



Andrew Nakashuk
A/Chair, Nunavut Planning Commission

September 24, 2015

RE: Arivat HTO Submission for Nunavut Land Use Plan

Mr. Nakashuk,

Please accept the Arviat Hunters and Trappers Organizations' (HTO) submission for the Nunavut Land Use Plan. The Arviat HTO consulted with our community through a series of radio call-in shows and drop in hours at our office, to help us prepare our submission.

The Arviat HTO would like protection for caribou habitat in a new land use plan. We would especially like mining and exploration activity banned in and near caribou calving grounds and important caribou water crossings. The HTO would also like ice-breaking shipping banned near our community. We would also like the NPC to conduct further mapping and planning workshops in our community in the future. We need better protection for our essential hunting areas, wildlife areas, and heritage areas.

The Arviat HTO is also very concerned about the federal government's proposal to "grandfather" the rights of mining companies under a new land use plan. Our HTO has been working very hard to create a proposal to protect our most important lands under a new land use plan. If all existing rights are grandfathered, all of this work will have been for nothing.

It is very important that a land use plan provides proper protection for hunters in Arviat. Hunting wildlife, especially caribou, is very important to our community's well-being. Caribou is the mainstay of our diet.

Thank you very much for considering our proposal.

Alex Ishalook
Chair
Arviat Hunters and Trappers Organization

