Hall Beach Hunter's & Trappers' Association ᓱᓕᕆᔨᒃ ᐊᖏᓐᓇᓕᓪᓗᓂᑦ

May 15, 2017

To: Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

Nunavut polar bear management plan – written submission from Hall Beach HTA.

As NWMB requested for written submission hearing from all HTA/HTO across Nunavut, Hall Beach Hunters' & Trappers' Association is submitting this letter as they have two issues with the proposed polar bear management plan. First of all, the names of the Inuktitut for polar bear, and harvested bears being use for nearest community.

The proposed polar bear management states that there are 11 recognize names for polar bear by Inuit. These are some of them ataqtaq, atchiqtaq, piaraq, advarautaq, etc. (Nunavut polar bear management plan, Oct 2016, pg:11). Hall Beach HTA felt that this should be omitted from the management plan because they feel that Inuit have different names for different bears and varies from region to region. Some regions may have more or less names in Inuktitut for polar bear names for example: Amittuq region only recognizes eight (8) Inuktitut names and they are Atiqtaq-cub, Avinnarjuk-lone cub, Pingajuqqat- female bear with two cubs, Nallirtigiik-female bear with same or bigger cub, Nukau-adult male, Angujuaq-bull male, Arnaluk-adult female, and Tulaajuittuq-sea bear. If the Inuktitut Names will be included in the management plan it will only benefit Kitikmeot regions as that is where the Inuktitut names came from, Hall Beach HTA would want this be omitted from the polar bear management plan simply because Inuktitut names varies from region to region and it is most likely will not be in reporting harvest data sheet, if it does it will just create confusion in different part of the Nunavut regions.

Second and final issue with the proposed polar bear management plan is the harvested bears would be taken out of the nearest community. In the proposed management plan states that "all bears harvested, whether for subsistence purposes, sport hunts, or in defence of life/property, are accounted for and subtracted from the annual TAH of the nearest community" (pg-21). Hall Beach HTA has spoken about this issue at the QWB annual general meeting for number of times that this needs to be modified more specific of how the tags would be taken out of nearest community. Hall Beach HTA are arguing that if Igloolik residents harvested past our area than it is certain that we would be giving out tags that Hall Beach residents has never harvested before or vice-versa. If Nunavut beneficiary harvested or some Qallunaa (who has a wife from the community and living in the community) harvested a bear whether for defence/property prevention it should be taken out of the beneficiary community, where he lives, not the nearest community. Also part of this issue that is in page 50- 4, if all the tags are filled up from beneficiaries community than the tag would be used from nearest community, Hall Beach HTA believes that this will have great impact for Hall Beach TAH as Igloolik residents are very common to see in our area during the peak of polar bear encounters in south of Hall Beach, HTA are recommending that the system we use still be in effect, where when no TAH is available in the community be used for future TAH.

In conclusion, Hall Beach HTA would like to see omission of Inuktitut Names that is currently in the proposed management plan and the harvested bears being used up for defense/property kills on nearest community be applied to only exploration and research activities.

Vice-Chair – Paul Nagmalik.