



August 2, 2006

Joe Kunuk  
Chief Executive Officer  
Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated  
P.O. Box 638  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

**FAXED**  
Aug 2/00  
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**Re: Special Meeting No. 12**

Dear Joe:

Your July 26<sup>th</sup> 2006 letter to me asks for confirmation from the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) on a few procedural matters.

1. Confirm that the parties can treat the agenda as closed with respect to harvest limitations that will be considered at the Meeting.

The NWMB does not confirm at this time that the agenda is closed with respect to harvest limitations that will be considered at the Meeting. As set out in the revised *Ad Hoc* Procedures, (additional) Initial Submissions must be filed by August 11<sup>th</sup> and Response Submissions by September 8<sup>th</sup>. There also still remains time before Special Meeting No. 12 for the Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated to follow through on their declared willingness to find mutually-acceptable solutions to points in contention between them.

I can confirm that – subject to any persuasive reasons that may be provided to the NWMB – the Board intends to close the agenda by shortly after August 11<sup>th</sup> 2006 with respect to harvest limitations that may be considered at the meeting, and to finalize the agenda shortly after September 8<sup>th</sup> 2006.

2. **Confirm that the NWMB will include in its decisions following the Meeting the decision to remove any limitations currently in force that are not recommended as a result of the Meeting.**

The NWMB can not provide you with such a blanket confirmation. In fact, the NWMB can not remove any currently lawful harvest limitation established or deemed established by the Board, without first being satisfied by reliable and persuasive evidence that the limitation is no longer necessary, or unless it has been modified or

replaced by another limitation - duly considered in accordance with the rules of procedural fairness and approved under the terms of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* (NLCA) - in the new Wildlife Regulations and Orders.

Specifically with respect to your concern regarding the prohibition on Inuit harvesting in the Thelon Game Sanctuary, please note that the Management Plan for the Sanctuary – approved by the NWMB and accepted by Canada and Nunavut – “recognizes that Aboriginal harvesting can no longer be restricted within the Sanctuary unless any such restriction is established for a valid purpose, consistent with Aboriginal and Treaty Rights, including rights under the NLCA...[p.24]” Please also see the NWMB’s July 14<sup>th</sup> 2006 letter to the territorial Minister of Environment and federal Ministers of Indian and Northern Affairs and Fisheries and Oceans, a copy of which is attached to this letter.

3. **Confirm that the limitations to be considered at the Meeting will be identified specifically in the form of harvest limitations, rather than by section number in draft regulations and orders.**

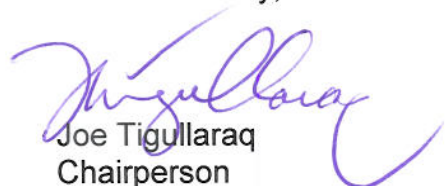
The NWMB assumes that your concern arises from the use of section numbers in the proposed agenda for Special Meeting No. 12. Please note that the use of section numbers in that document was a practical consideration, related to the length of the document. Even using section numbers, the agenda is seven pages long. Although the Board is not planning to change the format of the agenda, I can confirm that – within the Meeting itself – the limitations will be identified in the form of harvest limitations and by their specific section numbers in the draft Regulations and Orders.

4. **Confirm that the NWMB will engage a court reporting service to record the Meeting.**

The NWMB is currently investigating the cost of using a court reporting service. However, the Board is not convinced that such a service is strictly necessary. Last year, the NWMB invested in a sophisticated and expensive electronic recording system that has to date been entirely reliable. The Board expects to soon make a decision on this matter.

Joe, should you or your staff have any further or follow-up questions, please don’t hesitate to contact the NWMB.

Yours sincerely,

  
Joe Tigullaraq  
Chairperson

- c.c. Simon Awa, Deputy Minister, Department of Environment;  
Phillip Kadlun, Chairperson, Kitikmeot Hunters and Trappers Association;  
David Aksawnee, Chairperson, Kivalliq Wildlife Board;  
Jayco Aooloo, Vice-chairperson, Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board; and  
Chairpersons, Nunavut's Hunters and Trappers Organizations





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