

NUNAVUT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

MINUTES: CONFERENCE CALL No. 17

MONDAY, 18 DECEMBER 1995

Participants:

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| Ben Kovic | Chairperson |
| Joannie Ikkidluak | Member |
| Kevin McCormick | Member |
| David Igutsaq | Member |
| Gordon Koshinsky | Member |
| David Aglukark | Member |
| Malachi Arreak | Member |
| Marius Tungilik | Member |
| Jim Noble | Executive Director |
| Evie Amagoalik | Interpreter |
| Michael d'Eça | Legal Advisor |

Not Available:

| | |
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| DIAND Appointee | Member (vacant) |
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1. Call to Order

The Chairperson, Ben Kovic, convened the Conference Call at 11:00 a.m.

2. Agenda

Three items were accepted for agenda:

- Setting Basic Needs Levels for beluga, narwhal and walrus,
- Honouraria rates for Board members, and
- Workshop with HTOs/RWOs.

3. Setting Basic Needs Levels (BNLs): Beluga, Narwhal and Walrus

Jim Noble provided an update on progress regarding this topic. Following the Ottawa Meeting, a letter was sent to the Nunavut Implementation Panel (NIP) requesting clarification of intent and possible extension of deadline. The NIP

considered the matter at their recent meeting in Yellowknife, but their formal response was not yet available. Jim asked Michael d'Eça to explain what he had learned from talking with Lois Leslie regarding the NIP meeting. Michael d'Eça advised the Board that the NIP had apparently agreed with the Board's proposed principle of setting BNLs only in the case of communities where quotas are currently in effect for beluga and/or narwhal and/or walrus.

Michael suggested that the Board will need to consult with the communities about these quotas, and determine whether current quotas are adequate to meet "full level of needs". The Board, besides consulting with the communities, will also need to consider scientific data/information. Malachi Arreak asked if public hearings (three regions) might be necessary. Michael indicated that public hearings may be one way of consulting. Kevin McCormick stated that he would prefer to see the letter from the Implementation Panel and a letter from Michael before considering the matter further. Ben Kovic suggested that the Board will need to consult with the communities. Michael agreed, stating that the Board will have to ask each community what their basic needs are for these species. Michael further indicated that if a community suggests a high figure, then the Board will have to make the final decision taking into account biological information.

Gordon Koshinsky suggested that all indications are that the negotiators of the NLCA envisioned the setting of BNLs as a rather simple task for beluga, narwhal and walrus; the Board on the other hand seems intent on inventing a process that will be acrimonious and will take years to complete. Since the NLCA makes harvest levels the basis for setting BNLs for all other species, then it seems only reasonable that the negotiators envisioned the use of harvest data for up-front setting of BNLs for those three species (beluga, narwhal and walrus) for which the best harvest data presumably already existed.

Ben Kovic mentioned that there is unease about setting the BNLs unrealistically high and thereby precluding other/alternate potential/desirable allocations. Michael suggested that this poses a unique situation; hopefully setting basic needs levels for other species will be more straight forward. The consensus of the Board was that this topic be forwarded to the February meeting for further consideration.

4. Honouraria for Board Members

Michael d'Eça advised that he had questioned Lois Leslie on the NIP response to the Board's letter regarding an increase in honouraria rates. Michael advised that the Implementation Panel had discussed this letter. The DIAND representatives told her that an internal review was conducted by the Federal Government last year; however they refused to discuss the study. Michael reported that NTI is sympathetic towards the Board's request.

5. NWMB/RWO Workshop

Jim Noble reminded the Board that a very successful RWO workshop had been held in Rankin Inlet over a year ago. Jim suggested that another similar workshop should be considered for early in the new year. The Board agreed that another workshop of this type would be very useful if it can be arranged and funded.

6. Adjournment

The Conference Call adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Minutes Approved by: _____ **Chairperson** _____ **Date**