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August 8, 2011

Kivalliq Wildlife Board

Hon. Daniel Shewchuk
Minister Responsible for Department of Environment
Government of Nunavut
Iqaluit, NU

**RE: WESTERN HUDSON'S BAY POLAR BEAR TAH FOR 2011-2012**

Dear Minister;

The Kivalliq Wildlife Board recently met to discuss the upcoming Western Hudson's Bay Polar Bear survey, concerns and challenges the communities expect with the coming fall (problem bears, defense kills, etc...) and general observations pertaining to the WHB Polar Bear population.

The KWB, and its members, have been very patient and compliant with all recommendations reductions/elimination in quota over these past years. Our communities and their residents have had close encounters where human safety was severely compromised and yet we have obeyed by limiting, minimizing defense kills to the least amount of bears possible.

We are confident that the survey, if conducted properly and thoroughly, will clearly demonstrate a healthy and abundant WHB Polar Bear population as our Members have been stating for a number of years.

As the KWB indicated during their Annual General meeting, they have been penalized long enough and should now be allowed to harvest Polar Bears again in the WHB region. At the recent conference call, the Board passed Motion # KWB2011-0805CC requesting a TAH of 38 tags for harvesting season 2011-2012; proper allocation to be reviewed once survey data is collected, analyzed and presented at the public hearing in Arviat.

We look forward to hearing from you on this matter and time is of the essence as Polar Bears will begin to appear along the coast in early fall.

Sincerely,

Ross Tatty
KWB Chairman

Cc:
Drikus Gissing, DoE
David Vetra, DoE
Jonathan Pameolik, Doe
Kivalliq HTO Region
James Eetoolook, NTI
Gabriel Nirlungayuk, NTI
Jim Noble, NWMB
Adam Schneidmiller, NWMB

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