

April 31, 2009

DISTRIBUTION LIST

Re: Managing the Land, Water and Wildlife of Nunavut

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 may provide special management to the land, water, wildlife and hunting areas in your areas of interest. We need you to show us the important areas on maps.

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 manage land use in those areas. 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 nunavut.ca will allow you to create your own maps for the area around your community.

We know that the areas of interest to your organization are all important for wildlife and hunting. We also know that jobs are important too, and not all places can receive special management.

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 your community for hunting, fishing, camping as much of the harvest comes from those areas.

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 whale 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 receive the information so that the Commission can take into account your interest regarding the areas that you have traditionally used and continue to use.

We would like to receive this information by the end of June, 2009 so that it may be included in the next phase of the plan development process.

If you have questions about the enclosed reports or want to work with us to identify areas you believe are important to wildlife and for harvesting activities please contact Brian Aglukark, Director Regional Planning at 1-867-857-2242 or Aglukark@nunavut.ca.

Respectfully,

Ron Roach, Chair

Nunavut Planning Commission