

EHTO CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I am Bobby Greenley, Chairman of EHTO

Due to the Covid-19 outbreak, this has been a year of delays in our usual HTO business but we all manage to continue communication with online meetings and presentation.

EHTO received Country Food funds from Economic Development & Transportation (ED&T) which started April 1, 2020 and consist of Omingmak (muskox), Tuktu (caribou) from the Beverly Ahiak herd, Eklaluk (fish).

Country Food distribution funds:

Since April 2020 to February 2022 EHTO received \$164,000 in contributed funds for Country Food distributions.

NTI funds \$5000 in March of 2020

KIA funds \$85,000 from March 2020 to date

Dept. of Environment (DOE) funds, April 2020 \$25,000 and February 2022 of \$25,000 one time funds

Economic Development & Transportation \$24,000

Local Hunters harvested muskox, caribou, fish and a few seals.

Local Hunters received funds for gas/oil (DOE funds)

Labors that cut up country food and deliveries to Elders and single parents.

Thank you to all Departments and Organizations for country food distribution, our Community Members were able to continue their traditional meals for their families.

Our Elders requested caribou but the caribou was and is very far, HTO hired a hunter from Baker Lake to harvest 8 caribou to distribute to Elders only the spring of 2021.

Our Elders, Single Parents, Arctic College Students and those who have no equipment to provide for their family were very thankful to receive country food.

Our hunters and fishermen were thankful to continue to go out on the land to harvest country food and receive income as they are seasonal workers.

Qiviut

Thank you to, Jamie Panioyak, Joseph Keyok and Donna Tologanak who sheared Qiviut. The Qiviut was sold too Jacques Cartier Clothier Banff.

At the EHTO AGM on February 16th, 2016 a Motion was passed to put a Season on Muskox herd of Victoria Island, season closing April 15th and opens July 15th, 2016. This is still ongoing year after year (continuous)

Victoria Island Caribou, Muskox and their predators (VICMP):

EHTO submitted a proposal to Nunavut General Monitoring Program (NGMP) for 3 year funding, to conduct our own studies on caribou, muskox and their predators on Victoria Island. NGMP has granted the funding and the monitoring will continue up to 2022.

HTO hired Brandon Langan – VICMP Coordinator who works with Matilde Tomaselli, Wildlife researcher with Polar Knowledge Canada, and Dr. Susan Kutz, University of Calgary on this project.

As part of the NGMP – permit outline is to collected 20 sample kits for muskox and caribou, the kits have been sent to University of Calgary and we are waiting results. We also collected 20 wolves and wolverine to study the stomach contents (has not been studied yet). HTO has set up trail cameras around Surray River and 30 Mile to record any wildlife around the area. The Cameras were set in late August and retrieved in December 2020. The camera's recorded caribou at 30 Mile and a couple of predators. We plan to set the camera's up again this spring.

The cameras captured no wildlife on the Surray River trailcams, but the 30 mile captured 1 wolf and small herd of Dolphin and Union and some birds in the spring.

Department of Fisheries (DFO)

HTO continues to work with DFO on char studies. Char have tags clipped on their fins, the yellow tags (\$25) shows where the fish traveled. Some of the char have acoustic implant (\$40) so DFO

can detect time the char crossed a sensor. Red tagged fish (\$100) is to age the fish but harvesters must give the whole fish to DFO for studies.

Lawrence Otokiak was hired by DFO to collect char samples at Gravel pit in the fall of 2021.

DFO and HTO will work on a “Microplastic project”. DFO found microscopic plastics in fish stomach. Proposal had been submitted to Northern Contaminates Program.

Sports Hunts:

End of March 2020, we only had 2 sports hunters and 1 hunter was successful. Canada North Outfitting (CNO) and HTO had to cancel the rest of spring and fall Sports Hunts due to Covid-19.

CNO compensated guides with a little bit of funds for Covid relief but it had a hardship on the guides seasonal activities.

CNO and HTO will give a “Enhanced Tourist Training Course” for Guide Level II, April 5-9, 2021. We want to support our guides and give back some income they lost in 2020. We will have 3 senior guides assist with the training. The course was successful.

CNO has filled sports hunts for winter/spring and fall of 2022. Nine of our guides were successful with filling the muskox sports hunts.

Guides did our first Grizzly Bear sports hunts:

April 25-May 5th, hunter was successful in the Grizzly bear sports hunt.

April 25-May 11th, To be announced
May 7-20th, to be announced

We are planning a snow geese sports hunt in June to help with the over population and hopefully help the regrowth of the vegetation.

Ocean Protection Pilot Project: Victoria Island Waterways Safety Committee (VIWSC)

EHTO has been selected by Transport Canada (TC) to coordinate and report on the “Cumulative Effects of Marine Shipping, Proactive Vessel Management and Maritime Awareness Information System under the Oceans Protection Plan (OPP).

The VIWSC has set up a “Notice to Mariners” (see attached)

- Navigate in the Kitikmeot Region: Dolphin and Union herd migrates from Victoria Island and the Mainland. The open ice created by vessels jeopardized the migration of the caribou and in the fall and spring the people crossing between the mainland and island.
- Voluntary Avoidance: slowdown to minimum speed from December 1 to June 30th, (red area)

- Reporting: Notice is required prior to transiting the Northwest Passage between October 15th to June 30th.

Small Vessel Operators Proficiency (SVOP) Training, May - June 2021 with Chad McCallum, Roland Emingak, David Klengenberg, Kyle Weese.

EHTO deployed a shallow water hydrophone to collect noise data from ships passing and hopefully hear seals and whales. The data is being extracted now. Trail cameras were set to take pictures of passing ships and to look at how ships wakes increase erosion.

8 VHF radios have been installed on community members boat and we have plans to order more for our membership.

EHTO did a presentation for NWMB in September on the work we have been doing with Transport Canada – Ocean Protection Pilot Project.

SmartIce

Monitors are measuring the ice thickness for SmartIce. We had little activities with SmartIce equipment because of some equipment failure. The last good reading was in November 2020.

Trailmark:

EHTO will continue to work with Trailmark and Trailmark will give more training for coordinators and local membership.

EHTO continues to take Covid-19 precaution to protect our staff and membership.

Thank you,