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Athabasca Denesuliné Negotiation Team

November 2, 2009

Jonathan Savoy
Policy Analyst
Nunavut Planning Commission
Box 2101, Cambridge Bay, NU
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jsavoy@nunavut.ca

Dear Mr. Savoy,

The Athabasca Denesuline have reviewed and discussed the Nunavut Planning Commission's (NPC) request for information related to the preparation of a land use plan for Nunavut. In response, please find attached a poster map showing Athabasca Denesuline land use in Nunavut. This map represents the best available information at this time and should be viewed as incomplete and subject to future revisions. We have also attached a GIS shape-file of this same information, but aggregated and buffered to maintain confidentiality. You can find additional information about our land uses in Nunavut on our website: www.pagc.sk.ca/alup/. In particular, the report "Athabasca Denesuline Territory: 2,600 Years of History" by Dr. Doug Elias is available on the website and documents our land use in Nunavut.

We understand that the NPC is guided by the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement (NLCA) as they prepare a Nunavut Land Use Plan (NLUP). Notwithstanding Article 40 of the NLCA, the provisions of the NLCA do not adequately recognize the rights and interests of the Athabasca Denesuline. This inadequacy was one of the key factors which precipitated the Benoanie litigation.

This leads us to a number of concerns the NPC needs to address including:

- How will the NLUP process reflect our asserted rights as per the Benoanie Statement of Claim?
- How will the NLUP process reflect the progress made over the last 10 years of negotiations with Canada, GN, NTI and KIA and the outcome of our on-going negotiations?
- How will the NLUP ensure that the AD is adequately funded to meaning fully participate in the planning process? Unlike Governments or Inuit organizations, our participation to date has been funded through borrowed negotiations funding.
- How will the NLUP address caribou protection issues given the importance of this species the Athabasca Denesuline.

c/o Prince Albert Grand Council

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We look forward to discussing our land uses, goals and issues with you. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,
Athabasca Denesuline

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Robillard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ron" being more prominent than the last name "Robillard".

Ron Robillard
Chief Negotiator

c.c. Adrian Boyd, Director, Policy, NPC Email: aboyd@nunavut.ca
Sharon Ehaloak, Executive Director, NPC Email: sehaloak@nunavut.ca