
BHTO



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**BURNSIDE HUNTERS & TRAPPERS ORGANIZATION
GENERAL DELIVERY
BATHRUST INLET, NUNAVUT, XOBOCO**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I am sending this message regarding the Bathurst Caribou Herd and the uses of the Tuktu within our people of Qingauk. The Inuinnait have been using this substance for many years for food and or clothing. We are all aware that the herd had been declining in the past years. Our Elders has informed our Board that this is a normal cycle that takes place in a person's lifetime.

As of to date we are surviving in the ten tuktu for the Inuit of Qingauk and have been distributing the meats with our families that are from that area once we have used up the ten tegs that are allocated to our HTO. As a family we are able to provide meats to those who cannot hunt from the herd due to their distance being in and around the Contowyto Lake area in the fall season. With the hunts that take place, we are able to benefit both with the meat provided and income for some of the families who do not have full time, all year-round jobs.

I have seen the plentiful of the Bathurst Inlet Herd when I first moved back home after being away from home for almost fifteen years, the herd was thriving then, and over the years they dwindle down, now that I have my own children after almost thirty years the tuktu are coming back to our area in and around Qingauk in plenty numbers as of this year for the first time in many, many years. I believe the Elders



when we ask for any of their advice and things we may be concerned about and this is what we were told, all living things have a cycle they follow and this is information our Elders has received and followed since their own ancestors time.

Taking away our foods from our land is like saying you cannot speak your language any more all over again, this is our way of life and way of living off, of the land. How much more we need to give back without being given anything in return if this is what you want from our land, asking us to go from allocation of ten per hunters who hunt this herd to zero is like asking us to go purchase your meats from the store but you are also taking away the small income that provides us with this herd as well, how is that fair?

Quana, Hatok Kapolak

BHTO Chair

