior to the hearing). Any modification to the public hearing date and location will be provided on the NWMB's website and via official correspondence to all associated parties.

The issue under consideration at the hearing will be the establishment of Inuit basic needs levels for beluga, narwhal and walrus in the Nunavut Settlement Area.

"Basic needs level" refers to the level of harvesting by Inuit required to meet their basic needs, as determined through the decision-making process set out in Article 5 of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*.

Section 5.6.25 of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* requires the NWMB to establish the basic needs levels for beluga, narwhal and walrus, "...taking into account the fact that they are in short supply in some areas and therefore that the harvest by Inuit has been and is artificially low in relation to their needs and does not necessarily reflect their full level of needs."

#### The filing of submissions to be considered at the hearing:

There will be two opportunities to file submissions for this hearing. The NWMB is inviting interested organizations or persons, including any member of the public, to file written submissions and supporting documentation (**initial submissions**) concerning the establishment of Inuit basic needs levels for beluga, narwhal and walrus in the Nunavut Settlement Area, by no later than **5:00 p.m.** (**Iqaluit time**) on **May 31**<sup>st</sup>, **2012.** 

The NWMB is also inviting interested organizations or persons, including any member of the public, to file additional written submissions and supporting documentation (**reply submissions**) – in response to any initial submissions they wish to comment on - by no later than **5:00 p.m.** (**EST**) on July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

The NWMB will make publicly available all of the written materials filed with it, subject to relevant confidentiality or privacy concerns.

### Attendance and participation at the hearing:

The hearing will be open to the public, although part of the hearing may be conducted in camera, where the NWMB considers that confidential or sensitive matters may be disclosed or discussed.

The NWMB will provide an opportunity for oral presentations from the parties at the hearing, by their choice of official, expert or counsel. The NWMB, as well as the parties, may ask relevant questions of any party at the hearing.

The NWMB will provide members of the public in attendance at the hearing a reasonable opportunity to make statements and to ask questions of the parties and the NWMB.

The NWMB will make its decision following the hearing, and after having considered all relevant submissions, presentations and statements.

#### How to obtain more information:

To receive more information about the requirements for filing hearing submissions and supporting documentation, or about obtaining other submissions and their supporting

documentation, additional relevant documents, the rules applying to the hearing, the agenda for the hearing, or attendance as a member of the public or as a party at the hearing, please contact the NWMB:

## NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Ikaluktuutiak Drive Phone: (867) 975-7300 Fax: (888) 421-9832

E-Mail: <u>receptionist@nwmb.com</u>
Website: www.nwmb.com