



June 22, 2010

Cynthia Wright
A/Assistant Deputy Minister
Environmental Stewardship Branch
Environment Canada
Gatineau, QC K1A 0H3

Via e-mail: Cynthia.Wright@ec.gc.ca

Dear Ms. Wright

Re: Information on Key Migratory Bird Habitat

Thank you for your letter dated June 17, 2010 regarding the Environment Canada (EC) submission related to ranking of key migratory bird habitat in the Nunavut Settlement Area (NSA)

Unfortunately given the timing of the submission we were unable to incorporate the information into the Working Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (NLUP) and Implementation Strategy. The NLUP is being distributed Tuesday June 22, 2010.

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) recognizes the challenge associated with compiling your submission. I want to acknowledge the commitment of your staff in support of the formulation of the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. I would like to recognize and commend the EC staff in Yellowknife, Iqaluit and Ottawa, they have provided great leadership throughout this process.

As background the purpose of the working draft NLUP is to provide an opportunity for our many planning partners to see how the NPC is working to support land and resource management initiatives in the NSA. We have included your submission as information to accompany the working draft NLUP to inform our planning partners.

It is acknowledged that EC continues to work on the terms and conditions to be considered under the special management areas. The NPC will also require additional details on what is envisioned under the areas identified as "limited access." Specifically, what land use activities does EC see as having access restricted and when?

Today, June 22, 2010 we are distributing the Working Draft version of the Nunavut Land Use Plan and Implementation Strategy. Our deadline for receiving feedback is August 27, 2010 and our Policy Department is available to assist you during that time.

I will have Mr. Adrian Boyd, NPC Director, Policy provide your staff with information on management options that may be useful in managing land use in areas of key migratory habitat.

In addition I would like to draw your attention to some preliminary discussions that have been held at workshops and meetings over the past months. In particular a number of planning partners have indicated that Inuit Owned Lands (IOL) are of primary importance to the existing and future well-being of Inuit. At present Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated has advised NPC that:

INSERT:

Management and administration of Inuit Owned Lands is a responsibility shared by NTI and the Regional Inuit Associations. From NTI's perspective, Inuit goals and objectives for Inuit Owned Lands are for the most part stated in Article 17 of the NLCA, NTI's Bylaws and approved land and resource related policies. The Claim and NTI's Bylaws, and approved policies including the Rules and Procedures for the Management of Inuit Owned Lands state the primary purpose, characteristics, guiding principles, goals and objectives, policy statements, and procedures concerning Inuit Owned Lands. If you would like a copy of these documents, please let us know.

It may be useful to discuss with the Regional Inuit Association or Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated any areas of IOL that may be identified for uses other than the management of key migratory bird habitat.

If you have any questions or if the NPC may be of assistance please do not hesitate to contact me or our Policy Department staff at 1-867-983-4625.

Respectfully,



Sharon Ehloak,
Executive Director
Nunavut Planning Commission

Cc: Mr. Adrian Boyd, Director of Policy, NPC