



June 02, 2017

Mr. D. Shewchuck  
A/Chairperson  
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board  
PO Box 1379  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent by e-mail to: tsaataa@nwmb.com

Dear Mr. Shewchuk:

This letter details Kivalliq Wildlife Board's response to the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board's decision to withdraw from the public hearing on the revised Nunavut Polar Bear Co-Management Plan. The Kivalliq Wildlife Board (KWB) Executive met via teleconference on June 1, 2017 and decided that KWB will support QWB's decision to withdraw from the hearing and will also withdraw their participation from the hearing. Here, two major concerns are presented: (1) concern about equal and fair opportunity for all HTOs to participate in the hearing and (2) concern that recommendations are not taken seriously in the consultation process.

In agreement with the QWB Executive, the Kivalliq Wildlife Board also feels that all HTOs throughout Nunavut should be treated fairly and equally during NWMB hearings and have the same opportunity to participate in public hearings. In the case of in-person hearings, this means that all HTOs potentially affected by the subject matter of the hearing should have equal opportunity to attend the hearing. With this revised Nunavut Polar Bear Co-Management Plan hearing, we do not feel that representatives of affected harvesters from every community do have reasonable opportunity to make their views known.

When NWMB is providing financial assistance to RWOs and/or HTOs to attend the hearings, it should be made explicitly clear how much funding will be provided to each RWO and HTO so that if the RWOs and HTOs need to supplement the funding, this can be planned and arranged. Ideally, the financial assistance that NWMB provides should be shared equally between all HTOs and the HTO expenses incurred to participate in meetings should be equivalent from HTO to HTO.



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Kivalliq Wildlife Board | Box 219 Rankin Inlet, NU | X0C 0G0 | t. 867-645-4860 | f. 867-645-4861 | www.niws.ca  
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Drikkus Gissing, Director of Wildlife, Government of Nunavut