

From: [Mike Ferguson](#)
To: [Jonathan Savoy](#)
Subject: Request for Participant Status
Date: February 23, 2016 4:33:39 PM

Dear Mr. Savoy:

I am writing to request Participant status for the Nunavut Land Use Planning Commission's Caribou Workshop during March 7 – 9, 2016, Iqaluit NU.

I just became aware of your notice issued on February 20, 2016. I apologize for submitting my request after the February 22 deadline. I trust you will give it due consideration.

Below is the information requested for Participant status:

- Dr. Michael A.D. Ferguson, Independent Environmental Researcher and Consultant
 - Address: 354 Lark Street, Thunder Bay, ON P7B 1P5; Phone: 1-506-461-4169; Email: tununiq1@yahoo.ca
 - Most reliable and efficient address for service of documents: e-mail.

- No representative.

- Language: English

- Summary of the reasons, including useful information, knowledge or views:

From 1981 to 2005, I was a wildlife biologist employed with the Government of the NWT and Nunavut, living in Iqaluit (1981-88) and Pond Inlet (1988-2005).

With the assistance and support of many Inuit, local Hunters and Trappers Organizations, and the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board and its predecessor, I collected Inuit qaujimajatuqangit (IQ) and scientific information about Baffin Island caribou. Based on IQ, we described changes in the distribution and abundance of South Baffin caribou from 1910 to 1993.

In the 1990s, Inuit elders had predicted the current scarcity of caribou that is currently being experienced. In the IQ study, elders identified very important 'natural refuges' where caribou survive in low numbers until vegetation on other lands on Baffin Island can recover from past heavy grazing, a process that takes 20-40 years. It is critical that these 'refuges' be protected from development in the coming decades, so that the population may recover, a cycle that occurs over the life time of an elder as according to IQ.

I conducted many scientific studies while working and living on Baffin Island. All of the scientific results supported the predictions and concepts that Inuit elders had within IQ. There is a firm basis for using IQ for habitat and other management of Baffin Island caribou, and by extension other populations of caribou. This seems relevant to the NLUPC mandate.

- Nature and scope of your intended participation:

I would present the above types of information at the Caribou Workshop in Iqaluit orally, and be available to answer questions and explanations. I would also support my

presentation with a written summary.

- Note: I am available to attend the workshop, but I do not have funding for travel costs.

I would like to participate, and would appreciate it you would approve my request.

Sincerely,

Mike

Michael A. D. Ferguson (aka Tuktuliriji)