



Athabasca Denesuline Negotiation Team

20 October 2014

Nunavut Planning Commission
Attn: Percy Kabloona
Box 2101
Cambridge Bay, Nunavut X0B 0C0

Mr. Kabloona,

The Athabasca Denesuline (AD) have recently reviewed the revised Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan and have some concerns with the revisions made by the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC). Our specific concerns are noted below:

1. The AD hope to address the NPC during the Public Hearing, to further explain our positions and interests. Please update us as to when this Hearing is to take place.
2. The AD congratulate the NPC on protecting some of the area of the calving grounds. As the NPC is aware, the AD are very concerned about the health and well-being of caribou populations that migrate into our territory and support our communities. However, by opening up high mineral potential areas within calving grounds to development, you are not protecting the interests of communities that depend on caribou populations for culture, health and sustenance. As the NPC has heard time and time again from our communities, a mine project and a calving ground cannot co-exist no matter what mitigation measures are in place. We are disappointed in the position that the NPC has taken and urge you to protect, at a minimum, all of the calving grounds.
3. The NPC have applied the Protected Area designation to lands that have been currently withdrawn during the Benoanie litigation/negotiation process. Although we appreciate the attempt to protect these areas, the NPC may have misunderstood what the interim land withdrawal is there to achieve. These

Email: rrobillard@adnlc.ca or tgiroux@adnlc.ca

Chief Joseph Custer Reserve # 201

Mailing address: Box 23126 South Hill PO, Prince Albert, Sask. S6V 8A7

Phone: (306) 765-2560 Fax: (306) 763-2973

areas have been identified by the AD and Canada for a variety of interests, some which are incompatible with a Protected Area designation. The NPC did not discuss this designation with the AD prior to preparing the revised draft NLUP and this designation must be removed from these areas. We cannot stress enough that this designation of our withdrawn lands as protected areas has far reaching consequences in settling the Benoanie litigation. It is in all parties' interest to immediately remove this designation from the withdrawal lands.

If you require further information or have any questions, I can be contacted at the email and address below, or via my cell at (306) 961-2117. We look forward to your action on these items, including a prompt removal of the protected areas designation on our withdrawn lands.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ron Robillard', with a stylized, cursive script.

Ron Robillard
Chief Negotiator

Cc

Athabasca Denesuline Chiefs

Sharon Ehaloak, NPC Executive Director

Fax: (867) 983-4626

Adrian Boyd, NPC Director of Policy

Fax: (867) 873-2614

Andrew Walker, Senior Negotiator AANDC

David Knoll, AD Legal Counsel