

March 31, 2009

## **DISTRIBUTION LIST**

Re: Protecting the Land, Water and Wildlife of Nunavut

We need your help...

The Nunavut Planning Commission is established under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement to prepare a land use plan for Nunavut. The Plan will have rules that can protect the land, water, wildlife and hunting areas important to Inuit. We need you to show us the important areas on maps. Some of you provided this information during our phone survey in 2007, however there is still information missing.

Government has shown us the areas they think are important for wildlife. This information is contained in the attached Wildlife Report. Now we need you to show us the areas that you believe are important for the survival of wildlife. We also need you to show us the important places for hunting, fishing and camping.

Once we have this information we can develop rules to help protect those areas from development. The places where development is occurring in Nunavut today are shown in the attached Socio-demographic and Economic Sector Analysis Report.

We have taken all the information in the two reports and created a series of maps to help you see what is happening in Nunavut. There are some problems with the Inuktitut translations on our maps. We apologize for this and we will have those fixed shortly. Our website at <a href="mailto:nunavut.ca">nunavut.ca</a> will allow you to create your own maps for the area around your community.

1

We know that all of Nunavut is important to wildlife and Inuit. We also know that jobs are important too, and not all places can be protected.

You can help by showing us areas that you believe are the most important, such as areas that:

- wildlife would not be able to survive without, nor be able to find an alternate area where they can survive, e.g. calving grounds, nesting areas, polynyas, denning areas, migration routes etc.;
- · support concentrations of wildlife at different times of year;
- are important to the community for hunting, fishing, camping and where much of the harvest comes from, and
- are important travel routes for Inuit on sea ice

## Every Story Needs to be Told

We would like to send maps to you so that your organization can mark off the important areas. You will also need to briefly tell us why the area is important. (e.g. the area is a calving ground, nesting area, caribou or walrus hunting area, important to the hunters of the community.) We will then take your hand drawn maps and provide you with a final map for display in your office. If you already have this information on maps, we would like to work with you to use the information to help protect the important places in Nunavut.

If you have questions about the enclosed reports or want to work with us to protect the places important to wildlife and Inuit please contact Brian Aglukark, Director Regional Planning at 1-867-857-2242 or <a href="mailto:Aglukark@nunavut.ca">Aglukark@nunavut.ca</a>.

Help us, help you protect the important land, water, wildlife and hunting areas of Nunavut.

Respectfully,

for hour

Ron Roach, Chair Nunavut Planning Commission