



ᓄᓇᓂᓂᓂᓂ ᐸᓇᓂᓂᓂᓂ  
Nunavunmi Parnaiyiit  
Nunavut Planning Commission  
Commission d'Aménagement du Nunavut

# **Nunavut Planning Commission**

## **2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan Public Hearing Transcript North Baffin Region**



**October 24 to 27, 2022  
Community Hall  
Pond Inlet, Nunavut**

## Participants

Community Delegates & Mittimatalik Hosts	
Joshua Arreak	Mayor of Mittimatalik
David Stockley	SAO
Jayko Alloofoo	Elder Pond Inlet
Caleb Sangoya	Elder Pond Inlet
Adrian Arnauyumayooq	Arctic Bay
Sakiasee Qaunaq	Arctic Bay
Susanna Barnabas	Arctic Bay
Olayuk Naqitarvik	Arctic Bay
Joavee Etuangal	Clyde River
Limeekie Palluq	Clyde River
Nysana Qillaq	Clyde River
Jaysie Tigullaraq	Clyde River
Larry Audlauk	Grise Fjord
Jimmy Qaapik	Grise Fjord
Marty Kuluguqtuk	Grise Fjord
Lisa Ningiuk	Grise Fjord
Moses Koonark	Pond Inlet
Charlie Inuarak	Pond Inlet
David Qamaniq	Pond Inlet
Elijah Panipakoochoo	Pond Inlet
Namen Inuarak	Pond Inlet
Joshua Idlout	Pond inlet
Mark Aamarualik	Resolute Bay
Kantisse Idlout	Resolute Bay
Phillip Manik Sr.	Resolute Bay
Jazlin Salluvig	Resolute Bay

## Nunavut Planning Commission

NPC: Nunavut Planning Commission – Commissioners & Staff	
Andrew Nakashuk	Chairperson
Shawn Lester	Vice Chair
Joshua Arreak	Commissioner
Patricia Enuapik	Commissioner
Dorothy Gibbons	Commissioner
Abraham Keenainak	Commissioner
Simon Mikkungwak	Commissioner
Darrell Ohokannoak	Commissioner - <i>Regrets</i>
Sharon Ehloak	Executive Director
Nowdlak Kelly	Executive Assistant to Directors & Managers
Jonathan Ehloak	Assistant Executive Director & Manager of IT
Brian Aglukark	Director of Community Engagement & Translations
Jonathan Savoy	Director of Policy & Planning
Goump Djalogue	Manager of Planning and Implementation
Solomon Amuno	Senior Planner
Adrian Gerhartz	Planner, GIS Technician
Annie Ollie	Interpreter-Translator & Regional Planner
Tommy Owljoot	Interpreter-Translator
Maxence Jaillet	Interpreter-Translator
Rhoda Katsak	Interpreter-Translator
Morgan	Interpreter-Translator
Alan Blair	Legal Counsel
David Livingstone	External Advisor
Beth Gorham	Communications & Media Advisor
Willi Puerstl	Videographer, Director of Skyline Productions
Chris Hellig	Audio Technician
Agnowyak Kilukishak	Mittimatalik Support Staff
Scott Kilukishak	Mittimatalik Support Staff
Jedidah Merkosak	Mittimatalik Support Staff
Mark Pewatualuk	Mittimatalik Support Staff

## Signatory Parties

Government of Canada	
Terry Audla	Regional Director General, CIRNAC
Kim Pawley	Manger, CIRNAC
Spencer Dewar	Director of Resource Management, CIRNAC
Jeff Hart	Manager of Land Use Planning, CIRNAC
Janice Traynor	Policy Coordinator Sustainable Development, CIRNAC
Michelle-Claire Roy	Environmental Policy Analyst, CIRNAC
Anita Gudmundson	Regional Manager Env Services, Transport Canada
Scott Kidd	Transport Canada
Simon Gruda-Dolbec	Justice Canada

Government of Nunavut	
Henry Coman	Assistant Deputy Minister for Dept. of Environment
Daniel Haney	Manager of Land Use & Environment
Diane Lapierre	Manager of Environmental Assessment & Regulation
Michele LeBlanc-Havard	Director of Environment
John Ringrose	Wildlife Biologist, Department of Environment
Eamonn Carroll	Legal Counsel

Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated	
Aluki Kotierk	President
David Ningeongan	Executive Director
Paul Irrngaut	Director of Wildlife and Environment
Hannah Uniuqsaraq	Director of Self Determination
Naida Gonzalez	Consultant
Marie Belleau	Legal Counsel

## Registered Participants

Qikiqtani Inuit Association	
Levi Barnabas	Secretary-Treasurer & Vice President
Solomon Awa	Director of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and Engagement
Richard Paton	Senior Director of Projects

Baffinland	
Megan Lord-Hoyle	Vice President of Sustainable Development
Lou Kamermans	Senior Director of Sustainable Development
Mike Settingington	Wildlife Biologist, Environmental Dynamics Inc.

World Wildlife Fund Canada	
Paul Okalik	Lead Specialist, Arctic
Jason Harasimo	Arctic Species Conservation Fund, Iqaluit

Nunavut Water Board	
Assol Kubeisinova	Technical Advisor
Jesse O'Brien	Consultant

Nunavut Marine Counsel	
Assol Kubeisinova	Representative of NMC

Friends of Land Use Planning	
Paul Crowley	Representative of Friends of Land Use Planning, Iqaluit

**\*Other attendees at the meeting are not included above, only those presenting or at the panel of presenters. A more fulsome list of all attendees can be obtained upon request.**

## Table of Contents

Topic	Page
Introductions & Opening Remarks	8
Overview of the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan:	15
Chapter 1: Land Use Designations	19
Chapter 2: Protecting and Sustaining the Environment	22
Key Migratory Bird Habitats	22
Caribou Habitat	23
Polar Bear Denning Areas	25
Walrus Haul-outs	25
Whale Calving, Cod Lakes, Polynyas & Marine Areas of Importance	26
Transboundary Considerations	27
Climate Change	27
Chapter 3: Encouraging Conservation Planning	27
Parks Awaiting Full Establishment & Proposed Parks	28
Proposed National Marine Conservation Areas	29
National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries	29
National Historic Sites & Historic Sites	30
Canadian Heritage Rivers	30
Marine Protected Areas	30
Chapter 4: Building Healthier Communities	31
Community Areas of Interest	31
On-Ice Travel Routes	31
Regional Community Areas of Interest	32
Community Identified Priority Areas & Use and Occupancy Maps	33
Transboundary Considerations	33
Areas of Equal Use & Occupancy and Unincorporated Communities	34
Community Drinking Water Supplies	34
Priority Contaminated Sites	35
Military Facilities	35
Alternative Energy Sources & Aerodrones	35
Chapter 5: Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development	36
Mineral Potential & Oil and Gas Potential	36
Terrestrial Transportation & Communication	37
Marine Shipping	37
Commercial Fishing Areas	37
Chapter 6: Implementation Strategy	38
Existing Mineral Rights	39
Minor Variances, Plan Amendments & Periodic Review of the Plan	40
Other Mapping Considerations & Inuit Owned Lands	41
Questions and Answers Regarding Overview of the 2021 Draft Land Use Plan	43-63

<b>Presentations</b>	<b>Page</b>
Presentation by the Hamlet and HTO of Grise Fjord	64
Presentation by the Hamlet and HTO of Resolute Bay	73
Presentation by the Hamlet and HTO of Arctic Bay	82
Presentation by the Hamlet of Pond Inlet	93
Presentation by the HTO of Pond Inlet	102
Presentation by the Hamlet and HTO of Clyde River	113
Presentation by the Hamlet and HTO of Whale Cove	112
Presentation by Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated	122
Presentation by Qikiqtani Inuit Association	149
Presentation by the Government of Canada	171
Presentation by the Government of Nunavut	217
Presentation by Baffinland	234
Continuation of Questions and Answers by the Government of Nunavut	245
Presentation by the Nunavut Water Board	254
Presentation by the Nunavut Marine Council	262
Presentation by World Wildlife Fund	269
Closing Comments	273

## DAY 1: OCTOBER 24, 2022

### INTRODUCTIONS & OPENING REMARKS

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Sorry for the delay. There were some adjustments to be made. We will proceed now, but before we proceed, for those of you who are using receivers, Inuktitut will be Channel 4, English is Channel 7, and French Channel is 2. If you have a problem hearing, there is a knob at the back. Open it and find your channel at the top. Open the battery compartment, and you will find your channel. Thank you. We will proceed. I am Andrew Nakashuk. The program in progress, we will follow our procedure. Moses Koonark will open the proceedings with a prayer whenever you are ready.

Moses: *(Moses provided the Opening Prayer)*

Chairperson: Qujannamiik, Moses. Qujannamiik. Joshua Arreak, Mayor of Mittimatalik will have a speech.

Mayor Arreak: *(Translated)*: Thank you. Welcome all communities, people from Grise Fjord, Resolute, Arctic Bay, Clyde River, our community. Welcome and welcome to the Nunavut Planning Commission, Commissioners, and registered guests, federal government, Government of Nunavut, other organizations, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. All the registered guests, welcome. The hamlets and HTO representatives, welcome to this proceeding here in Pond Inlet. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Joshua. I would like to say thank you to the community for welcoming us. This is the fourth proceeding, fourth community that we have been to. Our last community will be the City of Iqaluit. Sharon will be giving you details.

Sharon: Good morning, everyone, and welcome to our public hearing. We are grateful that everyone made it in safely. I am going to go through first some housekeeping items about the meeting. Our meetings will start at 9:00 a.m. and finish at 4:30 p.m. If we need to do an evening session, it will be from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

We are going to change our lunch hour a little bit for the meals. We are going to break at 11:45 and come back at 1:15, allowing everyone to get to where they need to go for their meals. For the community delegates, if you want to have your meals at the hotel, you simply need to tell them. We have arranged for you for that, or you can be at your billet. It is your discretion.

If you can, please mute your phone so that it does not ring while we are in our proceedings. Our proceedings are being recorded and being broadcast live by Isuma TV, and we are very grateful for Isuma and Uvagut to support our public hearing process. It is being broadcast on YouTube as well as Facebook. So, when you are speaking, please say your name, where you are from, and who you are representing. Speak slowly as we are translating in Inuktitut, French, and English.



We will be taking two 15-minute health breaks, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. It will be between 10:15 and 10:30, and 2:15 to 2:30. We will try to stay as close as we can to those breaks, pending the presentations.

Please don't forget to scan as you come in, in the morning, afternoon, and evening if we are having an evening session. It is very important that we know who is attending and that we are keeping an accurate record. For the community members around the table that did not come last night at 7:00, if you can see Brian on our first break. Brian says each of you know who you are.

As participants, representatives, or groups, we ask you that you be respectful. The Commission is here to listen without bias to everyone. We want to hear from everyone what your thoughts and your views are, and we ask you to please be respectful to each other. We know that everyone has varying degrees of views, and the Commissioners are here to listen.

When you speak, please speak into the microphone, again. I do have signs, which we have had to use. If you are speaking too fast for the interpreters, they will tell us, or we will tell you to go closer to the mic or speak up. So, we will do that. Please be respectful for the interpreters. We would not be able to do our business without them. It is very important.

We will be sticking to the agenda, and each speaker will be recognized through the Chair, Chairperson Nakashuk. We have coffee, snacks, water, tea. Please help yourself throughout the week. The fire exits: There is one over here, one at the front, and one there. Washrooms are out through these doors in the hallway.

We do have face masks. They are optional. If you are comfortable and you want to wear one, please feel free to do so, but it is not mandatory. If you are not feeling well, we ask you to identify that and please do not attend the sessions. We don't want anyone else getting sick if you are not feeling good.

For the community delegates, if you have any issues or problems, please see one of our staff, and we will assist you to rectify whatever the issue is if you are having problems with your billet or whatever. We will get things figured out for you. I am going to turn it back over to the Chair for the introductions of Commissioners. Thank you

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Sharon. Commissioners, I will have them introduce themselves.

Simon M: *(Translated)*: Simon Mikkungwak, Baker Lake. Commissioner, Nunavut Planning Commission. Qujannamiik.

Dorothy G: *(Translated)*: Good morning. Dorothy Gibbons, Nunavut Planning Commission, Arviat but living in Rankin at the moment. Mat'na.

Shawn: Shawn Lester, Vice Chair, Nunavut Planning Commission.

Abraham: *(Translated)*: Abraham Keenainak, Commissioner to NPC.

Patricia: *(Translated)*: Good morning. Patricia Enuapik, Whale Cove. Commissioner to NPC.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. I am Andrew Nakashuk. I am the Chair of the Nunavut Planning Commission, and Sharon will introduce the staff. Sharon?

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Again, I am Sharon Ehaloak, the Executive Director for the Commission. I'll be introducing our staff. I will be asking each community, when I call your community to identify yourself and the organization, so we know all who is here.

First of all, Brian Aglukark on our staff: Brian is our Director of Community Engagement and Translations.

Jon Savoy: Jon is our Director of Policy and Planning, and I forgot to say Brian runs our Arviat office, and Jon Savoy runs our Cambridge Bay office.

Goump Djalogue from our Iqaluit office: He is our Manager of Planning and Implementation.

Solomon Amuno, our Senior Planner based in our Cambridge Bay office.

Adrian Gerhartz: Adrian is in our Iqaluit office, and he is a Planner, GIS Technician.

Tommy Owlijoot: Tommy is our Translator and Mapper based in our Arviat office.

Annie Ollie: Her hand is waving. Annie is our Interpreter-Translator and Mapper as well, based in our Arviat office.

Maxcence is our French translator down at the end there.

Rhoda Katsak is our local translator.

Nowdlak Kelly. Where's Nowd? Nowd is our Executive Assistant, Office Administrator, and she runs all three of our offices for us.

Alan Blair, our legal counsel.

David Livingstone, our External Advisor.

Jazz Adkins is our stenographer.

Our local team at the back supporting us: Jedidah Merkosak, Agnowyak Kilukishak, Scott Kilukishak, and Mark Pewatualuk. I hope I said it right. Also, if you need anything, they are here to assist us, and they will be working with us. We are very grateful that we have them on board for this week.

For the communities...Oh, sorry, I forgot our extraordinary audio. Apologies, Chris, Willi, and Beth.

For the communities, if you could stand so we know who you are:

- Hamlet of Arctic Bay
- Hamlet of Resolute Bay
- Hamlet of Grise Fjord
- Hamlet of Pond Inlet
- Hamlet of Clyde River
- The Government of Canada
- The Government of Nunavut
- Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
- Qikiqtani Inuit Association
- Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board
- Ajuittuq Hunters and Trappers Organization
- Resolute Bay Hunters and Trappers Organization
- Arctic Bay Hunters and Trappers Organization
- The Clyde River Hunters and Trappers Organization
- Nunavut Water Board
- Baffinland, they may not be here yet. I don't see anybody.
- Pond Inlet Hunters and Trappers Organization
- World Wildlife Fund
- Friends of Land Use Planning
- The NWT and Nunavut Chamber of Mines

Did I miss anyone that is a registered participant? Oh, Nunavut Marine Council, thank you. With that, I am going to turn it back to our Chair. Thank you very much.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Sharon. Before we proceed on this public hearing, I just want to say a few words. I am just going to read. Before we proceed, we have a short presentation for you. It is a video that we have produced in the past.

*(NPC Video shown introducing the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan)*  
<https://youtu.be/8bFYz5g0bpY>

Qujannamiik. I am going to read a script in English for your information:

First, I want to touch on the larger context and relevance of land use planning in Nunavut. Land use planning is about understanding the integrated environmental, economic, and social-cultural context within which a plan is to be developed, the possible alternatives for land uses, and the selection of the best option in the circumstances given the best information we have at the time.

Across the North and across Canada, land use planning processes have experienced many different challenges. Those challenges are often due to diverse interests and the range of their environmental, economic and social conditions. Our experience in Nunavut can be even more challenging than other planning processes because of the size of Nunavut, the varied interests, often from region to region, as well as within regions.

We often have different views on the overall vision for land use planning in Nunavut and the scope and content of a first-generation plan, as well as disagreements over the necessary resources for planning and how hearings should be conducted.

We must also address the unprecedented size of our planning area which further increases the number and complexity of the issues. No other jurisdiction in the world has attempted this at such a scale.

Regardless of the challenges identified, land use planning is essential. It matters to Nunavummiut, to our communities, to governments, various organizations, and industry. It matters to the land and all those that rely on the land, all living things. It matters to all of us collectively as we seek to protect the environment and develop resources responsibly and sustainably in the short term and for future generations.

Article 11 of the *Nunavut Agreement* sets out the principles that guide land use planning in Nunavut, and I will quote some key sections:

- The primary purpose of land use planning in the Nunavut Settlement Area shall be to protect and promote the existing and future well-being of those persons ordinarily residents and communities of the Nunavut Settlement Area, taking into account the interests of all Canadian. Special attention shall be devoted to protecting and promoting the existing and future wellbeing of Inuit and Inuit Owned Lands.
- The planning process shall ensure land use plans reflect the priorities and values of the residents of the planning regions.
- The objective of the planning process shall be to prepare land use plans which guide and direct resource use and development in the Nunavut Settlement Area.

Land use planning is much more than drawing lines on a map. It is about setting and achieving goals, identifying, and living within limits of acceptable economic, environmental and social change. We must ensure the future is more than the result of a series of decisions about individual projects and activities. This Plan – your Plan - provides an opportunity through the inclusive process to meaningfully address and have essential conversations about difficult things.

There are several reasons why a supported and approved Nunavut Land Use Plan matters:

- It will support decision making with respect to environmental stewardship, sustainable resource and economic opportunities, and social benefit.
- It will serve as a filter and an entry point into the Nunavut regulatory system, and by doing so avoid single project-by-project reviews in the absence of a regional context.
- It will provide a structure and process to identify what is important, and confirm why it's important, in a larger sense, not just on a single proposed project.

- It will set out a framework for public and private investment, resource and environmental management, and progress as Nunavummiut define it.

Planning needs to be understood as a continual process that has to be monitored and reconsidered over time as circumstances, needs, and opportunities change and when new information becomes available.

There is no magic formula for creating a land use plan. It is always a question of achieving an acceptable balance among differing views, values, and visions. Understanding and knowing comes in different forms. Both Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and western science acknowledge the importance of experience, wise judgement, and intuition.

Compromise by all parties is essential. No one party will get everything it wants but all parties should achieve enough to be satisfied with the outcome. The planning process is both a challenge and an opportunity. We are challenged to see and understand the different views, values, and priorities from all perspectives.

This gives us the opportunity to see things through others' perspectives; build a bridge and reach a consensus; find some balance; and adapt and improve the plan over time as circumstances and new information become available.

The Nunavut Planning Commission's decision-making framework presented in the 2021 Draft Plan and the *Options and Recommendations* document, is disciplined and transparent. The process is framed by considering options and trade-offs. Final decision-making relies on a combination of information, values, experience, and professional judgment.

The Nunavut Land Use Plan will be a living document. The 2021 Draft Plan incorporates ongoing monitoring and periodic reviews and amendments of the Plan, a continued commitment to achieve and maintain balance.

The Plan will be adapted to meet changing circumstances and events including:

- Community population changes,
- Wildlife population and habitat changes,
- Mineral and hydrocarbon demand and supply, and
- Impacts of climate change on the land and its use.

We Commissioners are committed to making all efforts to ensure that balanced decision-making remains at the core of our discussions. We will continue to rely on the best available information – Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and western science - for the analysis of facts and consideration of values.

The last 15 years of Plan development have consumed resources and placed demands on communities, regional organizations, and other planning partners. Now is the time for our collective efforts to come together and complete the Nunavut Land Use Plan. It is time for us to see issues from each other's perspectives to understand and commit to the compromises necessary. Working together, we will finalize a plan for Nunavut that reflects the priorities, values, and vision of Nunavummiut and our communities.

(Translated): Qujannamiik for listening to this speech. Sharon will have further details as we progress. Sharon?

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Before we go for a break, I am just going to review the agenda for the week. For the remainder of today, we have a presentation of the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan and maps. Combined with the presentation is the Commission staff responses to pre-submitted questions. Jonathan will be answering those throughout the presentation, some of the key question. Then after that, there will be an opportunity for questions to the Commission's presentation.

Tomorrow for Tuesday, which is Day 2, we will have the opening remarks by the Chair and any housekeeping issues. Then we will start with the registered participant presentations. I just want to note before I go through the agenda presentations that participants, with the exception of Government of Canada, Government of Nunavut, and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, all presentations are limited to 30 minutes with 20 minutes allotted for questions and responses. The signatory parties will have 60 minutes for their presentations and 30 minutes for the responses.

Now in saying that, the Commission fully respects oral questions and not just written questions, so we have allotted, if necessary to ensure that everyone's questions and comments are incorporated, the evening sessions to allow time to make sure that we hear from everyone.

Our first presenters will be the Hamlet of Grise Fjord and the HTO, each having their 30 minutes and then 20 minutes each for the questions. Next will be the Hamlet and HTO for Resolute Bay. Then the Hamlet and HTO of Arctic Bay; the Hamlet and HTO for Pond Inlet; the Hamlet and HTO for Clyde River. There will be an opportunity for questions by registered participants and then if there are any members of the public that want to ask questions. For the communities and the HTOs, you can present together and combine your time, or you can present individually. That is up to you. So, collectively, you each have 30 minutes. You have an hour: 30 minutes for the HTO, 30 minutes for the community. Then we will have the closing of Day 2.

For Wednesday, Day 3, again there is the opening remarks by Chairperson Nakashuk and any housekeeping items. Then the presentations from registered participants continue. First presenting will be Nunavut Tunngavik and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, and following that, the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board. The Government of Canada and their various departments will all present all together, and The Government of Nunavut. Again, each of the presentations will allow for questions and answers by registered participants. So, you are allowed to question the presentations, and if there are any members of the public. That will close for Day 3.

For Day 4, Thursday, opening remarks again by Chairperson Nakashuk and any housekeeping items. Oral comments, presentations, or feedback from registered participants continues. The first presenter will be the Water Board followed by the Marine Council, the World Wildlife Fund, then Baffinland. Again, each will follow with a question-and-answer period from registered participants and members of the public, if there are any.

The final closing statements by all parties are three minutes. So, each of the communities, the HTOs, and the registered participants with the exception of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, the Government of Canada, and Government of Nunavut, will all have a three-minute limit for closing.

NTI, Government of Canada, and Government of Nunavut will have a 15-minute period for closing remarks. Then we will be doing a closing prayer and closing the proceedings. That is the overview of the week for how we plan to proceed. Again, if anyone has any needs or questions, please feel free to see us. Mr. Chair, back to you. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Sharon. I think we will take a short break right now. For those of you who need details from Brian and who have arrived late last night, go see him please. We have 15 minutes for a break.

## BREAK

### **Overview of the 2021 Nunavut Land Use Plan Jonathan Savoy, NPC Director of Policy & Planning**

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. You may proceed, Jonathan.

Jonathan: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. As Sharon indicated earlier before the break, I will be taking us all through an overview of the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. We will be focusing our discussion this morning on areas and issues that are most relevant to the communities here in the North Baffin region. There are some slides in the presentation that are not particularly relevant here, and I will try to move through those more quickly, and again spend more time on the stuff that is of greatest interest here.

In addition, the Commission has been responding to a number of questions from participants over the last year or so. Throughout the presentation, I will attempt to incorporate some of those responses into the presentation that we feel are, again most relevant to the participants gathered here today.

Following the presentation of this overview of the Draft Plan, we will have an extended opportunity for additional questions starting with the community delegates gathered here today. We do encourage any additional questions or clarifications associated with the content of the Land Use Plan once I have completed this overview. Just as a heads-up, it is a large and important document, so I will be trying to go through things at a fairly high level, but it does take likely a few hours to get through the entire Land Use Plan.

Just as a quick note of background: The Nunavut Planning Commission is of course, an Institution of Public Government established in 1993 under the *Nunavut Agreement*. Our main responsibilities include the development, implementation, and monitoring of land use plans for the Nunavut Settlement Area. These land use plans are intended to guide and direct resource use and development throughout the territory, and the Nunavut Planning Commission is the entry point, or the first door, into Nunavut's regulatory system for all permitting of uses out on the land. So, this Nunavut Land Use Plan that we have been working on for many years is intended to set a foundation or framework for how your lands and waters will be used going forward.

As a quick note, we currently have two approved regional land use plans that are currently in effect: one in the North Baffin Region, and one being here in the North Baffin region. We also have one in the Keewatin region, or of course now the Kivalliq region. These two land use plans were originally developed largely in the 1980s and approved in 1990, 1991. They then went through a largely administrative amendment or update to make them consistent with the *Nunavut Agreement* and the creation of the territory of Nunavut in 1999, and were reapproved around the year 2000, 2001. So, these land use plans have served the territory for many decades. Now this Nunavut land use planning process will replace those existing land use plans once it is approved, and for the first time have an approved Land Use Plan apply to all the regions of the territory.

The next slide is an overview for the timeline for the development of the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. Goump, could you roll that over to the Inuktitut version as well? Thank you. I would just like to highlight that this Nunavut land use planning process really began in 2007 with the approval of what is known as the *Broad Planning Policies, Objectives, and Goals*. This is a requirement under the *Nunavut Agreement* for the Commission to have these broad policies that apply throughout the territory.

In the mid-2000s, the Commission worked closely with the Government of Nunavut, the Government of Canada, as well as Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated to jointly develop these *Broad Planning Policies, Objectives, and Goals*. This document forms the foundation or the framework for the Nunavut Land Use Plan, and this is kind of the marching orders of what this Plan needs to accomplish as a direct extension of the requirements included in the *Nunavut Agreement* itself.

That document was approved in November of 2007, almost exactly 15 years ago. Since that time, the Commission has been working with communities, governments of all levels, Regional Inuit Associations, industry, non-governmental organizations, basically anyone with an interest in planning in the territory, to identify priority areas and issues for inclusion in a first-generation Nunavut Land Use Plan.

The first publicly released version of the Draft Plan was in 2012. There were further drafts released in 2014, 2016, and most recently in July 2021. Each of these drafts has built on the material in the previous draft and has been informed by input and feedback by all of the different participants that the Commission has been consulting with. I would just like to emphasize that throughout the planning process, the Commission has been keenly aware of the vital importance of community involvement in this planning process. This is fundamental to how land use plans are generally developed, and this is emphasized in the *Nunavut Agreement* as really an essential part of how the Commission conducts its work and conducts its land use plans.

Going back for many years, the Commission into the early 2000s, the Commission worked with individual community members to record how communities were using the land around their communities. For each of the draft land use plans that have been released, the Commission has consulted with communities including very detailed mapping sessions to identify areas of value to communities. The most extensive of these consultations occurred between 2012 and 2014 where thousands of areas were recorded, as identified by communities for different values. Through a series of community consultations, technical workshops, and other consultations, the Commission has endeavoured to engage communities to the fullest extent possible throughout the process and has given great weight to the views of communities that have been provided during our consultations and engagements.



I next want to note that the Land Use Plan itself is supported by a very detailed *Options and Recommendations Document*. You should all be familiar with the Land Use Plan itself, which is a fairly shorter, concise document, but that is supported by a much larger *Options and Recommendations Document* that is not part of the Land Use Plan, and you don't need to review it in great detail. It does include all the background information that was considered by Commissioners when making the decisions that are included in the Draft Plan, as well as the rationale or the analysis for why the Commission made the choices that they did in the Draft Land Use Plan. This has been significantly expanded in the most recent Draft in response to concerns from participants that previous versions of the *Options and Recommendations Document* were not sufficiently clear or transparent in explaining how the Commission arrived at its decisions.

So, for the 2021 Draft Plan, the Commission invested a significant amount of time and effort into making their decisions as transparent as possible and reflective of all of the submissions that have been provided in writing, as well as orally during consultations as well.

We won't go through the *Options and Recommendations Document* in much detail, but we would like to just highlight part of the consistent methodology that was followed for the consideration of each issue. So, within the *Options and Recommendations Document*, for each individual issue, we first identified or considered the overall importance of the issue. This goes back to the early work of identifying priorities for inclusion in the Nunavut Land Use Plan.

An example we have been using is that the Land Use Plan considers and addresses polar bear habitat but not, for example, grizzly bear habitat, which is becoming more common in more southern portions of the territory. Likewise, the Land Use Plan gives much more consideration to caribou than for muskox. This is not to say that muskox or grizzly bear are not important, but they were identified less frequently in the consultations, and as a result have less of a role in the 2021 Draft Plan.

The next criteria we considered was defining geographic boundaries. The Land Use Plan takes a map-based approach of identifying specific areas where certain requirements would apply. So, it is very important where these boundaries are drawn or how they are identified. That is an important consideration for the Commission when evaluating what the most appropriate Plan requirements would be.

The next topic was environment and cultural importance. Again, the Commission has heard from a broad range of participants on different values. This again comes back to how important each individual area may be. For example, the Commission has heard that caribou calving areas are more important than caribou fall areas or the caribou rutting habitats, for example. So, there is a different rating for each of these criteria. I forgot to mention that these are evaluated on a simple scale of low, moderate, or high. It is just a three-point scale. This is again, all laid out in the *Options Document* itself.

The next consideration for each topic was the nonrenewable resource transportation and linear infrastructure potential. For each of these areas, the Commission relied on the best available information to identify what these other types of values may be in an area. For example, some areas may have very high potential for shipping. An identified area may lie directly in the path of a community's resupply route or standard shipping lanes, whereas another area may be far removed from those shipping lanes, and therefore may be given a lower rating within this category.

The fifth topic was the sensitivity to impacts. We considered the value that was identified and how sensitive different wildlife or habitat may be. A good example would be walrus haul-outs. Through submissions, in particular through the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board and working with the Hunters and Trappers Organizations in this region, they identified that walrus are exceptionally sensitive to noise and disturbance when they are hauled out on shore in large numbers. That could be compared to walrus feeding areas where they may be less sensitive to disturbance, as an example.

Finally, point six in this list, the Commission also considered what other regulatory tools may be already in place that the Land Use Plan would not need to duplicate these efforts. If another organization is already managing an issue, there would be less value in having the Land Use Plan address a similar topic. A good example there is the exchange of ballast water. Ships entering different regions of the marine environment are required to change the water that they carry within their hulls for ballast and balance. That is something that is already very much regulated internationally through Transport Canada. That is not something that the Land Use Plan would need to require because someone else is already ensuring that is effectively managed.

That is a little bit of a detour into a document that we won't spend any more time on in this presentation, but we just wanted to give an overview that the Commission has very carefully and consistently considered each issue that has been identified by planning participants and come up with a preferred option on how to proceed to include these areas in the Draft Plan.

Switching back now to the main topic of discussion, the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan, it consists of six different chapters, and we will be going through each of those in turn here this morning. There is first of all an introduction to the Plan in Chapter 1. Then there are four chapters that each correspond to a different goal, linking back to that 2007 *Broad Planning Policies, Objectives, and Goals* document. Each of those identify different areas and issues of concern linked to a particular goal. Then Chapter 6 includes a strategy for how the Plan will be implemented following its approval.

There are also a series of large-format maps. You can see those out in the entryway to the hall. We call those Map A, and that you can see on the right-hand side of this slide. It identifies different areas and how they may be managed. We will be talking about that in more detail shortly.

The next slide is just more of a written summary of those different components of the Draft Plan. Again, if we could roll that slide over, Goump, to the Inuktitut version. Thank you. I will just note that there are also a series of tables and appendices at the back of the Plan. We will go through a few of those in a little more detail, but there is basically extra detail on how different aspects of the Plan work, and things like definitions and stuff like that.

Again, that is the overall structure of the Land Use Plan itself. We will be talking about each of those components, and that will be the aim of this week's hearing is to hear your feedback on how this Land Use Plan works and the different Plan requirements that are being proposed to manage all of these issues.

### Chapter 1 Overview:

As I mentioned, Chapter 1 really provides an introduction and overview to land use planning in the Nunavut Settlement Area. There is some background information in this chapter, as well as some important details on the framework for how this Land Use Plan is proposed to work. We will take you through a few slides highlighting some of the key issues in this chapter.

The first topic we would like to touch on is the jurisdiction of the Land Use Plan. In the text, there is a very important note that we want to highlight that the Plan does not apply to subsistence land use or the harvesting of wildlife. Any of the Plan requirements or the rules that we will be talking about this week are not meant to in any way apply to community land users. So, if there is a requirement in the Plan for how the land will be used, that would not impact community members going out harvesting, camping, enjoying the land as you always have.

These requirements are meant to apply to what are called project proponents, so other companies or individuals who are coming into the territory looking to conduct activities in Nunavut's land and waters. So, things like mineral exploration or tourism, scientific research, those types of activities would have to follow the requirements of this Land Use Plan once it is approved, but not community members going out and conducting activities.

The second part of the jurisdiction that we want to talk about the geographic or area base to which the Land Use Plan applies. In general, the Nunavut Planning Commission has jurisdiction over land and waters within the Nunavut Settlement Area. That area is shown as the highlighter, the coloured area on the map on the screen. It is slightly different than the Nunavut territory. For example, in Baffin Bay, the Commission's jurisdiction only goes out as far into the marine environment as is shown on this map. That is the extent of the Nunavut Settlement Area. It does not go all the way out to the border with Greenland, for example.

There is a special case of extension for the Outer Land Fast Ice Zone, which is the dark blue area along the coast of Baffin Island that is shown on the map. That area is an average extent of land fast ice that is directly included in the *Nunavut Agreement* and provides a little bit of additional jurisdiction to the Commission into the marine environment of Baffin Bay.

There are a few exceptions within the Nunavut Settlement Area where the Land Use Plan does not apply. That includes established parks, so fully established parks. You can see those on this map and on all our maps shown in green. Here in Pond Inlet, you are of course familiar with national parks. There are three here in the North Baffin region. Within these areas, there are management plans in place, and the Commission and its land use plans do not apply within these areas.

Finally, in terms of land ownership, the land applies to all other lands, so that includes of course Crown land, Inuit Owned Lands, both surface and subsurface, as well as within municipal boundaries. Just as one additional point of clarification, within municipal or community boundaries, the jurisdiction of the Nunavut Planning Commission and the Nunavut Land Use Plan is reduced, and only certain land uses within municipalities are subject to the requirements of the Land Use Plan, including things like the bulk storage of fuel, the deposit of waste, or other industrial activities. Things like new subdivisions are not subject to the requirements of the Land Use Plan. The

Commission has a reduced jurisdiction within municipal boundaries, but it does still have some level of jurisdiction.

The Nunavut Land Use Plan takes an area-based approach to land use planning in the Settlement Area. This is a departure from the currently approved North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan, for example, that does not have many area-based Plan requirements. This approach was agreed to in the 2007 *Broad Planning Policies, Objectives, and Goals*, and it functions more like a community or municipal land use plan. So, here in your community, you may have things like residential areas where there is housing. There could be smaller commercial areas where buildings like this community hall or the co-op across the street may be located, or also industrial areas where there could be heavy equipment and quarrying, and things like that.

On a much different scale, the Nunavut Land Use Plan proposes to divide the entire territory into different types of Land Use Designations that operate similarly to the zoning that you may be more familiar with within a community. These different land use designations again are shown on the large maps in the hallway or at the back of the room. There is a larger scale version of this region for you to consider.

We do appreciate that the scale of the maps on the screen today as well as those in your handouts are hard to work with, so we have brought some larger format maps. We also note for those that have reliable internet connections and computers, we do have an online mapping system that does allow you to see all of this information at whatever scale you would like. We do appreciate the limitations of that as well in terms of access.

The Draft Plan includes three different types of land use designations. I will just take a moment to summarize these to have a consistent understanding for our discussions here this week. The first type of land use designation we will talk about is called Limited Use. These are the most restrictive type of designation. By definition, they include the year-round prohibition or restriction of one or more types of land use. These are shown in red on all of the Commission maps. Again, this is the most restrictive where the Land Use Plan proposes that certain uses would be prohibited or not allowed at any time of year.

These Limited Use Areas can also have additional requirements on top of identifying certain uses that are considered not to be appropriate. Those could include things like seasonal restrictions for other types of uses that are permitted, or what we call setbacks or minimum distances that land users need to stay away from certain important features. Both of those types of Plan requirements can exist in a Limited Use designation.

The second type of land use designation is known as Conditional Use Areas. While they don't have any year-round prohibitions or restrictions, they do have other Plan requirements, such as seasonal restrictions or setbacks that I mentioned that could apply in Limited Use Areas. Those areas are shown as the yellow colour on all of the maps that we have brought here today.

The third type of land use designation is known as Mixed Use, and in these areas, there are no prohibited uses as well as no other Plan requirements that would apply. These are the least restrictive and would allow for all uses to occur within these areas.

However, it is important to note that over the last 15 years, the Commission has collected a great deal of information from community members as well as all of the other participants in this planning process. While not all of that information has led to a Limited Use Area or a Conditional Use Area shown on Map A, all of this information is still very important and can play an important role in Nunavut's regulatory system.

So, throughout all of these land use designations, the Land Use Plan also proposes to identify what we call Valued Components. These areas are included in the Land Use Plan as small-format maps at the back of the Plan on 8½ x 11 sheets. They can occur across any of the three land use designations.

In addition to things like prohibited uses or other Plan requirements such as seasonal restrictions or setbacks, the Plan also identifies many of these Valued Components that can occur throughout all of these different land use designations. The importance of these areas can be identified directly to project proponents as soon as they enter the regulatory system.

So, when proponents submit a project proposal to the Nunavut Planning Commission, they have to do so through our online application system. Through the computer mapping, the system would be able to present every proponent with the overlapping Valued Components that occur within the area that they are proposing to work in. That can be used by project proponents to assist in the design of their proposed projects.

In addition, the Commission, as the entry point into Nunavut's regulatory system, is required to forward project proposals that are supported by the Land Use Plan to other regulatory authorities that have a mandate to review these projects in more detail. So, the collection over the last 15 years of all of this information can play an important role in forming other regulatory authorities at the very beginning of their review of project proposals what values are known to be present in those areas.

So if the Commission, for example, reviews a project proposal that conforms or is supported by the Nunavut Land Use Plan, we can send the project proposal to, it could be the Nunavut Impact Review Board, the Nunavut Water Board, the landowner, maybe it is the Nunavut Research Council. All of these different organizations could have a mandate to review the project proposal and could benefit from having all of these different values identified before they begin their review of the specific project.

Throughout this planning process, many participants have been interested in area calculations and percentages of how the Land Use Plan breaks down these different land use designations. We have included a more detailed slide near the end of the presentation, but here as a general overview, you can see that in the 2021 Draft Plan, those Mixed Use Areas where all activities would be permitted or supported represent about 65% of Nunavut. In addition, another 9% are identified as Conditional Use, so those more flexible designations that have Plan requirements like setbacks or seasonal restrictions but no prohibited uses. Then you can see Limited Use Areas, so those red, more restrictive designations that prohibit some uses, represent about 22% of the area. Finally, areas outside of the Planning Commission's jurisdiction such as established parks, represent another 3% of the territory.

That gives a very high-level breakdown. Of course, there are regional differences that we will show in later slides, as well as differences between land and marine areas, but as a general overview, that is the breakdown of this current Draft Plan.

As the last note in Chapter 1, we just quickly want to point out that when I refer to seasonal restrictions, the Commission recognizes that Nunavut's environment is very unique and does vary largely across the extent of the territory. Recognizing the unique Arctic environment, the Commission has chosen to rely on the six traditional Inuit seasons that are more appropriate to Nunavut's environment. So, rather than relying on spring, summer, fall, and winter, we have Aujaq and Ukiaq and all the six different seasons that are based on whether there is open water or snow on the land, or these differences that really drive the environmental considerations here in the territory.

There is a table in the back of the Land Use Plan as well that identifies particular calendar dates for different areas within Nunavut. Of course, the example we have been using is that freeze-up of the ocean would occur earlier in Grise Fjord than it would in Sanikiluaq. Those dates are also considered and incorporated in the Plan in a table at the back of the document.

### Chapter 2 Overview:

With that out of the way, that largely administrative stuff on how the Plan functions within Chapter 1, we will move on to the first of four chapters that correspond to the different goals of the Land Use Plan.

Chapter 2 is on Protecting and Sustaining the Environment. You can see listed on the screen here the different topics that are considered within this chapter. I will go through each of them in turn, again focusing on those of greatest interest to those of us gathered here today.

### Key Migratory Bird Habitat Sites

The first subsection of Chapter 2 deals with key migratory bird habitat sites. The Commission has collected a great deal of information on migratory bird habitat throughout the territory. The vast majority of this information has been provided initially by the Canadian Wildlife Service with Environment and Climate Change Canada. They had initially identified a variety of different bird habitats across the territory and provided specific recommendations on the importance of each of these areas.

The Commission has chosen to break this information down into three different classes of migratory bird habitat sites. Class 1 locations are shown on the left-hand side of this slide in red. You can see there are a number of these locations throughout the region, including in the very high Arctic around Eureka on Axel Heiberg and Ellesmere Island, down into Lancaster Sound and Creswell Bay, as examples.

Within these Class 1 migratory habitat sites, the Draft Plan proposes a number of uses to be prohibited or not allowed. That includes industrial uses such as mineral exploration and

development, oil and gas exploration and development, as well as things like quarrying of granular resources, as well as hydroelectric power generation and large-scale wind turbines.

In addition to these prohibited uses, the Draft Plan also identifies detailed setback requirements or minimum distances that land users need to stay away from, particularly important areas within the larger Limited Use designation. For example, nesting areas on cliffs or bird colonies have proposed setbacks. Those are different for each type of land use, so there is aerial or altitude restrictions for aircraft, whether airplanes or helicopters, as well as different distances for boats or marine vessels that would come close to coastal habitats, and also land-based setbacks for land users who would be approaching from the land side of any of these locations.

Again, all of these restrictions would not apply to community land users going out to harvest birds, for example. This would not apply to those users. But for example, tourism would be permitted in these Limited Use Areas, and any tourist vessels or lodge activities would need to abide or follow these setbacks.

In addition to the Class 1 migratory bird habitat sites, we also have Class 2 sites, which have been identified as a lower category of importance or sensitivity. Within these areas, which are shown in orange on the right-hand side of this slide, there are no prohibited uses, but there are those setback requirements. Under the framework of the Land Use Plan, that makes these Class 2 migratory bird habitat sites Conditional Use designations.

Finally, we also have identified Class 3 migratory bird habitat sites where there are large concentrations of birds, but at this time, there are no recommendations for year-round prohibitions or setbacks from particular locations. These areas have been identified in the Draft Plan as Valued Components for consideration by proponents and other regulatory authorities.

### Caribou Habitat

The next subsection in Chapter 2 deals with a large number of different types of caribou habitat. There are several slides, as the Commission has received a great deal of input on caribou and their different areas of importance. This first slide shows caribou calving and post-calving areas. These areas have been identified as Limited Use designation with year-round prohibitions on several industrial activities, again including things like mineral exploration and development; oil and gas exploration and development; and what we call linear infrastructure, which are things like roads or pipelines on transmission lines. Those would also be prohibited within these Limited Use designations.

I will note that here in the Qikiqtaaluk region, the information has been provided by the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board who worked with the Hunters and Trappers Organization in the region to identify these habitats through mapping and submitted them to the Commission for consideration. We would like to note that in the Kitikmeot and Kivalliq regions, the Government of Nunavut had provided very detailed mapping of all of the different seasonal ranges for caribou on the mainland. Within the Qikiqtaaluk, the Government of Nunavut did not have enough satellite collaring information, which they used to identify the habitats on the mainland, here in this region.



So, the methodology for identifying these boundaries was different here in the Qikiqtaaluk compared to within other regions in Nunavut, but the Commission has given full consideration to the information that was submitted by the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board and has incorporated those areas in the Draft Plan as Limited Use designations.

I will also note that again, on the mainland, caribou habitats provided by the Government of Nunavut because they had year-round satellite collaring information, they also provided detailed seasonal breakdowns for the breaks on which caribou were using these different habitats based on the satellite collaring data. For those datasets, the Commission chose to identify seasonal restrictions in addition to the year-round prohibitions.

So, if an activity was permitted within a caribou calving area, like a military exercise for example, it would not be able to operate during calving season, but here in the Qikiqtaaluk, the Commission did not receive those detailed yearly breakdowns for when caribou were calving, so it is currently a little uncertain in the way the Plan is currently drafted as to whether or how these seasonal restrictions would apply to the calving and post-calving areas shown on this map. That is an example of something that feedback from community members could be used to inform future revisions to this Draft Plan.

The next slide, number 25, shows caribou key access corridors as well as caribou freshwater crossings. I will note that these have both been identified as Limited Use Areas, but these types of habitats have not been identified in the Qikiqtaaluk region, and that was just the availability of information the Commission did not have on hand, so those types of habitats have not been included anywhere in this region.

However, the next slide, caribou sea ice crossings on the left-hand side of the slide, have been identified throughout the region, as well as in other areas of the territory. The concern here is around ship traffic in the winter disrupting the ability of caribou to migrate across sea ice. In the 2021 Draft Plan, these sea ice crossings are included as Conditional Use Areas with seasonal restrictions on shipping in order to ensure the ability of caribou to cross the sea ice during the winter.

On the right-hand side, we have identified Peary caribou areas. The Commission has heard that Peary caribou are in I guess in a particularly sensitive state and low populations at this time. Areas of importance to Peary caribou were identified by participants, again including through the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board and our direct consultations with community members. These areas in the high Arctic, all of them to the Northwest of Resolute Bay are included in the Draft Plan also as Limited Use Areas with year-round prohibitions on certain industrial activities that I had identified previously.

The next slide on the left-hand side shows caribou winter ranges. This is a good example of how the Draft Plan can take a different approach in different regions. In many cases, the Commission has chosen to propose a consistent approach to the management of areas and issues across all regions of Nunavut. However, based on the environmental concerns around different types of caribou habitat, the Commission understands that caribou winter ranges in the high Arctic can be very essential to the survival of caribou. So, there are a few small locations identified within the Qikiqtaaluk region that have been identified as important winter ranges, with the recommendation that they be identified as Limited Use Areas, again with year-round prohibitions.



I just want to note that is different from the other winter ranges that the Commission has identified on the mainland for example, shown in green throughout the Kitikmeot and Kivalliq regions where winter ranges for these mainland or barren ground caribou are not as sensitive as the winter ranges for the high Arctic caribou. On the mainland, they have been identified as Valued Components, and I will just note this to emphasize that the Land Use Plan can take different approaches in different regions.

On the right-hand of the slide, we see caribou migration corridors. These are areas used by caribou during their fall and spring migrations. This data again, on the mainland outside of the region, came from the Government of Nunavut's collaring data, but here in the Qikiqtaaluk, we again relied on the submissions from the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board, working closely with the Hunters and Trappers Organization in the region. They are all identified as Valued Components for consideration.

The last caribou slide identifies caribou summer and late-summer, as well as caribou rutting areas. All of these habitats are further examples of habitat identified by the Government of Nunavut through their satellite collaring program. It is again restricted to the mainland of Nunavut, and we do not have any information on these types of habitats within the Qikiqtaaluk region at the time of this Draft.

#### Polar Bear Denning Areas

The next subsection of Chapter 2 deals with polar bear denning areas. These areas have been identified throughout the territory from a variety of sources, including the Government of Nunavut, again the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board, as well as the Commission's community consultations with groups of community participants.

For these polar bear denning areas, the Commission is proposing a Conditional Use land use designation. This is a fairly unique example of a Plan requirement. The Commission understands that polar bear denning occurs seasonally of course, largely in snow. The approach here is not to prohibit uses all year round or even to have hard or specific seasonal restrictions, but within the polar bear denning season, land users who are proposing to conduct activities that would disturb the ground or the earth like drilling, blasting, or using heavy equipment to move earth or snow, before they conduct those activities, they would first need to have a polar bear monitor conduct a survey of that specific area to identify any polar bear dens or suspected polar bear dens,

Then the company or the proponent would not be able to use that area with a setback of 1 kilometre until the polar bear monitor later confirms that the bears have left the den and the area. Again, that approach of requiring a polar bear monitor to be engaged is a relatively unique example in this land use plan.

#### Walrus Haul-Outs

The right-hand side of the slide shows walrus haul-outs. These are coastal areas used by walrus during the open water season to haul out onto the land to rest, typically near important feeding areas for the species, and the Commission has heard clearly that walrus are very sensitive to any

disturbance during these times. It has included a proposed Limited Use designation for walrus haul-outs, which would prohibit year-round many of those same industrial activities we have been talking about.

They also include very detailed setback requirements around these walrus haul-outs, again with different distances that need to be maintained for different sizes of boats that may approach from the water - again, this does not apply to community boats in the open water – as well as different aerial setbacks or altitudes that would need to be maintained for aircraft flying over these locations, and also different land-based setbacks for anyone approaching these areas from the land.

They are very hard to see on this map. We appreciate that they are small locations, and there are quite a number of them included within the region. Those have been identified from a number of sources including again the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board who have been very engaged throughout this process. World Wildlife Fund prepared a detailed study throughout the territory of walrus haul-outs including their current status of being active or inactive or unknown. Also, some information was incorporated from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans who did also provide a number of recommendations on appropriate setback requirements as well.

#### Whale Calving Areas, Atlantic Cod Lakes, Polynyas & Other Marine Areas of Importance

Continuing with different marine issues, we next move into different types of whale calving areas. On the left-hand side, we see beluga calving areas, and narwhal on the right-hand side. Again, a number of data sources were considered, including information from World Wildlife Fund as well as the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board. For these different whale habitats, as well as on the next slide we have bowhead calving areas, there is a combination of Limited Use designations as well as Valued Ecosystem Component designations that have been recommended by the Commission.

Generally, you can see for example, on the beluga slide as well as on narwhal, there are some large areas identified in orange that span the length of different straits and passages. These areas intersect with Nunavut's primary shipping corridors that are in the process of being identified more formally.

This is an example where the Commission considered the nonrenewable transportation potential of the areas and recommends a Valued Component designation for some of these larger areas that intersect with primary shipping corridors and did include some Limited Use designations for calving areas that were more isolated or tucked into things like bays where ship traffic would not normally enter. So, a different approach has been taken depending on the specifics of each individual calving area. I will just switch the slide to 31 where a similar approach has been taken for bowhead calving areas, again considering information from a variety of sources similar to beluga and narwhal.

On the right-hand side, I will just quickly note there is a short section on Atlantic cod lakes. This is only identified in a few small areas in the South Baffin region where Atlantic cod have become sort of trapped in these coastal lakes and evolved unique populations. They are included as a Valued Ecosystem Component, but we have not identified any of those locations here in the North Baffin.

A few more additional marine areas: The left-hand side of this slide shows what would be identified as Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas. That is a bit of a mouthful, but it refers to areas

identified by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans as being generally important in the marine environment. You can see that they are relatively large areas in most cases and are generally identified for different values.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans prepared a report summarizing why all of these areas are important, but they did not come with any specific recommendations on how the Land Use Plan should manage each of these different areas. So, the Commission has recommended including them as Valued Components for consideration by proponents and other regulatory authorities.

On the right-hand side, we see a number of polynyas or areas of open water during the winter season. There are some particular examples where polynyas have been treated a little differently, but here in this subsection, the Commission is proposing to identify the noted polynyas as Valued Components without any other specific Plan requirements.

#### Transboundary Considerations

On the next slide, we do see though, some transboundary or cross-border considerations. I will draw your attention to the right-hand side of this slide. We see in yellow the North Water or Savarjuaq polynya just to the northeast of Grise Fjord. The Commission understands that this area is being considered by both the Inuit of Nunavut and the Inuit of Greenland as a jointly managed area of importance.

Only a small portion of this larger polynya is included within the Nunavut Settlement Area. Again, I noted in Chapter 1 there is a difference between the Settlement Area and the territory of Nunavut. That comes to play here. Within the portions of the North Water or Savarjuaq polynya that fall within the Nunavut Settlement Area, the Commission is proposing to identify this area as a Conditional Use Area with seasonal restrictions on shipping to prevent the disruption of this important ecological feature.

#### Chapter 3 Overview:

The next chapter deals with the second goal of Encouraging Conservation Planning. So, in Chapter 1 we talked about a number of different environmental values that have been identified through the planning process. Chapter 3 deals specifically with conservation planning. I want to note that in general, the Commission does have jurisdiction within established conservation areas, so things like migratory bird sanctuaries and national wildlife areas. Even once they are fully established, the Nunavut Land Use Plan would continue to apply within these areas as well. It is a goal of this planning process to encourage conservation planning. So, we will go through the different topics that have been identified in this chapter that support this goal.

#### Climate Change

However, before I continue with that discussion, I just wanted to note one final comment from Chapter 2, just to jump back. We did not have a slide included here, and there are no mapped areas to support it, but the final subsection of Chapter 2 deals with the subject of climate change, which is a known concern in the territory, and I guess in the world.

While the Land Use Plan takes this area-based approach to management, there are no specific areas associated with climate change. Within the 2021 Draft Plan, it is noted that the issue of climate change has been considered throughout the development of the Land Use Plan. There are a few examples of how the Commission has given that consideration in relation to other topics addressed in the Draft Plan.

One example was the consideration of additional impacts on caribou, for example, due to a changing climate. The Commission is aware of increased icing events reducing the ability of caribou to dig through snow for forage. I think here in Pond Inlet, we can recognize these increased icing events because of the very slippery conditions we arrived to on Saturday. We joke, but it was very treacherous to walk around. We were slipping and falling and felt a little bit unsure of ourselves on our feet. That transition between summer and winter creating that additional layer of ice is known to create an extra burden on caribou trying to dig through snow to get to their food during winter.

Another example might be increased insect harassment causing caribou to have reduced time to feed. In of course the very southern portions of their ranges, not applicable here, there is also increasing forest fires impacting caribou habitat as well. All of these factors have been identified to the Commission through this planning process and played a part in the Commission's recommendations in the Draft Plan to include some very strict requirements on land use activities occurring on important caribou habitat.

Another quick example might be impacts on polar bear that rely on sea ice for feeding, so, with a warming climate having reduced time to feed. I just wanted to make that additional note before going on to Chapter 3.

#### Parks Awaiting Full Establishment and Proposed Parks

Getting back to the topic at hand, the first subsection of Encouraging Conservation Planning is future national and territorial parks. We noted in Chapter 1 that the Land Use Plan does not apply within established parks, both national and territorial, but while they are in the process of being considered, the Commission still has jurisdiction.

Here in the North Baffin, there is a very large or relatively large territorial park, the Aggutinni Territorial Park proposal just to the north of Clyde River. That area has been included in the Draft Plan as a Limited Use designation with year-round prohibition of many industrial activities in this area. In addition, the Commission is aware of interest in establishing a territorial park around the Fossil Forests on Ellesmere Island shown on this slide as well - Axel Heiberg, sorry if I misspoke. Thank you.

These areas, if and when they are fully established, the Commission would no longer have jurisdiction, but at this time, the Land Use Plan would apply to these areas. They have been included as Limited Use designations.

### Proposed National Marine Conservation Areas

On the right-hand side, we also show the proposed National Marine Conservation Area in Lancaster Sound, or Tallurutiup Imanga. This is a little bit of a special case where it is named a marine conservation area, but it functions more like a park in the marine environment. So, once this area is fully established and a management plan and committees are in place, and everything is fully signed off, the Commission will no longer have jurisdiction within this area.

As of today, the Land Use Plan would still apply, so the Commission has included again a Limited Use designation with year-round restrictions on certain activities within this area. So, just to clarify, if and when that process is completed, the Commission would no longer have jurisdiction within this area, and it would be turned green on this map where we would not have jurisdiction.

I would note, there is a topic that will come up throughout our discussions this week. The Commission has chosen in this Draft Plan for simplicity to not include overlapping land use designations within the Tallurutiup Imanga Proposed National Marine Conservation Area. The Draft Plan does have many designations that overlap, and that has caused some confusion as to how they would apply. In many cases, they are consistent, and they can add on top of each other. There are some conflicts that have been identified. For administrative efficiency, the Commission believes that this National Marine Conservation Area will be established in the near future, at which time the Commission will no longer have jurisdiction.

This Plan would need to be amended to remove this area from our jurisdiction. In order to simplify that process in the future, the Commission has chosen to not include certain land use designations that overlap with this Lancaster Sound or Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine Conservation Area, and I will point out some of those that have been removed in future slides. Again, that was a choice the Commission made. I just wanted to clarify that is why some designations that overlap with this area are not shown on Map A that you see around the room here today.

### National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries

The next slide shows national wildlife areas as well as migratory bird sanctuaries. There are several of these areas here in the North Baffin, both national wildlife and migratory bird sanctuaries. The Commission, as I have noted, does still have jurisdiction within these areas and has proposed a Limited Use designation with year-round prohibitions on certain industrial activities, again including mineral exploration, oil and gas exploration and development, all-weather roads, and linear infrastructure, as well as setbacks from some key features such as migratory bird colonies within these areas.

I would like to note that there have been significant differences of opinion on how the Land Use Plan should treat these areas. Some participants support having these established conservation areas included as Limited Use designations in the Nunavut Land Use Plan. However, some participants have noted significant concern with including these areas in the Draft Plan with year-round prohibitions or restrictions on activities, as that is considered by some participants to be an overreach or going beyond what was agreed to with the establishment of these conservation areas.

and interfering with the implementation of Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements that have been signed and agreed to for the management of these areas.

This is something that I draw everyone's attention to as an area of disagreement amongst participants. This will be something that Commissioners will be giving full consideration to, again following the close of the hearings and the revisions to this Draft Plan.

#### National Historic Sites & Historic Sites

On Slide 37 on the left-hand side, we show historic sites. We have been careful to note that this slide only identifies national and territorial designated historic sites. The Commission fully understands that throughout the territory, there are many. There are thousands and thousands of archeological, historic, and cultural sites.

There are large inventories of these locations held by the Government of Nunavut Department of Culture and Heritage, and the Nunavut Heritage Trust. Those have not been directly incorporated into the Land Use Plan, but these officially identified sites have been included as Limited Use designations with year-round prohibitions on certain industrial activities. I will note that national historic sites, if they are administered by Parks Canada, are not within the Commission's jurisdiction, but all the national historic sites within the Qikiqtaaluk region are not currently administered by Parks Canada. So, the Land Use Plan continues to apply in these areas.

#### Canadian Heritage Rivers

The right-hand slide shows Canadian Heritage Rivers. These are areas identified through the Canadian Heritage River System. There are no Canadian Heritage Rivers identified within this region, so I will move past this slide without further comment.

#### Marine Protected Areas

On the right-hand side of this slide is the last one of this chapter. We have Oceans Act Proposed Marine Protected Areas. Under the Oceans Act, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans has the ability and mandate to establish what are called Marine Protected Areas. There are currently none of these fully established within the territory. However, there are two locations that are in the early stages of consideration. One of those is in the Kivalliq region, and one here off the northern coast of Ellesmere and Axel Heiberg Islands.

This initiative is currently being considered, and the Commission is not deeply involved that process. This study area for a potential Marine Protected Area has been submitted to the Commission as part of this planning process. In the 2021 Draft, the Commission chose to identify these issues as Valued Components at this time, with no specific Plan requirements. The exact boundary and detailed requirements for these areas would be developed and agreed to as part of the process that would be led by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

That concludes Chapter 3 of the Land Use Plan. I think we are about good for a break, so I will turn it back over to the Chair. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik, Jonathan. It is almost lunchtime. We are going to take a lunch break. I want you all back at 1:15 please. Qujannamiik.

### **Lunch Break**

Chairperson: We will proceed with the afternoon proceedings. Jonathan, you may proceed.

### Chapter 4 Overview

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy again with the Nunavut Planning Commission. I hope everyone had a good lunch and got an opportunity to have a little break. Just before lunch, we finished Chapter 3, which was on Encouraging Conservation Planning. We will now move into Chapter 4 on the goal of Building Healthier Communities.

You can see there are a number of areas and issues listed on the current slide. We will be going through each of these in turn, focusing on those most relevant to those of us gathered here today. This chapter on Building Healthier Communities focuses on areas identified by communities for community use, as well as areas important to the health and wellbeing of Nunavut's communities.

#### Community Areas of Interest:

The first subsection is entitled Community Areas of Interest. This is a term included in the Draft Plan referring to areas identified by communities for their importance for community use and wellbeing.

#### On-Ice Travel Routes

The first component of Community Areas of Interest applies Nunavut-wide. This is for community on-ice travel routes. As mostly coastal people, all communities rely on the sea ice for travel during the winter, both to harvesting and camping areas, as well as between communities. There is clear concern about potential shipping during the ice-covered months disrupting the ability of communities to travel and potentially creating safety concerns for community members who are already out and encountering ship tracks through sea ice.

The 2021 Draft Plan proposes a new approach to managing these areas through a Conditional Use land use designation that would require project proponents that are interested in conducting shipping through ice to first contact all municipalities through both the Municipal Council as well as the Hunters and Trappers Organizations within 300 kilometers of any point of intersection between the mapped community travel routes and the proposed ship track.

In this case, it is another fairly unique example of a Plan requirement, sort of like the polar bear conditions I mentioned. Those were a little bit different in that it is not an outright seasonal

restriction or something like a setback that is most commonly used in the Draft Plan in Conditional Use Areas.

In this case, the project proposals would conform to the Plan as drafted, but these project proponents looking to conduct the activities would then need to get in contact with the Municipal Council and Hunters and Trappers Organization and discuss potential solutions to address the concern about ship traffic and on-ice travel.

I think there are a few reasons for this general approach from the Commission's perspective, in part because there are so many community on-ice travel routes, as shown on the map, and so many different scales of project proposals, from a single one-time transit up to a project that could include multiple transits every day or week or month.

The Commission did not recommend specific requirements that would need to be followed by project proponents, but this more general requirement for communication and consultation has been proposed in the 2021 Draft Plan. We have heard from a number of participants some concern with this approach that it does not go far enough towards restricting shipping activities during the winter months and that other alternatives should be considered in the development of the Draft Plan.

I should also note that the collection of these on-ice travel routes yet again has relied on a number of different information sources. A major contributor to this information here in the Qikiqtaaluk region was the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board, again providing very detailed submissions after working with the Hunters and Trappers Organizations in the region. In addition, some on-ice travel routes were identified through existing documentation prepared through the Department of Fisheries and Oceans for the Northwest Passage in particular. As of the 2021 Draft, there is a fairly detailed record of these routes throughout the region.

### Regional Community Areas of Interest

The next subsection is on the remainder of the Community Areas of Interest. There are different maps for each region for Nunavut. Here in the North Baffin, there is a special circumstance I do want to draw your attention to. The first area included here south of Arctic Bay is the area of Moffet Inlet, which was identified as an area of great importance to the community starting way back in 2012 during our community consultations in the Community of Arctic Bay. That area had been included in previous drafts of the Plan as the equivalent of a Limited Use Area with restrictions on activities.

However, as I mentioned in the previous chapter, this is now within the Proposed National Marine Conservation Area. Between the 2016 and 2021 Drafts, the area of the Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine Conservation Area was expanded to include the areas down into Admiralty Inlet, including Moffet Inlet. The decision was made not to include this overlapping designation within that area on the understanding that the Marine Conservation Area will soon be fully established, and the Commission will no longer have jurisdiction within this area.

So, you will not see in the 2021 Draft Plan the area of Moffet Inlet south of Arctic Bay as a Limited Use designation. The Commission certainly recognizes and appreciates the importance of this area but made an administrative choice to leave that area, as well as some other overlapping



designations, out of this Plan to make its future amendment more straightforward. That is a choice that was made, and the Commission would of course welcome feedback on that, as well as all the decisions in the 2021 Draft Plan.

There are a handful of other Community Areas of Interest, the nearest being in the northern Foxe Basin, more associated with the communities of Igloodik and Hall Beach. But for those community members that may travel that far, we would note that the area shown in yellow and the cross-hatched area as well extending near Sanirajak, are included as Limited Use designation as well.

### Community-Identified Priority Areas & Use and Occupancy Mapping

I will skip through the next few slides here for other regions. On Slide 45, we move into other community areas. We would first like to note the difficulty of reading these maps and trying to interpret what is on them. In general, the map on the left-hand side of the screen represents what have been called Other Community-Identified Priority Areas. This is really a collection of thousands of areas identified by communities for different values.

All of these different mapped areas have been considered by the Commission, and some of them have led to the inclusion of some of the Community Areas of Interest we just discussed, including things like Moffet Inlet and Nettilling Lake further south in the region. However, the Commission has also chosen to include that entire dataset collectively as Valued Components, again for project proponents to consider when they are designing their projects as well as for other regulatory authorities to consider in their review of any specific project proposals.

On the right-hand side of this map, we have information that largely consists of points, but a few lines on some areas as well that were collected through the Commission's use and occupancy mapping. This is the one-on-one interviews that Commission staff, including Annie and Tommy here with us today, have conducted over many years with communities to identify how they are using the land. These are individual harvest sites where caribou or geese or berries were harvested, where campsites are located.

Again, all of this information was considered in the development of the Plan throughout. So, when considering other land use designation, this information was taken into consideration, but collectively, all of this information is also included in the Draft Plan as Valued Components. Again, emphasizing that looking at these maps at this scale, they are very hard to interpret or gain a lot of information from them, but through our online application system for proponents, the computer would be able to summarize this information more effectively for project proponents and regulatory authorities to consider.

### Transboundary Considerations

Just a quick note on Slide 46: There are ongoing negotiations between the Denesųliné in Northern Manitoba and Saskatchewan and Nunavut regarding Denesųliné ownership of lands in the southern Kivalliq. There are some sections within the Draft Plan dealing with this topic. Just as a note, once those negotiations are concluded and the agreement is signed, the Commission anticipates gaining

alternative Denesųliné Commissioners in order to represent their views on the Nunavut Planning Commission.

#### Areas of Equal Use and Occupancy and Unincorporated Communities

On the next slide, in a similar way but further advanced, are the Areas of Equal Use and Occupancy between the Inuit of Nunavut and the Inuit of Nunavik, shown in orange near Sanikiluaq and Kinngait. Those areas are included in the Draft Plan as Valued Components as well. The Commission does have alternate Commissioners from Nunavik that will be in attendance at the Iqaluit hearing next month.

On the right-hand side is another topic that is not particularly relevant to the North Baffin region. We have two of what are called unincorporated communities. These are the communities of Bathurst Inlet and Umingmaktok in the Kitikmeot region. They are not outpost camps or communities. They are somewhere in between, and they have been called unincorporated, because they do not have a Municipal Council and government funding. They have been included in the Draft Plan as Limited Use Areas to manage land use around those residential bases in the absence of community planning.

#### Community Drinking Water Supplies

We will get back to some topics more relevant to us here today. On this slide, we have community drinking water supplies. Each community in Nunavut, of course, draws its drinking water from surface water supplies, whether lakes or rivers. All Nunavut community plans have management in place for their community drinking water supply within municipal boundaries.

Within the 2021 Draft Plan, the Commission has just identified those areas within municipal boundaries as Valued Components, which will allow the municipal land use plan to continue to manage those areas according to the approved community plans.

However, some communities draw their drinking water from rivers that extend beyond municipal boundaries where the communities do not have jurisdiction. For the communities gathered here today, that is the communities of Pond Inlet, Arctic Bay, as well as Grise Fjord. Those three communities, your drinking water comes from areas that include areas beyond your municipal boundaries.

This is a great example of how the Nunavut Land Use Plan can support community health and wellbeing by extending those protections to your drinking water beyond your municipal boundaries. So, the 2021 Draft Plan has included the portions of your drinking water supply that go beyond municipal boundaries as Limited Use Areas with year-round prohibitions on many industrial activities. Again, that is Pond Inlet, Arctic Bay, and Grise Fjord.

### Priority Contaminated Sites

The right-hand side of this slides identifies what are called priority contaminated sites. Much like the archeological and historic sites, the Commission recognizes that are many waste sites and contaminated sites across the territory that could range from something like a few abandoned fuel drums out on the land, up to abandoned mining sites or military facilities.

The Government of Canada in particular, maintains detailed inventories of these waste sites, and the Commission has relied on their identification of these sites that are of priority as concern to human health. So, in the 2021 Draft Plan, it identifies these priority contaminated sites that may be particularly dangerous to human health and has proposed again, a Limited Use designation to restrict activities in these areas to ensure that they are not dug up, for example. You would not want to establish any sort of camps or digging up of the earth within these locations.

### Military Facilities

The next subsection deals with military facilities. We know that throughout the territory, there are a large number of facilities constructed by military over the years that are important to national defence. There is the North Warning System site or the old DEW line or Distant Early Warning system sites you can see on this map, tracing through the center of Nunavut. Further north, we now have things like the Nanisivik naval facility that has been taken over from the former mine. We also have locations such as Alert and Eureka, and a system of high Arctic communication system locations extending between those two facilities.

These locations are known to be potentially sensitive to disturbance from other land uses that could interfere with communications and radar facilities in particular. In the 2021 Draft Plan, it is proposed that they be included as Limited Use Areas with year-round restrictions on certain activities.

While not particularly relevant here in the North Baffin, in many cases further south, those military facilities are often associated with Nunavut communities, and where they are within municipal boundaries, the Commission has chosen to just identify those areas as Valued Components rather than Limited Use Areas that could interfere with ongoing community development and planning.

### Alternative Energy Sources

The last slide of Chapter 4 on the left-hand side deals with alternative energy sources. In the Kivalliq region of Nunavut as well as in Iqaluit, the Qulliq Energy Corporation has done some preliminary studies on identifying locations of potential for hydroelectric power generation. The Draft Plan identifies those areas as Valued Components, but as with some other topics in the Draft Plan, we do not have any locations identified here in this region.

### Aerodrones

As a final note, the Draft Plan also identifies Nunavut's aerodrones, or the area around your airports. When this planning process began, not all communities had approved Transport Canada regulations for the operation of your local airports. Those regulations are now in place, and the Commission has chosen to include the identification of all of these aerodrones as Valued Components for consideration of anyone proposing activities near the community airports.

## Chapter 5 Overview

Moving on to Chapter 5, this deals with the goal of Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development. This is the fourth and final goal included in the Land Use Plan. You will recall that we have discussed Protecting and Sustaining the Environment; Encouraging Conservation Planning; Building Healthier Communities; and now we will turn to the important issue of Encouraging Sustainable Economic Development. There are four subtopics within this chapter that we will now review.

### Mineral Potential & Oil and Gas Potential

The first subsection is on mineral exploration and production. This map identifies in a lighter orange colour what are known as Areas with Evidence for Mineral Potential. This information was provided by the Government of Canada and does not have different rating systems within the information. So, areas not coloured are areas without evidence for mineral potential. The orange shaded areas have such potential.

The darker orange shaded areas shown on this map represent existing mineral rights. As of the spring of 2021, these darker orange areas are locations where exploration companies and mining companies retain rights to these areas. I would like to note that all of this information again, has been considered by Commissioners throughout the Plan development process. As I noted, in the *Options and Recommendations Document*, each individual subsection has the consideration of nonrenewable resource potential, including overlaps with these areas with evidence for mineral potential, as well as areas with existing mineral rights.

While that has been considered and has informed other aspects of the Plan, the Areas with Evidence for Mineral Potential are included in the Draft Plan as Valued Components. I will also note that the areas with existing mineral rights are subject to more detailed discussion in Chapter 6, which we will get to in a few minutes.

The right-hand side of this slide shows oil and gas exploration and production. In this subsection, consideration is limited to the small blue shaded areas in the Sverdrup Basin to the northwest of Resolute Bay and Grise Fjord as areas with oil and gas significant discovery licenses. As you are all certainly aware, there has been previous exploration and production of oil and gas within the region. The blue shaded areas located again north of the national park on Bathurst Island, are still in effect today.

So, oil and gas companies still have rights to these significant discovery licenses. While there has not been a Limited or Conditional Use designation assigned to these areas, they have been included in the Draft Plan as Valued Component for consideration.

#### Terrestrial Transportation and Communications

The next slide deals with terrestrial or land-based transportation and communication. There are a number of different approaches to this topic throughout the different regions of Nunavut. I will note that here in this region, the primary interest is in the linear infrastructure, meaning roads, railways, and transmission lines associated with the Mary River Project.

In this case, the Commission has chosen to rely on previous amendments that have been made to the currently approved North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan and has carried over some of the previous amendments for transportation corridors associated with the Mary River Project. So, the orientation and alignment of those terrestrial corridors that are in the amended North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan have been carried into the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan, which would allow for the use and continued development of these areas as transportation and communication corridors associated with the Mary River Project.

#### Marine Shipping

Slide 54 shows areas important to marine shipping in Nunavut. I will note that in this case, the areas shown on the map are from the work done as part of the Northern Marine Transportation Corridor Initiative that is being done with Transport Canada, the Canadian Coast Guard, and other partners to establish shipping routes within the Canadian Arctic.

The information shown on this map represents earlier draft versions of these corridors. Because that work is ongoing, the recommendation was not to include these areas in the Draft Plan in any way, but we are showing this information because it was considered by Commissioners when making all of the decisions that affect the marine environment within the Draft Plan.

I mentioned for example, different approaches for whale calving habitat depending on the significance of the overlap with this dataset, as an example of how this information has been used by the Commission. You will see it is not included as any sort of land use designation or even a Valued Component.

#### Commercial Fishing Areas

The final subsection of Chapter 5 deals with commercial fishing. On the left-hand side, you see Arctic Char Areas of Abundance in gray shaded areas. Within these highlighted areas, there is known to be a high abundance of Arctic char that could, in principle I guess, be commercially fished. It does not mean that there are active fisheries in the area, only that it is an indication of significant populations of Arctic char.

In addition, there are a number of small points shown on this map. This information was taken from the Territorial Fisheries Regulations, which identify waterbodies, both lakes and rivers, as areas where commercial quotas have been assessed. Again, not that they are currently being fished, but it could indicate at least a high potential of being developed. All of this information collectively is identified in the Draft Plan as Valued Components, again for consideration.

On the right-hand side of this slide, we also see information associated with turbot fishing along the coast of the Qikiqtaaluk region. We do understand that there are ongoing active fisheries for this species. Within this region, there are no specific land use designations, but there is the identification of Valued Components throughout the territory for turbot as well as shrimp, primary in Baffin Bay. I will note in passing as well that the Cumberland Sound area near the Community of Pangnirtung, is included as a Limited Use Area due to its importance to the community for commercial and subsistence fisheries.

That concludes the overview of the four main chapters of the Land Use Plan. Those are all of the issues that the Commission has considered and proposed recommendations for how land use should be guided in consideration of these different values.

#### Chapter 6 Overview:

There is one more chapter to go through. This is Chapter 6, the Implementation Strategy of the Plan, which is a requirement of the *Nunavut Agreement* to have as part of the Land Use Plan an approach for how it will be implemented following its approval. There is a lot of important detail in this chapter, and I would just like to highlight a few key components to inform our discussions here this week.

The first point, to repeat myself again just to be very clear, the Land Use Plan is not going to apply to community subsistence land use and harvesting. Again, all of the different Plan requirements we have been talking about would not apply to community land users.

In addition, the Land Use Plan proposes specific uses that would be prohibited or not allowed. I have been giving examples of mineral exploration, oil and gas, quarries, maybe things like all-weather roads. If a use is not included in that list, that would mean that it is permitted. So, if you don't see things like scientific research or tourism or military exercises, then those uses would be permitted or supported by the Land Use Plan in the Limited Use Areas.

One additional note of clarification: Many land use designations, especially on the land, prohibit what we call linear infrastructure. Again, that is a term referring to things like all-weather roads, pipelines, and transmission lines. It is important to note that does not include temporary winter or seasonal roads. So, in areas that don't allow under the Draft Plan all-weather roads to pass through them or into them, a winter or seasonal road would be allowed. That is contained in a definition in, I believe Appendix B of the Land Use Plan.

### Existing Mineral Rights

I mentioned in the previous chapter that the topic of existing mineral rights is an important subject that is covered in Chapter 6. This is a new proposal just included in the most recent draft of the Plan. It impacts how all of the Limited Use designations function and represents a very important aspect of this Draft Plan that we want to take a little bit of time to go over here this afternoon.

First of all, the Commission recognizes the importance of the mining industry to the territory in general, and also the fact that it very much develops in multiple stages. As you are no doubt very aware, mineral exploration projects don't get proposed in their full scope right at the beginning of the process. Companies need an opportunity to go out, conduct exploration, identify the scope and scale of any deposits, and develop plans and strategies for how to extract those resources in an appropriate manner.

The issue arises is that when changes are made to those projects, a new review by the Nunavut Planning Commission is required. So, if a company has gone out and started exploration, they have good results and want to conduct more or larger-scale work, they have to submit a revised proposal to the Nunavut Planning Commission.

The challenge that arises is that if a Nunavut Land Use Plan is approved while these stages are ongoing and the Land Use Plan proposes to prohibit mineral exploration and development in these areas, that would create an obstacle or challenge for those companies to continue the work that they have already begun. So, because significant investments have been made throughout the territory including in areas that are being proposed in the Draft Plan to be Limited Use Areas with prohibitions on mineral exploration and development, the Commission has given special consideration to these areas with existing mineral rights.

To support the continued economic development in the territory, the 2021 Draft Plan proposes that projects with existing mineral rights within the proposed Limited Use Areas would be exempt from any prohibitions on mineral exploration and development when they undergo any significant changes that would require a new review by the Nunavut Planning Commission.

The Draft Plan identifies these areas in Appendix A of the Draft Plan, which we will take a look at in a minute. It is important to note that although this exemption would apply only to the prohibition on mineral exploration and development, other requirements of the Plan would continue to apply in the current Draft of the Plan. Again, these are areas with existing mineral rights within the red Limited Use Areas where the Commission is proposing that these exemptions from prohibitions would apply.

There has been a lot of discussion and concern and questions from all participants regarding this approach. One very common area of discussion is just exactly how these existing mineral rights shown in Appendix A were selected. I am just quickly going to pull from one of our Question-and-Answer documents to outline how that was done.

The first step was to download all of the existing mineral rights data from both the Government of Canada and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated for their subsurface parcels where they issue mineral exploration agreements. This information was taken from the spring of 2021 before the latest draft

was released. The Commission then only selected active projects for inclusion. I will note that this selection process removed existing mineral rights that were listed as suspended.

In discussions with the federal government, the Commission understands that this may not have been appropriate given how the status of suspended mineral rights applies, so we will be giving full consideration to updating these lists as appropriate following the close of the record.

We then selected only those rights that overlap with the proposed Limited Use designations in the Draft Plan that would prohibit mineral exploration and development. So, Appendix A is not meant to show all existing mineral rights in the territory, but only those within the proposed Limited Use Areas. The Commission also chose to remove from the list any projects that were not previously reviewed and approved by the Nunavut regulatory system. So, if projects had not yet begun physical work on the land and had not been reviewed and considered by Nunavut's regulatory system, they were not included, or if they had been reviewed by the regulatory system and not recommended to proceed.

Slide 60 shows this map of existing rights that fall within proposed Limited Use designations. Just at a glance here on this map, it certainly appears that the majority of these projects with existing rights are associated with the Mary River Project on Northern Baffin Island here in this region. Again, the Commission does recognize and appreciate all of the feedback that has been received to date on this approach. As with all issues in the Draft Plan, we welcome further comment, and all of this information will be given full consideration by Commissioners when the Plan is revised early in the New Year following the close of the record on January 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### Minor Variances, Plan Amendments & Periodic Review of the Land Use Plan

I mentioned how the Land Use Plan will be revised. This Draft Plan will be revised before it is submitted to the Government of Canada, the Government of Nunavut, and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated for consideration, but the Land Use Plan itself after it is approved, is also meant to be flexible and to continue to change. The phrase that often gets used is that it is meant to be a living document that is able to change and improve over time to respond to changing circumstances and information and priorities.

The Draft Plan identifies three ways in which the Plan can be changed or adjusted following its approval. The first and smallest of these changes is called a Minor Variance, which is a small change to a Plan requirement. Something like a setback or a minimum distance, a proponent is able to apply to reduce that setback based on the circumstances of their project, or a seasonal restriction.

Again, individual proponents can ask to vary or change those requirements by relatively small amounts. That process is meant to be done quickly. It is identified in the *Nunavut Agreement* and set out in more detail in the federal legislation, the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* that governs how the Commission conducts its business.

In this legislation, it identifies a short window in which the Commission can post notice and ask for any comments or objections on whether this variance should be granted. Because it is meant to be a small change, it can be done relatively quickly and without further approval by what we call the



signatory parties, or the Government of Canada, the Government of Nunavut, and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. So, that is a small, fairly quick change to a specific requirement of the Plan.

The Plan can also be amended at any time. That is more of a large-scale change to a Land Use Plan. I mentioned earlier the amendments made to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan associated with the Mary River Project. You may recall the Commission holding public hearings in your communities and considering that at much greater length.

Those Plan Amendment processes are meant for larger-scale changes to the Land Use Plan. Those could be associated with a specific project requested by a proponent, maybe to allow a use within a Limited Use designation that would otherwise be prohibited, or it could be used to incorporate new information.

We have used a simple example before of a community identifying a secondary or new drinking water supply that is not considered today. If in five years from now there is an approved Land Use Plan and a community identifies a new drinking water supply or any other value, that could be considered by the Commission as an amendment to the Land Use Plan to include that information.

In addition to minor variances for small adjustments or ongoing plan amendments to incorporate new information or priorities, the *Nunavut Agreement* also requires that the Plan be Periodically Reviewed. Periodically means from time to time. There is no set time limit within the *Nunavut Agreement* or the legislation for this process.

The Commission has heard from participants that they would like more certainty on when this periodic review would take place. In the 2021 Draft Plan, there is a new proposal from the Commission that this periodic review would take place between 7 and 10 years following the initial approval of the Land Use Plan.

Given that it has taken 15 years to get this far, the time period of between 7 and 10 years was viewed as sort of a compromise between some participants recommending every 5 years that the Plan be reviewed, and some considering 10 years. This was a bit of a balance, and it is important to note that this periodic review would be a comprehensive assessment of whether the *Broad Planning Policies, Objectives, and Goals* from 2007 are still appropriate and are still supported by communities and different government agencies, Regional Inuit Associations, and all planning participants, and whether the implementation of the Land Use Plan has been successful. How are things working year to year? Is this Land Use Plan still the best path forward for Nunavut or is there need for significant change to the Land Use Plan itself? That would be a large undertaking, again proposed to be within 7 to 10 years following the approval of the Land Use Plan.

#### Other Mapping Considerations

Goump, I will just jump ahead a few slides to show the North Baffin region of Map A. We are very much near the end of this presentation. Thank you for bearing with me. We just wanted to highlight what all of this looks like for this region. Again, you can see more detailed maps on the walls at the back.

In general, this is the Map A Land Use Designations Map we get from all of the topics we have covered here today. Again, the red shaded areas are the Limited Use designations. You can see, for example the Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine Conservation Area, the large red area in the center. Down towards Clyde River, you can see the proposed Aggutinni Territorial Park. Further north, you can see things like the North Water or Savarjuaq polynya, as well as some key migratory bird habitat sites on Axel Heiberg and Ellesmere Island, as well as the proposed territorial park around the Fossil Forests on Axel Heiberg, as well as different Peary caribou areas to the west.

The orange or dark yellow shaded area that you see within the region are largely driven by polar bear denning areas along the coast, as well as caribou sea ice crossings, again shown in yellow. Of course, we have our three national parks within the region shown in green.

If I jump back to this detailed table, I mentioned we had a high-level overview of this breakdown earlier this morning in Chapter 1. That is shown on the top where you see, for example in the first row of the first column, 65% as Mixed Use. That was across the whole territory. As you go down, there are breakdowns between terrestrial and marine.

I will note in general, there are more restrictions in Limited Use Areas on the terrestrial components across the whole territory, but then you can also look at this from a regional perspective. We don't have this broken down by the nominal North and South Baffin regions, but just as one Qikiqtaaluk region.

Here in the Qikiqtaaluk, the trend is actually a little bit different. You can see 13% of the land base in the Qikiqtaaluk region is Limited Use, but 19% of the marine environment is Limited Use, a lot of that difference being driven by the National Marine Conservation Area.

We also have a breakdown for existing mineral rights. Here in the Qikiqtaaluk region, 58% of existing mineral rights lie within proposed Mixed Use Areas where all uses would be permitted. 9% is within Conditional Use Areas where uses would be permitted subject to the Plan requirements, and 32% of the existing mineral rights in the Qikiqtaaluk region are within proposed Limited Use Areas. Those are the ones that would be subject to the preservation of those existing rights through the exemption from prohibitions.

#### Inuit Owned Lands

Lastly, we also have breakdowns for Inuit Owned Lands, both surface and subsurface. You can see the Nunavut-wide breakdown as well as the regional distribution. For example, in the Qikiqtaaluk, on surface lands, 12% of Inuit Owned Land surface parcels are within Limited Use designations, and 25% of subsurface parcels are within Limited Use designations.

The Commission has heard a great deal of concern from Regional Inuit Associations and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated about proposed restrictions on Inuit Owned Lands, and we will be hearing more about that here this week. I will perhaps note that here in the Qikiqtaaluk region, the impact is noticeably lesser than it has been in the Kitikmeot and Kivalliq regions, but nonetheless, there are some significant overlaps between proposed Limited Use designations, which are the cause of the greatest concern with Inuit Owned Lands surface and subsurface parcels.

As I have said, that was a fairly lengthy, but nonetheless high-level overview of the Draft Plan, attempting to highlight topics that are of most interest to those of us gathered today. We have attempted to incorporate responses to common questions throughout, but we certainly appreciate that there are likely many more questions. I will turn it back over to our Chair for next steps. Thank you very much.

Chairperson: Thank you, Jonathan. We will take a 15-minute break. If we have any questions, we will head into the question and answers next. We will take a quick 15-minute break before they ask questions. Thank you.

### Break

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: We can go ahead. Qujannamiik, Jonathan for your report. We will start with community members. Raise your hands if you have any questions regarding the statements that were made for the presentation. If you have questions after you raise your hand, you will be given the microphone. Any questions for Jonathan's report? We have two hands up. After these guys go first, then we will go to your question. Qujannamiik. We wrote the names down. We will follow the list of names as written. Charlie?

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Can you hear me?

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: We can hear you from this side. We can hear you on the headphones.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Can you hear me? Okay, you can hear me they said. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq for the presentation presented. It was a long presentation and a lengthy presentation. I wrote down some questions I had. I wrote down some statements I want to ask. I won't ask all of them. I will ask a short question, Mr. Chair. At the start of his presentation, he said we will have more opportunities up to January 22. Do I understand that correctly? Our statements, or statements from organizations, will we still have an opportunity to make statements up to the 22<sup>nd</sup>? Is that correct?

Jonathan: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you, Charlie, for the question. Just to clarify, yes, I mentioned any of the comments received here can count as your submission. If you would like to provide any additional comments, in particular through writing or the submission of any maps or things like that, the Commission will be accepting them until January 10<sup>th</sup> of 2023. So, there are still a few more months following the hearing to provide any further comments. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. To remind everyone, when you are going to speak, explain your name and which organization you are representing so we can write them down in our minutes. Make sure you state your name and your organization before you speak and before you ask any questions. Thank you.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My name is Charlie Inuarak, community member, and I represent the HTO. I am asking questions on behalf of the HTO. I do have another question. All these statements that were written down, can you hear me? Yep, there were a lot of statements in his presentation, and some were action statements. I will ask another question. The statements you

made regarding Tallurutiup Imanga becoming a conservation area, this will be made into a conservation area after attending multiple meetings and after it is enacted in Parliament. I want further clarification for his statement. Which month do you plan to have these matters? When will the federal government deal with these matters? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan?

Jonathan: Thank you very much Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. The Nunavut Planning Commission has not been directly involved in the establishment of this National Marine Conservation Area. If I could maybe defer to an update from the federal representatives here with us today or the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, for example, they may be in a better position to respond to when that may be completed. Again, that is not something that the Commission itself is responsible for, but perhaps some of the other participants may be able to provide more information. Thank you.

Chairperson: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik. Do you want an answer on this now, or can we go ahead with other statements, questions? You can talk to the federal government themselves and the representatives. They probably know more about this information, as this is not directly NPC's responsibility. We will deal with NPC's responsibilities now.

Charlie: (*Translated*): Thank you for your response. We have gone to meet regarding this matter that the federal government will enact a law to turn that into a conservation area. I told them that I want to make all the statements made from the HTO from Pond Inlet and community members, but I wanted the community members to be informed that there will be these news laws enacted in Parliament. If they don't tell us about it, we may not know that it had been enacted as a law.

I understand that the conservation area would be passed on to you. If that happens, we believe that the HTO or hamlet would be given responsibility for the conservation area. I believe that is my understanding, so I am worried if the federal government enacted a law to create the conservation area.

We get many ships during the summer here. Some are tourist ships, and there are many of them. When all these ships arrive to the community, we do have tourists disembark to the community, which is okay. The community members do travel with the cruise ships and do disembark passengers back and forth and driving back and forth real fast. I believe this impacts wildlife in the area. I want to make that first statement, and I will ask another question. I will hand it over to you.

Mr. Chair, it says here in the statement that NTI and the Inuit Organizations are first, as it says in the statement. Under the *Land Claims Agreement* that had been agreed to and signed to in the past. Looking at the contents, there are a lot of them with respect to wildlife, and there are lots of matters with respect to Inuit Traditional Knowledge, but there is something missing from your statement. We will say we all know what it is.

If we were to go pass a law, if we had so many people working like oil exploration companies or mining companies that go over and above the law, what can NTI or anybody else do to assist to help them? This process takes a very long time. Can we not add provisions within our meeting that NTI has the authority? I thought I had seen something like this that the federal government had said to NTI through ITK of this matter. I don't think it had been brought up or discussed by NTI, community

members, because that is not there. Your plans are missing a piece. If something were to happen, there is no provision for our organizations to say wait a minute, can you add that to your rules? Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Your question is geared more towards NTI, correct? It is not necessarily geared towards Jonathan's presentation. Can you explain what you were saying, because he did not understand?

Charlie: *(Translated)*: It is my directive to NTI that we can make adjustments with NTI's processes. We don't have anyone to say these things are happening. We don't have anyone to fight for us, and the laws we use don't have any strength, like you are catching too many narwhals. We have all these tools that NTI can't deal with. We don't have anyone to speak to. We don't have an ombudsman. I have thought about this before that when the Nunavut Planning Commission comes, we should enact this into the legislation that will be passed on to the federal government. I know that this matter has been brought up before, but it is not an actual law. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. That was not necessarily a question, but I do want to say that NTI will have an opportunity to speak here while we are here. I want it known to you guys that if you just make a statement, we are here to listen to your statements, to think about your statements. If you just make innocent statements, we still have to take that into consideration, as it is written into the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. When people just make a statement, we still have that January 10<sup>th</sup> as a deadline for your other statements.

I want everyone to know that we are the Nunavut Planning Commission and are here to listen to your statements and decisions. I just want to say again to feel free to express your statements, but we are geared more towards Jonathan's presentation. In our agenda, it says that the communities will have an opportunity to speak their minds, and you will have that opportunity at that time.

Now we are dealing with Jonathan's presentation and statements this morning and this afternoon. So, we are dealing with questions and statements to Jonathan's presentation. Tomorrow, the community members will have an opportunity to speak, and today we are dealing with Jonathan's presentation now. Qujannamiik. Lisa?

Lisa: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. My name is Lisa Ninguiik. I am from the HTO from Grise Fjord. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. The statements you made. I wish to ask a question regarding muskox. I believe you had said something about muskox that they have not been really researched in the past. Why have they not been researched so much in the past? Is it because there is not a lot of wildlife on Baffin Island?

It was said that muskox had a disease or sickness this year. Many people have seen dead ones this summer. They were studying the herds this summer, and they saw dead ones. Why is it that muskox have not been studied so much in the past? When I hear statements like that, muskox dying, I did not believe the muskox were dying. You said the land had to remain pristine and in clean condition.

I have travelled outside of our community up there. I have seen many 40-gallon barrels with liquid in them. There are many barrels up there. I have always talked about those barrels. Perhaps it is too expensive to go up there to do cleanups, and for that reason it seems nothing is being done in the territory, or it is just because they haven't gone up to the high area.

I have seen places where there are Peary caribou, and there was an area with battery fluid in 5-gallon barrels that were to be used for airport lighting. That was five years ago, and nobody has ever gone to clean them up. These barrels are in places where the muskox frequent. Can we deal with this sometime in the future? These toxins can go to humans through the food sources. I am really concerned about the muskox. When it said they have disease or sickness, and I have seen many muskoxen dead up there. This has been happening since Panarctic came up here in the past. We have seen much wildlife die off, and I think it was from the gases or fuels from Panarctic.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you, Lisa for your questions. The first question was in regard to the muskox and how they were not included in the Land Use Plan. I had mentioned that since 2007, the Commission has been working on the development of this Land Use Plan, and there has been a choice made to focus on what we call priority issues, or issues that were raised by a large number of participants.

That led to things like caribou and walrus and polar bear, but not species like muskox or wolverine or other species. Grizzly bear I mentioned as well. So, we have heard some information and recommendations about muskox and different species like wolves, for example as well. But only some of those species have been discussed at great length through this planning process, and muskox was not one of those ones that was included in earlier drafts and up until now.

As the Land Use Plan is being developed, we have added new topics into the Land Use Plan as they come up. For example, the beluga and bowhead calving areas are just new to this Draft. Someone raised those up, and the Commission listened and put those in the Land Use Plan. Muskox is just an example of something that is important, more important in some communities than others, but it just has not risen up the priority list to get in this Land Use Plan. That is another example of how when this Land Use Plan is approved, it won't be complete. It won't address every topic of concern, but that is something that can be looked at in the future through Plan amendments and periodic reviews and ongoing land use planning.

The other topic you mentioned was barrels, in particular with toxins and different materials in them. Yes, the Commission has heard repeatedly about these types of locations in the past. We have recorded some of that information through our community mapping sessions.

There is a large, shared mandate in dealing with waste sites and contaminated sites. I mentioned the Government of Canada maintains an extensive inventory of contaminated sites in the territory. The Government of Nunavut as well, is doing work on contaminated sites in the territory. The Nunavut Planning Commission, also as part of its mandate that we are not actively pursuing right now, includes the identification of waste sites.

So, we certainly do appreciate the concerns. As I mentioned, we have included those priority sites within the Land Use Plan. Different organizations gathered here today are working towards identifying and cleaning up those different locations, and right now work again is focused on the priority areas. That longstanding legacy of these different smaller sites is something that we as a territory need to continue to work on collectively. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Any further questions?

Lisa: *(Translated)*: Lisa Ninguiik, HTO. You don't have anyone to talk to regarding...It is not so much a question anymore. I understand what you are saying. I understand you know where these toxic things are located. I don't know how you could delegate someone, but if you could delegate someone, this is a high priority for us that may endanger our wildlife. I thank you. I understand your statements. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Olayuk?

Olayuk: *(Translated)*: I am Olayuk Naqitarvik, Hamlet of Arctic Bay. The question I am going to ask, if NPC cannot deal with it, I will stop asking about it and I will ask something else. The hamlet lands: is the NPC not able to deal with them because they are hamlet lands? Perhaps you can answer my question. I will express my concerns after that. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you again for the question. As I mentioned earlier this morning, the Nunavut Planning Commission does have jurisdiction within municipal boundaries, but only for certain types of land use. So, larger-scale industrial activities like the bulk storage of fuel, the deposit of waste, things like quarries, do need to conform to or be supported by the Commission's land use plans. Other activities, like new housing developments do not. So, there is a role within municipal boundaries.

I will also just quickly note that the Commission has tried in most cases to leave municipal lands for municipal management through your own community plans. So, where national defence sites or different values overlap with municipal lands, we have often chosen to identify those as Valued Components. Maybe I will stop there and see what the specifics are.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Olayuk?

Olayuk: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. This has been a concern of mine for a long time. I have been a councillor for the hamlet for a long time. We have lots of dust on our community roads. We have muddy roads, and we get very dusty. When I am driving on my ATV and I pass a vehicle, I can't see what is ahead of me. I have to stop and wait for the dust to settle, and I have trouble breathing. We have been in this situation for a long time. So, whoever had made agreements, they left something out. I am asking will our roads be dusty forever and ever. That has been a concern of mine for a long time. What is your opinion on that?

Chairperson: Jonathan?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Yeah, living in Cambridge Bay, we certainly appreciate the concerns regarding dust. It is very bad in our community as well. This issue of dust management and suppressing of dust is more of a municipal issue. So, the municipal council implements different strategies to try and minimize the amount of dust being generated. That is something that the Nunavut Planning Commission is not able to manage itself. Thank you.



Chairperson: Qujannamiik. You have another question?

Olayuk: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik. Yep, this will be a concern in our community for sure. Which organization can help us? I want to find out. I understand that it is basically a hamlet responsibility, but they do not have the funds necessary to deal with the matter. So, the first agreements in place had probably left these out. If we had these agreements in place, we would have had concrete, asphalt roads like Quebec. It seems like we will always be short of things up here. We will always be short of things up here.

The other item is I understood that our water reservoir is outside of municipal lands. So, if our community can deal with the matter, I had not thought that our water reservoir was outside of the hamlet lands. Can you inform us about how much out of hamlet jurisdiction our reservoir is? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. I want you to explain who you are and who your organization is. So, make sure you always state that. Thank you.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much Mr. Chair. In regard to the follow-up on the dust suppression thing, I would encourage you perhaps to discuss that with maybe the Government of Nunavut representatives here today through Community and Government Services. They may be able to provide more details on funding for that type of municipal infrastructure.

Regarding the drinking water supply, the water that your community relies on for drinking water, the source is within your municipal boundary. Where you are drawing the water is within municipal boundaries, but the waters that flow into that stream come from outside the municipal boundary. It is called a watershed, or the area in which the water drains into a common point. So, although you are drawing the water from within the municipal boundary, it is running into your municipality from further uphill. We can probably see that on the larger-scale map.

So, it is a portion of your drinking water supply that runs into your community for your use, and the Draft Plan proposes a Limited Use designation in that area that extends up into the surrounding hills to make sure that other uses don't contaminate the water that you are relying on for drinking. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Larry?

Larry: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Larry Audlauk, HTO. You already mentioned it, but you were talking with Mr. Naqitarvik about the dust. You can mention it under the term of wellbeing. He is talking about wellbeing of the community, which is part of the land use process, so I just want to tell you that. I am glad you mentioned the governments are listening. That is the shortcoming of a land use plan from territories. In Nunavik, their land claim is under the provincial government, so we should strive towards becoming a province.

I just want to also mention the fact that you are talking about Peary caribou. I know it is already written down. Peary caribou are never meant to become very huge herds and very large. They are island caribou, and they have never been very numerous. The fact is that the government is now telling the communities like Grise Fjord and Resolute that Peary caribou had become very close to being endangered species.



Therefore, they have been telling us how to go back to making them numerous and different steps to be done. They have been sending governments to come to work with us. Many of us do not recognize being blamed for decimating caribou numbers. We have never been to blame. It is exploration companies, Panarctic and Atlantic Richfield and different companies. We don't have helicopters and airplanes to go up there whenever we wanted to like they do. We are only able to go by Skidoo more often, only because the Skidoo is now going farther, for example. I just want to tell you that as well.

So, when you talk about Peary caribou, the onus is not so much on the Inuit people but by the industry and the scientific community. They have the technology and means to be north of Grise Fjord and Resolute more easily any time. So, they have to do more disturbing.

One last item in your presentation is just a note on the hydro issue. I hope that someday, you will be able to address the fact that when it comes to hydro initiative as part of the Land Use Plan not to use propellers. You know those big turbines, they are very dangerous for birds to fly into. They are dangerous for birds to fly into around the world. I hope they never come up North.

The last item is I want to say further that when you talk about heritage centers and using designated areas of important historical area, you could do well to think about the Commission and you guys thinking about the Northwest Passage becoming a World Heritage Site, because of the Northwest Passage history. The world knows about it, and it becomes a no-ship zone. It becomes a place that people can go see but not by ship, because it is too important. Charlie Inuarak said in summertime there are more and more ships wanting to go there. I know it is to go see it, but there must be some way to protect it further from too much traffic. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. It appears to be comments. Mark?

Mark: (Translated): Thank you, Itsivautaq. My name is Mark Aamarualik from Resolute Bay from the hamlet. One of the questions I had looking through the map for Peary caribou ice crossings, there is a lot of missed information where over the years we are discussing where Peary caribou cross from island to island. One of the few other things, having winter grounds and summer grounds, some of those were mentioned but I don't see them on any of the discussion on the map along with beluga, narwhal, and bowhead whale calving areas where they come to raise and feed. That was not written down. It is all missing. I had a few other things, but with coming to speak right away, I forgot what I was going to say. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you Mark for identifying those areas where the Plan may be missing information. I think we just remind again that here this week, we are here talking about different areas and looking for ways to improve the Land Use Plan. Again, that date up until January 10<sup>th</sup>, if you would like to provide more information or different maps of these areas that you think should be included in the Draft Plan, that would all be given full consideration by the Commission. Thanks for the note, and yeah, if there are areas where you think the Plan should be improved, we would be grateful to hear about it. Thank you.

Chairperson: Thank you. Mark? You done? Adrian?

Adrian: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik. Adrian Arnauyumayuq of Arctic Bay HTO. This is related to aircraft flying. There should be some no-fly zones. Traffic is becoming very heavy with sightseers, fisherman, and just people wanting to visit the territory. There are too many aircrafts now including helicopters. The areas where people want to fish is also a migratory bird sanctuary. There should be a restriction in the bird sanctuary area for aircrafts flying low. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: That seems to be a comment. Jonathan?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy, Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you, Adrian, for the comments and concerns about low-flying aircraft. That is something the Commission has heard about repeatedly over the years. Just as a reminder, the Land Use Plan does include height restrictions on flying over migratory bird colonies as well as walrus haul-outs in particular. So, in those two areas there are height restrictions for different aircraft included in the Draft Plan. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik, Moses?

Moses: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Moses Koonark, Mittimatalik. You spoke of an exploration drilling team I have seen on shores nearby. I can't tell you how large it is, but it has been worked on before. Some of it is on the shore. I am not saying where it is right now, because it is embarrassing how someone could operate in a situation where that place is. I think there has been some unexplained, unnoticed explorations in the past.

Chairperson: He said he found, what do you call it, oil or something coming out of the ground near the shoreline. He does not want to say it here, but he is wondering if he can mark it confidentially. That is his question. I don't know. That is how he said it.

(*Translated*): The question you have asked, you want to mark it in a confidential situation on the map? Yes.

(*English*): Yes, that was his question if he could mark it confidentially. Jonathan?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much Mr. Chair. I will ask our legal counsel to follow-up, but in my view, the Commission is running a public land use planning process, and the information we collect is shared publicly and put on our public registry. There are a few exceptions where we retain perhaps the name of the person who provided the information, but the locations we do need to make all that information public. I don't think we could record any confidential information.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. You good? Moses, you have other questions as hamlet of Mittimatalik?

Moses: (*Translated*): Moses Koonark. It is on shore, the one I have found. It is coming out of the ground, and it appears to be oil seeping out. Thank you for clarifying what I can face. I can make further clarifications of its whereabouts.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Elijah?

Elijah:

(Translated): I have a question to the Nunavut Planning Commission and to both levels of government. While at this hearing on the Draft Land Use Plan and wildlife, I have a question in relation to what we spoke about last week in Iqaluit. It is related to what you are conducting. There are many ways to indicate where people harvest, the land they want to select as priority. We want to keep these lands as they are, so I have a question.

As a hamlet rep, I didn't mention my name. My name is Elijah Panipakoochoo, my name is Kulugtuk (*phonetically spelled*). So, I pronounce my name to you. My kinship is across the table, Naqitarvik, Arctic Bay. I grew up in Mittimatalik. I have lived in many parts of the territory as we roam the land. There was a special constable. He worked in Salisfierd (*spelled phonetically*), and there are plenty of animals. It is very valuable and should be marked as priority area for wildlife. At that cove, there is a walrus haul-out, and at that time, people traditionally have used that spot. The walruses were plentiful. As of today, for some reason, it is no longer occupied by walruses. I don't know what causes for the walrus to abandon the haul-out site.

We have agreed to have Baffinland to work and explore in that area. Before their exploration, they said they will be cautious on wildlife sites. As they proceed to explore and as Mittimatalik HTO members and our Elder, our seen agreement was this exploration was sort of thrown out. We know they were going into an area where animals were plentiful. As we lived in that area, we kept the noise to a minimum knowing that animals were sensitive. As a hamlet council, we identified on a map, and we encompassed the valuable land sites for harvesting.

In 1963, it was a calving ground on the land we called Pingiqqalik, also Kingnartuaq, they are both calving grounds, one near Igloodik. We marked on the map the valuable land that we wanted anything to leave alone because of abundant wildlife. As we met in Iqaluit a few weeks ago, I asked how we can preserve this area as a valuable wildlife area. How are we going to allocate it? Now who is going to take that piece of land, the mining companies? Area Inuit to have it as harvesting area? We would like this area to be cleared and prohibited for exploration and mining campsites, because it very plentiful in wildlife according to Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit. We need a strong area where prohibitions would be in place.

As hunters, we are told you have caught too many polar bears, too many caribou, and this is all one direction coming down to us. According to Inuit IQ, we can preserve the wildlife area very carefully. Now why don't you as government, NTI ask advice from us rather than to keep dictating downward? It is an always changing area. Land is changing. Climate change has caused havoc. Geese are coming in earlier. Sometimes they are late now due to weather change.

You as a Planning Commission, you come and ask us how the land should be planned. Here in this room, we should be able to make plans where the North Baffin Land is. All at once now, the weather has changed drastically affecting wildlife, and our policies should reflect these changes. We need monitors in parts of the land so it can be pristine like it was some time ago: water crossing areas for the caribou herd during spring; calving grounds they migrate to their area; and during the fall, they migrate south. We need these lands protected so we can survive. How would you be able to keep our land that we use for harvesting intact?

Chairperson:

(Translated): Qujannamiik. I mentioned the Nunavut Planning Commission is here to discuss what our concerns are. You will be able to make a presentation to different organizations that will be scheduled to speak tomorrow. So, what we want now are questions related to the presentation

Jonathan had today. When the time comes, you can talk about your concerns when different organizations and governments do their presentation tomorrow. You can bring it and explain to the government tomorrow. Limeekie? Your name please, your community, your organization.

Limeekie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Limeekie Palluq, Kangiqtugaapik hamlet representative, Deputy Mayor. As we looked at the maps today, it occurred to me in my community there is a group concern with proposed parks. These people should have been included at this session, because their job is to create and plan towards a proposed park that we want to prepare in our community. I am sad that he didn't come along now. I think we should have asked communities what interest groups that may have been able to make a presentation related to land use planning.

The dust was mentioned earlier. As a community member of Arctic Bay said, this dust in communities is very serious. I have a concern, but it was expressed so I won't further go into it.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: We have governments at both levels here, and you can bring this to their attention tomorrow. They will be making their presentation. Jonathan, do you have an answer to the question, the concerns?

Jonathan: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you for bringing up the issue of the parks, interests in your community moving forward. I would just like to repeat that the Draft Plan does include a proposed Limited Use designation, for example, for the proposed Aggutinni Territorial Park with year-round prohibitions. If there are others in your community that you feel should be involved in this process, I guess I would again remind about that January 10<sup>th</sup> date. If the group responsible for park planning and development has any comments, they could get in touch with us and provide those before that January 10<sup>th</sup> deadline. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have additional questions, Limeekie? Okay, thank you. Marty?

Marty: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Marty Kuluguqtuk. As you can see, I am stuck with the name Marty, Hamlet of Grise Fjord. My question is in your presentation this morning, the communities in Nunavut, there are many organizations in Nunavut. My concern is the migration bird sanctuaries and attempts to keep these areas safe. We have our kokvik near our community where there are a lot of birds converging in a certain area, Ahiak and other bird species, nesting sites.

It reminded me where my community would be priority, which would be most effective to have these committees working with us. Kangiqtuaapik also has a group related to protection of bird sanctuaries, and there appears to be a big bird sanctuary in the Kitikmeot area. Their policies and their rules for looking after these bird sanctuaries interests us. So, my question to you is, would it affect us if the Nunavut Planning Commission and you Commissioners while community members who have not presented have interest in these areas? Would you be able to deal with them?

Chairperson: Jonathan?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much. I may not have gotten the full question, but I understand it was in regard to migratory bird sanctuaries and how they are being managed and who is responsible for them. Maybe you can follow-up, but I just wanted to note that the migratory bird sanctuaries exist in all regions of Nunavut. They have been established through the Canadian Wildlife Service with

Environment and Climate Change Canada. They do have area co-management committees in place to review activities within the bird sanctuaries.

The Commission has heard from both the Canadian Wildlife Service and those area co-management committees that the Land Use Plan should include Plan requirements in these areas to support their management. However, other participants have indicated concern with including these management approaches in the Draft Plan, as it could go beyond what was agreed to within the Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements, for example. That might be just a little bit of background. Did I understand the question? Sorry, I will stop and see.

Chairperson: Go ahead, Marty.

Marty: I will explain in English. The relationship between ACMCs and the Commission. Who takes precedence over who?

Chairperson: Go ahead, Jonathan.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. In the Nunavut regulatory system, the Nunavut Planning Commission has jurisdiction within these areas, as does the area co-management committee. The Nunavut Planning Commission and our land use plans are the first step in Nunavut's regulatory process. If a process is supported by the Land Use Plan, it then goes on to other regulatory authorities responsible for the management of those areas.

The area co-management committees have recommended that the Land Use Plan put in some minimum requirements, including things like setbacks and year-round prohibitions on certain industrial activities. If that is agreed to in an approved Nunavut Land Use Plan, those requirements would then apply to all activities within migratory bird sanctuaries before it gets to the area co-management committee. That is one path forward. Some participants have expressed concern with that and would like the Nunavut Planning Commission to pass on all project proposals within migratory bird sanctuaries directly to other regulatory authorities like those area co-management committees.

If a mining company wanted to do exploration in there, the Draft Plan would say no, that is not appropriate as the way the Plan is currently drafted. The alternative would be the Plan would have very little to say about the area. It is a migratory bird sanctuary, but we are going to leave the specific management in the hands of the area co-management committee. Those two different options are what the Commissioners will need to be considering following the close of the record. We do encourage any further feedback on which of those options would be preferred. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Sharon?

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehloak, Executive Director, Nunavut Planning Commission. Marty, thank you for your comments and your questions. I want to say just for all community participants, your concerns that you are raising and your questions of authority, the Commission mandate is outlined in the *Nunavut Agreement* and in the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*. So, what we do has a limited scope.

In saying that, the Draft Plan is here for each of you to tell us if you like it, if you don't like it, and other recommendations. So, Marty, if you had different recommendations that you wanted to advise the Commission and others of what the Draft Plan currently says, when you do your presentation, you will have an opportunity to do so.

You will also have the opportunity to question the other presenters, the other communities, the governments, the other organizations, NTI, the KivIA, sorry the Qikiqtani Inuit Association. You do have an opportunity to have a say. I want to make that very clear to everyone. Again, as we have said several times already today, you have an opportunity to do that in writing or to tell us orally up until January 10<sup>th</sup> when the record closes. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Marty, do you have any other questions?

Marty: Qujannamiik. Marty Kuluguqtuk, Hamlet of Grise Fjord. Thank you for the comment and response. I just wanted to make a quick...Well, in my eye a huge issue is really enforcement. At the end of the day, at the end of the Commission and the final Draft, what is the plan for enforcement? I know that is a big question, but we all need to address it sometime or another. I will just stop there for now. Thank you.

Qujannamiik Qujannamiik. Jonathan?

Jonathan: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thanks again, Marty for the additional question. As you note, the issue of enforcement is a big issue, and it is a shared issue and responsibility. I would first like to note that any of the requirements that get agreed to and approved in a Nunavut Land Use Plan are required to be incorporated into any licenses, permits, or authorizations issued by other regulatory authorities, including many of the participants gathered here today.

If there are height restrictions on aircraft, if there are setbacks from certain features, or seasonal restrictions on when an activity can take place, those requirements on the Land Use Plan get passed on to other regulatory authorities, and they have to include those in the licenses that they issue. So, if you are a landowner or the Impact Review Board or the Research Institute, they have to include those into the authorizations. Again, that is not enforcement, but that is an important step of how the Plan would get implemented.

Each of those other regulatory authorities also have their own monitoring and enforcement obligations as well. So, the Regional Inuit Associations do inspections and site visits. We know the federal government has inspectors that travel the territory and visit some sites to ensure compliance with their authorizations. The Nunavut Impact Review Board does site visits and inspections. All of those organizations have a responsibility to contribute to the monitoring and enforcement of the Land Use Plan.

The Commission has a role to monitor the implementation of the land use plans, and that is not something that is very well defined. We at the Commission don't have inspectors. We don't do site visits or anything like that. The reality is, as I am sure you are aware, there are very few inspectors who do go out and visit these locations regularly. It does exist, but it is not as frequent as many would prefer it to be.

We know that in practice, a lot of the eyes on the ground or in the water end up being community members. In practice, you may be out on the land and see something that is taking place that is not appropriate. Certainly, community members are not inspectors or anything like that, but in practice, that is where many of the reports initiate. We might hear word of a community member seeing something take place, and we try to point that information in the right direction to other regulatory authorities to ensure it is addressed.

That is something that the Commission is working on improving, being a better facilitator and communicator of information with community members who are out there, but at the end of the day, it does remain an ongoing challenge to ensure that inspections and enforcement take place with regularity. As I have noted, it is very much a shared responsibility. Maybe I will stop there, but it is a big issue for a lot of people.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Marty, are you done? Joshua? I have written your name down. I am following the list. Joshua is written down. It will be your turn after Joavee. Yep, I have written your names down. When it is your turn, I will get to you. Be patient. Go ahead, Joshua.

Joshua: Qujannamiik. Joshua Idlout, Deputy Mayor, Hamlet of Pond Inlet. To Jonathan, I have a few questions on when we went through the Limited Use and Conditional Use and Valued Components. We've got some issues that we are dealing with today with one being the mining ore and dust issues. Along the route from here to Igloolik or Arctic Bay, there is on the road, you can see how far the dust issues are affecting the land on Limited Uses on what we marked on what we want protected in our area. My companion and our Elder when it comes to our turn, we will present those when we have to present them.

How the effects when you give a mining company and their areas that the boundaries that they are on, and it goes off that boundary toward our areas we want protected, if it is affected there. You said that they have existing rights, and I guess my question is when is the 7<sup>th</sup> year or 10<sup>th</sup> year we can look into Baffinland's existing rights so we can address these issues regarding the effects that happened on the lakes, the drinking waters, the mammals, and the caribou or wildlife?

You can hear stories from hunters, and we have seen pictures of our wildlife with red coats from iron ore dust. They are not even near the mine, from the dust that is blowing to the certain areas. These issues, is it part of NPC's concerns? Do they bring them up as well? I guess that is my question for you guys this afternoon. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you, Joshua, for the question. I note, yeah, the Commission has heard of the extensive concerns regarding dust associated with the Mary River Project. I want to note the distinction between the Land Use Planning requirements and the ongoing management of projects that are supported by the Land Use Plan itself.

As the front door or the entry point to Nunavut's regulatory system, our land use plans set out the first level of requirements that project proposals need to follow. Once a project conforms, which is the word we use, or is supported by the Land Use Plan, it is passed on as I have mentioned to other



regulatory authorities who do a more detailed review of the individual projects, their impacts, and the management of those activities.

In general, the Commission does not get involved in the ongoing management of a project that has been supported by the Land Use Plan. Because the Mary River Project is already underway, is already in the regulatory process, its operation and continued management has largely been transferred to other regulatory authorities. For example, of course the Nunavut Impact Review Board, I am sure you are very familiar with, do develop the more detailed terms and conditions in a project certificate for which these large-scale projects need to operate under. The ongoing evaluation and monitoring of how effective those terms and conditions are and whether they need to be changed or adapted, is within the mandate of the Nunavut Impact Review Board, the landowner, and other regulatory authorities.

Just to link back, you mentioned the 7-to-10-year review period of the Land Use Plan that we are proposing. That again, is only applicable to the requirements of the Plan itself. So, we would not necessarily in that process be evaluating in detail how terms and conditions outside of the scope of what is in the Draft Plan are functioning. This is probably a bit too longwinded of an answer, but I think yeah, there is a distinction between the Land Use Plan, what it requires as a base level of terms and conditions or requirements a project needs to follow, and then when it is passed on like the Mary River Project has been, that ongoing monitoring and evaluation and assessment is not the responsibility of the Planning Commission. Maybe I will stop there. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik, Joshua. Any other questions?

Joshua: Maybe. When that 7-to-10-year review is happening, would we be involved, the hamlets, or would it just be you guys?

Chairperson: Jonathan?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Sorry if that was not clear. The periodic review of the Land Use Plan between 7 to 10 years is very much a public process much like this. It would involve all of the communities, all of the levels of government, industry. It would be involving all participants throughout that review. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Is that it? Joavee? Which one of you is Joavee? We had written your name down. We are just following the list. Okay, Sakiasee, go ahead.

Sakiasee: (*Translated*): I am glad. I want to leave now. My name is Sakiasee Qaunaq from Arctic Bay. I believe I am the oldest guy here of everybody, older than everybody here. I have two questions. One of them, on page 34 or Slide 34 regarding Ikpikittuarjuk, why is that point marked in red? I have another question after that regarding the hearing. I will have a statement regarding that, but my first question is in our waters, Ikpikittuarjuk point is shaded red. Why is that?

Chairperson: Jonathan, go ahead.

Jonathan: Sorry, I am not sure about the slide number. I am on Slide 34 on the left-hand screen.

Sakiasee S: Slide 4.



Jonathan: 54.

Sakiasee: Slide 4. Yeah, that one. Why is that point shaded red?

Chairperson: Jonathan? He is asking why that is red?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much. Apologies for the confusion. This map has just chosen to use the colour red for the area south of Arctic Bay, as we know in English as Moffet Inlet. That area was identified by your community back in 2012 during our community consultations as a very important marine area for harvesting and wildlife, as well as the shoreline around the inlet. Previous drafts of the Plan had included it as the equivalent of the Limited Use Area on the basis of the concerns that were noted by communities.

As I had mentioned, it is now within the proposed National Marine Conservation Area that the Commission anticipates will be fully established soon. So, that area was identified by your community as being very important to your wellbeing. However, it is not included in this current Draft as a Limited Use Area because for this reason, because it falls within the larger National Marine Conservation Area at this time.

Sakiasee: (*Translated*): Yeah, we used to live there since I was a child. It has seals, and during the summer, it has harp seals. It has char. It doesn't have other wildlife. It has no narwhal. That is what I know about that place. I understand your statement regarding this place, so my question now is regarding the hearing or the Commission.

I believe there have been two public hearings. I believe this will be the third. In the past when Mary River started up and they were starting their mining, we had come here for meetings. We were informed of all these great things that you desired and that were going to happen later on in the future. Baffinland's mine, they were telling us of all these great benefits. They broke us up into groups and even asked what do you want from this project? That was how it was.

It is obvious the federal government has approved the project, so Baffinland was planning for Steensby Inlet. When the ships starting shipping from Milne Inlet, all these issues started showing up. There were more issues arising from those issues, and this was after the federal government had approved the project. We are not Indigenous tribes. We can't just protest against things we don't like and create negative impressions.

I remember I became aware a long time ago. In 1951, we were very hungry in our part of our land. We were even able to eat dead dogs. I was a child. I was fed dog meat from a dog that had starved, which was cooked. We used to be very poor. I have even heard that near Milne Inlet, people had starved and ate fellow humans up there. That is near Milne Inlet. In the past, we used to be very poor when there were no southerners around. There were only a few prosperous families.

The products we had to sell in the 1960s, fox skins cost \$4 dollars. Seal skin cost \$2 dollars. The rest did not have any prices on them. We were very poor to be able to buy supplies. Around 1950 in Arctic Bay, four men had boats, but today, we need to agree on things, to work together with others today. We need to cooperate with others today.

When Nunasivik was open, I had gone down south with others around 1970, and down south I saw southerners eating from landfills, and people sleeping outside. That was too much. I did not know why they were in that situation. After a few years had passed around 1980, I went to Iqaluit, and there were homeless people on the Northern Store porch. Today, we are in the 2000s, and in Baffin Island there are homeless people. Are we going to say no to a project that will provide monies? The skins and tusks of wildlife that we sell, it is obvious that they won't always have the prices they have now. Today, narwhal tusks cost the most, but it is obvious that their prices will drop in the future.

If I had never had a job and I die, my wife won't get what I left for her. If I had a job and die, my wife will get my benefits. Jobs are very important in Nunavut. We are from Baffin Island. We are not Indigenous peoples from down south. We need to work very closely with southerners in these matters for the hearing. I have a lot of statements. I don't want to make a statement too long. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. I believe that was just a statement, not a question. Thank you. Namen?

Namen: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Namen Inuarak, HTO Pond Inlet. I have two questions from your presentation. First question I want to ask is regarding the military ships. This summer we had a Navy ship pass through our waters. It was traveling slowly. We had not been informed why that Navy ship was up here and what it was doing. You said earlier that hunting during the summer here is a high priority for the community members, and all these ships are disturbing the hunting and wildlife. You had said we can halt these activities, like shipping activities along with Navy ships. Who can we talk to regarding that navy ship and what it was doing, and how can we stop them from coming here? That is my first question.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan?

Jonathan: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you for the excellent question. I guess there is a little bit of a complication here. I will note that the Land Use Plan, the Draft Plan does include proposed measures on restricting some marine shipping. I made mention of specific setbacks around important wildlife or environmental areas, as well as things like seasonal restrictions on, for example caribou sea ice crossings or community on-ice travel routes.

Those requirements apply to all, what are referred to as projects. That is what the Commission has jurisdiction to review, and any of these Land Use Plan requirements would apply to vessel traffic generally. However, the issue of naval ships, for example like the Canadian Coast Guard operates within the territory and typically those activities are not submitted to the Nunavut Planning Commission as specific project proposals. We understand that they are operating in Nunavut and support the safety and passage of other vessels entering and operating within the territory.

So, for things like Canadian Coast Guard operations or different military activities, not all of those do get classified as specific projects that need to be reviewed by the Nunavut Planning Commission. In fact, there have been discussions regarding exemptions from those types of movements from the requirements of the Land Use Plan where necessary.

I do note that some larger-scale military and naval exercises are received by the Nunavut Planning Commission. So, if there are training exercises of which there are usually several each summer,

those are considered projects that do get submitted to the Nunavut Planning Commission and are required to follow the requirements of the Land Use Plan. Unless we know the specific purpose and intent of a vessel movement, it is hard to say whether they would be subject to these requirements in the Draft Plan. I will stop there for now. Thanks.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. You can ask again another question.

Namen: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik. Namen Inuarak, HTO Pond Inlet. Your statement earlier regarding ships, regarding naval ships, you had said during hunting season that the naval ships can be asked not to come here. That seems to be not a true statement, so I want to ask another question that they tell the communities what they are doing. Who did the naval ship tell the community what they were doing?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. As an NPC staff, I am not entirely familiar with which Navy vessels in particular may report to when they conduct their operations. I guess I could encourage discussion with the federal representatives that are here today.

I do, however, appreciate very much the concern of community members encountering activities on the land that they are not aware of. That is a significant concern that has been mentioned repeatedly to the Commission over the years. As I had noted earlier, the Commission is working to develop a more proactive approach of communicating to communities the projects that we receive and are aware of. In the future, we very much hope to be able to provide each community with a list of advance notice of projects that are active and upcoming in the area near your community.

For this specific issue of a naval ship, that is complicated a little more by the fact that we may not be aware of it. Maybe the federal government can advise on their practices on Navy vessels in particular, but I do just want to note that the Commission very much appreciates this concern and is working to assist as best we can in informing communities of the projects that are occurring near their communities. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Another question? Go ahead.

Namen: (*Translated*): Thank you, Mr. Chair. Namen Inuarak, Pond Inlet HTO. The HTO is an organization and not a Designated Inuit Organization. They have authority. They are the environmentalists. That as well, we need to be better informed of both these matters of people and ships coming up into the area.

I have a different question regarding mining. For example, when a mine is operating, they lease land. The leased land has boundaries, and they can only do work inside those boundaries. They can only do certain things within the boundaries. These projects are approved by the Minister. They need to be approved by the Minister after going through the Nunavut Impact Review Board. The Minister for Nunavut Government for Environment has been asked to research how the Inuit have been impacted by mining. I believe that Baffinland is polluting the land way more than they are allowed to in their land lease. The Minister of Environment had been requested to look into the matter, and he said no. So, how can we deal with these matters properly when the people who are

supposed to be our representative don't want to help us with our impacts? Qujannamiik. That is my question.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan?

Jonathan: Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you again for the question. As I had noted earlier, the management of ongoing and existing projects is not something that the NPC has a large role in once they have been considered to be supported by the Land Use Plan. We do have some monitoring responsibilities as I mentioned previously. The adjustment of those terms and conditions is something generally that I know is done through the Nunavut Impact Review Board's process, as well as potentially other regulatory authorities that have issued those authorizations, so I don't feel comfortable providing too much more information on that process and how you could best express your concerns and have them addressed.

I do know that it is the responsibility of other agencies, and I perhaps encourage discussions with those other participants who are here. The Nunavut Impact Review Board itself is not here at this hearing, but maybe I will leave it at that and see if any other participants in attendance may have further information that I don't. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Is that it for your questions?

Norman: *(Translated)*: He didn't really answer my question, but it seems that other organizations will be able to answer my question. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: They will have the opportunity to present their presentation. We will have opportunities to ask them. We are dealing mostly with this morning's presentation. Thank you. Nysana?

Nysana: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Naysana Qillaq, Clyde River HTO. You had said that regarding oil exploration and my question is in our community, near our community. They wanted to do seismic testing, and that was put off or delayed. Have you planned for that, oil exploration?

Chairperson: Johnathan?

Jonathan: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair, and thank you for the question. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission again. In terms of oil and gas exploration and production, the Commission is certainly aware of the current moratorium on oil and gas exploration and development across the Canadian Arctic. The Draft Plan has not incorporated anything like that in the Draft.

What it does include is the identification of areas where oil and gas exploration is not considered to be appropriate. Many of the Limited Use designations that are proposed in the Draft Plan prohibit oil and gas exploration and development. Looking at Map A, most if not all of those red Limited Use Areas prohibit oil and gas exploration within their boundaries. That could be Cumberland Sound turbot fishing areas. That could be the Tallurutiup Imanga Proposed National Marine Conservation Area, different migratory bird habitat sites, walrus haul-outs, and certain whale calving areas that would all include a proposed prohibition on oil and gas. So, within those areas under the Plan as currently drafted, those activities would not be allowed to proceed in the Draft Plan. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have another question?

Nysana: (*Translated*): Nysana Qillaq from HTO. These things you are planning for, they are related to the communities. Can you show those communities what those things are related to? Once you show the community members, then they may wish to add some things. Is that possible?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan?

Jonathan: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Just to be clear, we have attempted to present an overview of the different areas here today where those restrictions would apply. We do have copies of the Draft Plan and the maps on the walls. As I have mentioned, most of those proposed Limited Use Areas would have these restrictions on oil and gas exploration. Through this lengthy process including the hearings here today and up until January 10<sup>th</sup>, we are collecting feedback on whether the proposed requirements in the Draft Plan are appropriate, both in terms of what they do and the areas that they apply to. I am not sure if now is a great time to go back and highlight all of those areas, but maybe we can look at the map, for example on the side as a way to get a better feel compared to what was presented here today. Maybe I will stop there. Thanks.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are you done? I don't have any more names on my list. I will ask the registered participants if they have any questions. Paul?

Paul O: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Paul Okalik, World Wildlife Fund. Can you hear me okay?

Chairperson: Okay, go ahead.

Paul O: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Paul Okalik, World Wildlife Fund. I am here today, and the question that was asked by my cousin, Elijah Panipakoochoo wasn't really answered. He was trying to ask about the planning process, if certain wildlife could be protected within the Plan. He had asked that question, if you can respond to that question. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan?

Jonathan: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Apologies if a question was not answered. My understanding of what Paul was just asking is whether wildlife can be protected through the Land Use Plan. If I understand the question correctly, I would note that the Land Use Plan is an appropriate tool to protect wildlife habitat in particular, and wildlife from particular impacts of land use activities. The Draft Plan does include a number of measures to protect different types of wildlife and wildlife habitat, including the different species that we have been discussing here today, both marine in terms of walrus and whales, as well as land-based areas for things like caribou and polar bear denning through both Limited Use designations and Conditional Use designations. Either of those are considered to be appropriate measures for wildlife and habitat management. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Is that it, Paul? Are there any other questions from the registered participants? If there are none, I have two names: Jimmy. Is Jimmy still here? Jimmy, you can go ahead with your

question regarding the statements made from this morning's presentation and along with this afternoon's presentation.

While we are waiting, we can go to Joavee. Joavee, go ahead and ask your question.

Joavee: Thank you. This is Joavee Etuungal from Pond Inlet. I have a question. How come you never mark Milne Inlet red mark where narwhal usually know where it goes? It is very, very important, the Milne Inlet to us, because our narwhals usually go there and make babies. You should mark it, red mark. It is very, very important to us.

We need more help from the cruise ships. They ask to go to Pond Inlet, not Devon Island. They go into Devon Inlet, not Pond Inlet. We agreed to them to go to Pond Inlet, not Devon Island. We need more help about the cruise ships and where they are going. We need more cameras where the green marks are. They should have a camera. We are losing animals, and us hunters, we are less hunting animals. We see barely narwhals today. We need very, very help from the government.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan, go ahead.

Jonathan: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Regarding Milne Inlet and its importance for narwhal, I will note that the Land Use Plan does identify Milne Inlet for its importance to narwhal. It is included in the Draft Plan as a Valued Component in Appendix A or B of the Land Use Plan itself. However, this area is also within the proposed Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine Conservation Area and is included for that reason as a Limited Use Area.

Regarding the concern of cruise ships and where they go, that has certainly been considered throughout the development of the Land Use Plan. We have noted areas of concern for cruise ships. Communities have identified, for example, concerns around cruise ships and their approach to walrus haul-outs. The Draft Plan includes a number of different setback distances for both the large cruise ships themselves as well as smaller launch boats in terms of how close they can approach. So, this land use planning process has considered that and can be an effective way to manage cruise ships and their routing and activities. If there are additional ways in which the Land Use Plan could manage cruise ship traffic and activities, that would of course, be welcome feedback. Thank you for your comments, and I will stop there.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have any other questions?

Joavee: *(Translated):* So, Baffinland brings ore to Milne Inlet. I think they have three huge ships, and they are in a convoy. They are counted that as one. You can't count three ships as one. They have removed so much from our hunting areas. They are affecting hunting areas. We need help from the federal government regarding Mary River. All of Nunavut is turning on us, and there are places we are not allowed to hunt now. We definitely need support from the government.

Chairperson: *(Translated):* Qujannamiik. I believe that is mostly a comment. It is not a question. If you have any other questions, you can go ahead, or are you done?

Joavee: *(Translated):* I am wondering if the Nunavut law can be changed so that all people in Nunavut can be allowed to hunt. Thank you.

Chairperson: Sharon?

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you for the question. Sharon Ehaloak, Executive Director for the Planning Commission. With regard to the hunting laws, that is not within the Commission's mandate, but the government regulators and agencies that are responsible for those specific laws are listening. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. I have no more names. We shall close for today. We will go ahead tomorrow at 9:00 and reconvene. We are done for today. Thank you, Jonathan for your report. We will see you tomorrow.

*(Applause)*

**End of Day 1**

## **DAY 2: OCTOBER 25, 2022**

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Ulaakut. Hello. We are going to start now. Before we start, Sharon has housekeeping items. Sharon?

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Good morning, everyone. Welcome back to Day 2 of our public hearing in Pond Inlet. We would just like to say thank you to the hamlet and...are the headsets not working? Lisa? I don't think the headsets are working.

Okay, so we would like to say thank you to the hamlet and all the people who are supporting the process, and to our team at the back. Just a couple of reminders: We are on live feed on YouTube, Isuma and Facebook. Please while the proceedings are happening, only one person talking through the Chair at a time. Please put your phones on silent. Again, the emergency exits, there is one over on the right, two over on the left, and the washrooms are in the back. Snacks, coffee, water, please help yourself. We are looking forward to another productive day, and we will see how the day goes, whether or not we will be having an evening session. It is very important we stay on schedule so we know later in the day, depending on the amount of questions, if we will be having an evening session. We will advise that this afternoon. With that, Mr. Chair, I will turn it back to you. Thank you very much.

Apologies, so just a reminder for the presentations: Each of the presenters for each of the communities and the HTOs, you have 30 minutes each for your presentation and then 20 minutes each for your questions and answers. We are starting with the community presentations first. So, the first up today is the Hamlet of Grise Fjord, and the HTO of Grise Fjord will be going first. Then we will just continue on for the full day's agenda down to the Hamlet of Clyde and the HTO of Clyde River.

Again, for the community delegates, if you need anything, please see our staff for assistance. Thank you, Mr. Chair.



Chairperson: Qujannamiik, Sharon. We will stick to the agenda as prepared. I would like to invite Grise Fjord Hamlet and HTO to the head table. After your presentation, I will be asking for the public to question you. Before you proceed, state your name and your organization please, and your community. Whenever you are ready, please proceed.

### **Presentation by the Hamlet & HTO of Grise Fjord**

**Marty Kulugtuk**

**Jimmy Qaapik**

**Lisa Ningiuk**

**Larry Audlauk**

Marty: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Thank you for allowing us to make a presentation. My name is Marty Kuluguqtuk, Hamlet of Grise Fjord. To my right is Lisa Ningiuk, HTO and Larry Audlauk, HTO. Jimmy Qaapik is a hamlet representative. Thank you for allowing us to make a presentation and participate at this public hearing.

This Land Use Plan has been ongoing since 2012 according to the documents, and up to today. We are very happy for allowing the Nunavut Planning Commission to conduct these hearings. We have concerns from our community, and we have expressed these concerns through the hamlet and HTO many times. Our concerns need to be addressed, and this appears to be the right course.

We all understand that the Nunavut Planning Commission Draft Land Use Plan will be ongoing, and it is listed that our lifestyle will not be altered that much through land use planning. It is important that we care for our environment, our wildlife. To my colleagues, they will have their turn to express their opinions. I just have a brief presentation on the concerns we have. There will be additions from my colleagues.

As I mentioned, there are concerns in our community, our public back home. Our community is quite concerned. Since 2012, there is a concern on land use planning, and again in 2016, we were aware that there were amendments that were required to complete the land use planning. Since 2012, starting from there, it was the first time we were made aware of what was to proceed.

Our concerns are polar bears and polar bear denning areas and priority. Our wildlife is pretty much a concern in general, clean drinking water, surrounding area caribou within our community vicinity. I want to make this clear that we are concerned in the items I have mentioned. Bird sanctuaries are also a big concern to us, and our shorelines and our rivers need to be preserved and cared for. These are the concerns in our community. Our rivers where our fish migrate, and spawn have to be protected and cared for according to what we discussed in 2016.

Lastly, but not the least, we need to be concerned as a community with cruise ships and tourism. We all know and for many times, I will mention again that the cruise ships coming into our area are becoming numerous. Not only the cruise ships, but there are other things as well, such as helicopters flying all over the place, and many people have come into our areas. People can afford to hire helicopters. Helicopters are flying everywhere to tour. Many organizations in our community are concerned of these disruptions.



We are trying to look at the situation, but then again, our community is divided as well as any place for those who are pro-tourists and for those who are on the conservation side. So, these are the main concerns we have.

I have mentioned our concerns. As mentioned earlier, the polar bear denning areas need to be looked at. The community as well that has polar bear hunting, at the same time following Government of Nunavut regulations in relation to polar bear. So, we have looked at maps giving indication where polar bear habitat denning areas are. We need conservation, protection on the environment where these species are.

Looking at the maps that we have prepared in the past, we need to make people aware. I have to look at my documents. I did not bring any maps. We indicated on the maps of known locations where denning areas are. We have indicated these denning areas on maps.

On the other hand, our hunting areas have to be preserved, and we have concerns. We understand that our lifestyle as Inuit is focused on hunting. It enables us and our families, and we need these lands preserved. We also indicated on the maps of our fishing areas, and our berry picking areas are important to the community. Our area, our lifestyle related to the land needs to be preserved.

On the same map, we also indicated the areas where we do a lot of harvesting. The Thelon Peninsula is very important to us. It is a very rich land with a lot of fishing. We spend a lot of time in that area. Makinson Inlet is also important on Ellesmere Island, and across from us Devon Island, and the south of us. These are our hunting, harvesting areas where we have indicated on the maps. Up to today, they are properly identified for information.

Mammals: During 2012, it shows our waters, our mammals and what mammals are in what area of our waters in our region. They are also identified in the mapping sessions we have done in our community during 2013 up to 2017. These are all identified on the map.

Our area has heavy traffic on ships. The areas where we go for hunting, boating, relaxation areas, we want any form of commercial ships to be prohibited in those areas that I have mentioned, regardless of the size of the commercial vessel. We have agreed, and it is a priority as well.

I think it is a concern to many communities about walrus haul-outs. It is a very fragile area, and we are very much aware that they be protected and not to be disturbed. This is the agreement in our community as well as on this table yesterday.

We looked yesterday at the bird sanctuary areas near our vicinity. We have one near the community, and that needs to be fully protected. This is a bird sanctuary identified years ago by federal government, and it is still intact. It should be. It is an important eggging, nesting area up to today. We have much concern, as the bird sanctuary protection is important.

Right now, we anticipate our concerns will be adhered to and obeyed and stay as is, as they were planned. We hope to have these in place in the final Draft Land Use Plan. We don't know how to handle this, but it is also a concern. On the floe edge during spring, it is part of our important hunting areas during spring. We are looking at ways to keep it safe, because it is our area of harvesting. We will further study it and get back to it.

The rivers with a lot of fish coming up the river to spawn, we have always had a concern about a particular area north of us towards Greenland, an area on the shore. The rivers are becoming very shallow. Our fishing areas appear to be running out of water for some reason. We are concerned about that. We are aware, and my colleagues will have further say to these rivers. The river is running out of water. It is becoming very shallow, and there is no explanation as to what is going on. We have been aware of this since 2017.

One of our priorities is also on ecotourism, up to today. Then again, the support for this is dividing for those who do and those who do not want. I would say that we need a lot of work to control and preserve how this can be properly addressed in our area. We are always looking for ways to improve what the policies should be related to this area.

I just made a short presentation about our community concerns, and up to today, we have been a part of your planning process to 2022. We will bring this back to our community. We will make additional comments to items that we feel need to be amended. We will get back to our community organization to explain what is happening with this process. We anticipate, and we want to be part of this process. It is a well worth cause to pursue. So, at this point, I would like to say thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Please state your name and your organization.

Lisa: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik. Lisa Ningiuk, Ajuittuq HTO. Our area, our community, I have been living up there since 1960, although I was not born there. We are the ones relocated, and people sitting at this table are the original ones relocated. Sometimes it is very hard to solve problems, especially when it is related to Canadian policy as a rule.

Sometimes we have no idea, no one to turn to when it comes to the environment in our area. Most of it is icefield, and most of it is rock. There are a lot of rocks, and the food source is very scarce at times. Because of this, we need to find solutions on how we should perceive correcting these problems we face daily.

I have travelled in my area during the winter. Sometimes, there is nowhere to go because it is all hills. It is very hard to travel there. It is very different where I grew up. Sometimes it is very hard to harvest, especially when you don't know the land area. As an HTO representative, that needs to be addressed, and Martin has remarked on a few items on HTO concerns.

We have trail roads heading northward, and it is only one major road. There are three. Two are secondary travel routes. The main route that we use, we used to be able to travel that area only by dog team. The ice cap is now disappearing. Our travel route for snowmobiles and other winter transportation is disappearing. It is becoming harder to travel through that area. When we travelled through dog teams in the earlier days, because of the ice caps, it was easier to travel, and snowmobiles used that trail as well. We used to climb these trails with assisting each other. Now it is almost impossible to travel that route that we know so well, as Martin mentioned.

That area was a prime travel route for our major fishing areas, and it was the closest major lake where we fished. We travelled to that area quite a bit. Now it is impossible. I think it might be due to climate change. There is not enough snow anymore to travel through it in winter. I used to live there during the fall and spring. The river has some part of it. The secondary rivers have dried up.

Icecaps that we used to depend on for travelling have dried up. The ice caps are disappearing. That area I have mentioned was a fishing area. For many times now, we have stopped fishing in that area. Even the fish species have changed in taste and appearance.

I am concerned of our area, and this is why I have decided to get involved in the HTO. Our food sources from the past are no longer edible. There were prime fish during our dog sledding days, and now you cannot eat them anymore. Our land, we won't be able to move out of it. We have to live with the changes, as we see it changing today.

You can assist on proper land use planning through your organization to preserve our very limited environmental hunting areas anymore. To prevent major explorations coming in, minerals or oil exploration, they know that it is plentiful for both of these that are very much sought after.

We are starting to see cracks on the icecaps. There is evidence that some caribou have fallen into these cracks and not able to get out of it. It is becoming dangerous. Our harvesting is bad enough without these natural occurrences adding to the catastrophe. It appears that many of our mammals are starting to die off due to climate change. It is very evident. Martin also mentioned his concerns during his presentation, especially the icecaps.

We are having a lot of problems with the environment in our immediate harvesting areas. We also saw many bird species dying off as natural occurrence, as we have no idea what caused so many to die off where they were. A lot of icecaps are falling off and being drifted away now.

It is just information that I am giving you so you will understand the problems that the climate is causing on ice, ice fields. The area we call Høvik (?), I have no name for it in English. Icebergs are coming in from Greenland. It is a very popular area for waterfowl and other animals. As mentioned earlier, we need many areas protected. I will have further comments later. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Is there another presenter? Your name, please, your organization and community.

Larry: *(Translated)*: Larry Audlauk, HTO member. As we make our presentation, these are supplementary comments. For instance, cruise ships as Marty mentioned, are an inconvenience and nuisance, and we worry about their disturbance, especially to walrus haul-out areas and to bird sanctuaries.

We have no place to go, nowhere to go when we have problems, and much of our land is inaccessible for harvesting. We have access to some lands through snowmobiles. The smaller vessels coming through are so numerous, and there are problems. They come through our areas, and they come in without regard to walrus haul-outs and other mammals. They come in and take tour without any concern.

Our northern land with spring travels, we cannot go too far anymore, as Lisa mentioned. The travel routes are eroding. We can no longer travel to the north shores of our community. It was a good hunting area with many mammals, and we cannot access it anymore. As mentioned, there are many disturbances from flying helicopters, and we could only access these areas during winter when the snow allows us to travel. Our caribou hunting areas during the summer were inaccessible because of the ice problem. We used to travel. Now we are traveling on the east coast of our community to access different caribou hunting areas.

This winter we have lots of food. We have seals, but we are not able to access a lot of the hunting areas that I talked about. The tourism ships go to these places towards where the animals are, and that is a concern for us where the wildlife gather. The tourist ships go there. When it is indicated on the map, for example that this particular island, if we say it is a government protected bird sanctuary provided for the protection, a lot of people want to go and see why there is a sanctuary there or there is a protection there. This is a concern for us.

Close to our community there is an island. There is a committee set up. Three of us sit on this board. It is a place for wildlife. It is called Høvik Island. It has been indicated that this is a delicate wildlife area, and it is a place for nesting birds. There is wildlife there, and people are concerned that the tourists want to go there a lot to view what is in the area.

For those that make the regulations and policies need to indicate to us and provide some acts and jurisdiction on how we are going to deal with this particular area, that there would be maps on this area. A lot of people want to go there, because people have indicated over the world...

*(Switched to English):* ...legalize for safety. You actually are betraying the whole existence, and many people around the world want to go see it. That really bothers some of us, because it is one of the destinies that these cruise ships want to go see this protected area when we say don't go there.

*(Translated):* I don't have very much to present, but here it is. Thank you.

Jimmy: *(Translated):* Can you hear me? Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Jimmy Qaapike.

Chairperson: If you can get closer to the mic.

Jimmy: *(Translated):* My name is Jimmy Qaapike.

Chairperson: It is still not... go ahead.

Jimmy: *(Translated):* One, two... Qujannamiik. My name is Jimmy Qaapike from Grise Fjord, Hamlet of Grise Fjord as a representative. In this year, perhaps a whole year now, I have been a member of the hamlet council. The projects and the work that have been done by the Nunavut Planning Commission, I am not so aware of them and don't have much comment on them.

There were some presentations that were done here since 2012, and Marty has mentioned those. Basically, I would be commenting the same things that Marty has commented, and he has already mentioned those, so I am not adding to those.

I will just add a little bit about the things that I have learned. The presentation that has been done here by our members here, I am not commenting further about the back of Grise Fjord and the access road that goes there. It is called the land that does not thaw out. This particular comment I can make about that is not so much what is presented here. The glaciers and ice that does not melt close to our community, there is always an ongoing study on the polar ice and other glacial types of ice in our area.

In the summer, starting in the spring, there was research being done using poles. They would put the poles on the glacier, metal poles or pipes that would be used as research instruments. I was part

of that particular research activity around Grise Fjord only. I have not been in other areas outside of Grise Fjord because of the melt watch that has been done, especially when it gets warm. The glaciers are thawing out 2 metres every summer. The one that did not thaw too fast was one metre, but mostly that was just for the one summer. Most summers are usually 2 metres.

We hardly have any snow, even though some parks do have snow. People don't really think about how much snow there is or do a study on it. There is hardly any snow in the high Arctic, probably more so than anywhere else. The access road to the back of the community for the fishing area is very difficult. Sometimes there is more snow. Sometimes there is hardly any snow. There are long areas or huge areas where there is no snow.

Around the middle of Ellesmere Island, around Alexander Fjord on the left of it, there is an RCMP station in Alexander Fjord. There used to be one there close to that area. I would not mention that too much, but I wanted to indicate it. For the land that we do occupy around Ajuittuq, on the edge of it, the shoreline is being changed by the waves, big waves. It is eroding on the shoreline. Maybe for two or three years it has been worse.

When I was there, I would not have been there. For all the years I have been there, I have been watching. For the last two summers, there was someone there to do scientific research about the shoreline and high tide and low tide. They were there all summer. In high tide and low tide, they monitored that and how much there is for low tide and how much there is for high tide around the edge of the community on the shoreline.

These are the comments that were not mentioned in 2012 to 2017. These things happened after those years, so they were not mentioned in the presentation, and I would like to include them, the changes after 2017. For this year, there has not been that many changes, as mentioned by that, and there were comments about the ice. There is year-old ice called qarjitaq. There has not been that much multi-year ice for a long time in Jones Sound.

If you look at it, this is the worst that it has had multi-year ice. The multi-year ice from the north, in between the waters, in between Greenland and Canadian waters, it comes from the north, and they go through here, around that border. This summer, it has been a lot of multi-year ice. I do remember, or I have heard this multi-year ice, they used to call them midlaktootiq (*spelled phonetically*). I think there is less warmth when there is multi-year ice hanging around. I tell the glacial people within the year. This has not been a warm year.

Our Elders used to say that there is a cooling agent within the environment, and this is why it is causing it not to be warm. This is how they used to call it, niglictuay (*spelled phonetically*) which is a cooling agent. The Elders used to call it a cooling agent. People don't really mention those anymore. Thank you for listening to my presentation.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. You are done with your presentation? The first people, they don't have any questions from the Nunavut Planning Commission. If there are questions to the presentations, if people want to ask questions, now is the time. He needs a microphone. Please indicate who you are and what organization.

Phillip: *(Translated)*: Thank you. My name is Phillip Manik. I am from Resolute Bay from the Hunters Organization. I have a question. Because of the climate change, do you ever notice new species of wildlife? Are there indications of new wildlife that you have not seen because of the climate change?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Does anyone want to answer that? Say your name and your organization.

Lisa: *(Translated)*: My name is Lisa Ningiuk from Aujuittuq Hunters and Trappers Organization in Grise Fjord. Thank you for the question. Yes, there are new species that we have not seen before. When we first moved to Grise Fjord, we did not have this type of wildlife. Even birds that we did not see before, we now see them. This summer, there were sandhill cranes. I also watched something. The ravens did not like the sandhill crane being there. They did not welcome them at all. I don't know why. The wildlife that we haven't seen before, for those in the ocean, the people have not seen before. I also heard I think there are whales that have white flippers on them we have never seen before.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Any more questions, Phillip?

Phillip: This *(inaudible)* that you are talking about, what explosion were you talking about on the ice? Do you know why there was such an explosion? I didn't understand it.

Chairperson: Go head.

Lisa: Thank you. Lisa Ningiuk from Aujuittuq Hunters and Trappers Organization. We don't know about the glaciers and how they behave. We are thinking perhaps there is a river underneath all the time. That is the only way they move. It is possible that when the river is flowing that they would suddenly explode. It has happened before where the ice just breaks suddenly open. It has happened that way before. Glaciers are moving objects, so it was very amazing for us because of the explosion. A lot of animals around it died. If that is what happens, then we need to have more research on it.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Charlie?

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. My name is Charlie Inuarak from Hunters and Trappers Organization in Pond Inlet. I have a whole lot of questions, but there were some answers already provided during the presentation. First of all, I would like to support your organization. As you indicated, you don't have historical knowledge of the area, because you did not live there before historically. Nobody lived there before, and that is what Lisa was saying. It is true there is no historical information in the area because people did not live there, although people did go there and travel there. People from Greenland used to live there.

I wanted to support that statement. I do believe that the food that you consumed, you need to have good food yourselves as well, and different species of wildlife because if people are having seals all the time, you start looking for other things to eat as well, for example fish.

When you indicate the glaciers, I do believe that with the glacier melting, I really believe that if I indicate somewhere around here close to the Navy Board Inlet area, there is a thing called Sirngmikuluk (?) Above that area, there are a bunch of glaciers. They have names for different glaciers. One of them is called Akkineq. There is also Inussualuk, and there is also Ukak *(spelled*

*phonetically*) that looks like a tongue, that kind of a glacier. It looked like a big tongue before. Now it does not look like a natural tongue at all anymore, because part of it has melted.

This called Ickalah (*spelled phonetically*), we cannot call it that anymore, because the glacier was very lumpy. It would be always flowing down to the ocean creating icebergs, but it was kind of scary to travel around that area, because you would be hitting the ice that is coming down.

Are these things considered by the Planning Commission? Do they need to look at the fishing area for Grise Fjord and the caribou hunting area for Grise Fjord? These glaciers, the bottom of the glaciers is very sharp. The access areas would be hard. Whatever is on the ground underneath the glacier has not been subject to erosion, so the rocks are very sharp. Should we not consider doing some help with Grise Fjord because of the access that they need and the melting glacier that is affecting that access?

I do believe that what you have presented about the multi-year ice is also very believable because it comes from your area, the multi-year ice. It comes down. I am looking at the ice through satellite images and people help me to look at the satellite images and where the ice is going and where it is travelling and stuff.

Just before Grise Fjord, there is a lot of water. Also toward Arctic Bay there is hardly any ice. The ice that goes through Fury and Hecla Strait towards Igloodik is multi-year ice, but people looking at the satellite image would say this ice is coming to your area, and this ice is coming from the Grise Fjord area and the Resolute Area, and it is now on its way to Pond Inlet. It will get there soon to your area. So, in Pond Inlet, the HTO was told, and I told them that the ice is going to be coming in. This huge lump of multi-year ice came in, and it is causing us to have a layer of ice. It got cold.

If this were from prior years, the old multi-year ice, people would be so grateful for them to come here because the multi-year ice would be bringing wildlife with it, seals and walrus and bearded seals on top of the ice. People would be happy to see it. But now, it did not used to be that much multi-year ice, but for some reason, the seals were not present in this area anymore. There are some, but not very much. There is a big change in this area.

We need to help with Grise Fjord because of all these changes that are happening in this area. The Hunters and Trappers Organization and Pond Inlet need to support Grise Fjord. If there was some way that we could try and help with Grise Fjord because of the population that was moved to Grise Fjord by the government, they need to have more assistance. We need to work through all of this with the Nunavut Planning Commission so they would be a vessel or the venue to provide that assistance.

Chairperson: That is just a support. Are there no more questions? Brian wanted to say something.

Brian: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Brian Aglukark from the Nunavut Planning Commission. I will be asking in English. The submission to the NPC from the QIA in June of this year, prior to that submission, I am wondering if you can confirm if the QIA consulted with the people of Grise Fjord. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik, Brian. Any one of you want to answer that question?



Marty: *(Translated)*: Thank you. Marty Kuluguqtuk from the Hamlet of Grise Fjord. Thank you for the question. When we try to find out, I can get back to you on that question.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Just a reminder if you can't answer right away, you can defer it for a later time or write a letter afterwards. You will be able to provide that answer just to indicate that I have not indicated it before. Just to clarify that there are some abilities that you can do. If you do not get an answer right away, it is okay. You will have that ability to answer later on. There are no more hands up. Brian, are you done? Registered participants, are there any questions to the presentation?? *(Pause)*

Any public? Qujannamiik. There are no hands up. Any participants from Pond Inlet, general participants? Do you have questions about the presentation? *(Pause)*

Since there is none, if you have further comments, you are welcome to do so.

Marty: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Marty Kuluguqtuk from the Hamlet of Grise Fjord. Just a last comment for today: There is always something to do. There is always ongoing stuff, and we are just like that, that we have stuff to do. I just wanted to mention though that there is always something to do.

Imavik Pikialasorsuaq is who we are working with, an organization from Grise Fjord. We are working with them as much as we can. This organization is in Greenland around the polynya area around the Høvik area. We are working with them regarding that particular site with the Government of Greenland and also with the wildlife organization there, their research from Greenland, the Government of Canada, and also Nunavut.

Also, to mention what we are working on is the Fossil, Tree Fossil area in Axel Heiberg. That is what it is called in Inuktitut. It is called the tree area. It is on the north of us. It has some old fossils, tree fossils. This in particular is an agreement to make it a park area, a conservation area to have protection on the island, and even maybe to have a visiting point, a destination that they would be using the parks laws and everything to ensure there is respect for the land and to have protection for it. We have supported that move. Thank you for that.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Anybody else?

Larry: Yes, what Marty mentioned about the Axel Heiberg Island. We are working on it with the Government of Nunavut based on their laws. We just started. We are learning on doing workshops and how we can go about doing that, and how that would be a benefit to the community and informing the community.

In Grise Fjord, we are working on the insides of the agreement and how it should be run. So the island within the Axel Heiberg, it is called Napaaqtulik in Inuktitut. For you to also know, there are a lot of names that are not in Inuktitut, because it has to be a new land considered sometimes, but we are trying to name them in Inuktitut for those areas. All of the names are all in English basically, currently. In the future, we will try to fix that particular thing. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Thank you for your presentation.



(Applause)

We are going to take a break for 15 minutes, and the Hamlet of Resolute Bay will be presenting.

### Break

### Presentation by the Hamlet and HTO of Resolute Bay

**Mark Aamarualik, Hamlet Council**

**Kantisse Idlout, Resolute Bay HTO**

**Phillip Manik Sr., Resolute Bay HTO**

**Jazlin Salluving, Hamlet Council**

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Please state your name and community, organization. We have a portable mic. You may use either one. Please start.

Phillip: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Phillip Manik, Resolute Bay HTO. I would like to thank the NPC organization and the municipality of Pond Inlet. We are very happy to be here. Our area has started to be populated in 1953 during the forced relocation. Now it is our community. Our community, we are used to it now. It is not like the earlier years. It is our custom now and we are comfortable where we are.

There is a numerous polar bear population. Caribou is just starting to come back to our region. It has been barren of the species for many years. Our Elders when they first arrived, there were plenty, and then were gone. Our Elders knew that it was just a matter of time before they come back. True to their knowledge, we are starting to see these species coming back. It is just that they have relocated elsewhere where their food source was plentiful.

They move. They don't diminish in numbers as scientific studies have shown. They migrate as far as Baker Lake, our Peary caribou, and they were sighted in that area recently. They are starting to come back to their original habitation land. We are just too happy that Peary caribou is being populated again. Don't forget, it is a very cold region where we come from, and their food source does not grow in some summers at times.

Animal rights organizations come into our area. They have done some research where the caribou used to be. The calving grounds and their summer habitation area have been researched. Apparently, they have been crossing island to island in the winter, and they have crossed as far as Somerset Island and beyond. We have just recently found out the ice they travel on is becoming stable, and that worries us. Climate change has created havoc on the ice.

An area where we call Tuktoyaktuk, they have migrated so far north that they are just starting to come in again on the ice crossing to Somerset Island but coming back to our region gradually. We have marked the caribou calving grounds on a map. Before that, researchers were puzzled where these species have gone to. Perhaps they thought they were dying off. Calving grounds were not

just populated with species, and they have travelled elsewhere, as I mentioned earlier, island to island, which no one has thought of.

These species have crossed island to island at their own will, and for many years we were starting to truly believe that they were becoming extinct, which is not the case. Someone came in from Fisheries and Oceans, and they worked with us doing some mapping. Although this department was not responsible, they did mapping with us anyway on the calving grounds. For many years, the populations have really fallen off in numbers.

It is just now that they are starting to come into their calving grounds, but there is still a lot of disturbance from oil and mineral explorations over the years. Before the disturbance came, this is when this population was healthy and living in their traditional grounds for calving migration routes, and their traditional routes are being heavily used even with vessels at times and exploration companies. This is why we thought that the population was becoming extinct. There was too much disturbance on their traditional migration and calving grounds.

Organizations, companies coming up to our regions, we have tried over the past to work with them, but they are impossible. You are not able to put a stop to it anymore. They just come in at their will. It appears that there is no proper authority to control their arrival. When they are out in the field, you have no idea what they are doing, if they are being diligent for conservation disturbance of animals, and this concerns us.

It is not only disturbance on the land. Sometimes, they migrate on ice routes island to island, and we have trails now to each island to harvest these species, also to our polar bear hunting grounds. The only way to travel in my region is through ice. Not only are we concerned about the land, but we are also very concerned about the ice. It is our highway during the winter to our harvesting areas. Grise Fjord had this concern as well in their presentation, so ice roads and island-to-island crossings are very important for preservation.

The climate change has made it that much more difficult to travel, let alone any vessels starting to come in and perhaps travel during early spring and early fall. This would be disturbing our trails considerably. They must realize it is our way of life. We hunt to eat. Young people are starting to take an interest in our areas to travel by dog team, and it is becoming very populated. It will not stop now.

So, I thank you Nunavut Planning Commission for allowing us to voice our concerns. We are here to make a case so you will plan accordingly for the future. Our concerns are becoming least important, and it is not very good with us. Sometimes it is very hard to find organizations that will listen to our concerns in our area. So, the task you are undertaking, and the final product should be very useful, but who will take authority on a finished product for those who are coming to our land? I will have further comments after my colleagues make their case.

Mark:

Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. May name is Mark Aamarualik from Resolute Bay. My main concern is the thing that happened all summer with cruise ships and tourists coming back after the COVID pandemic. All summer long, they are asking where the walruses are, where are the narwhals and belugas are, which they used to see them in Devon Island quite a bit. Now that the cruise ships and yachts are all coming back, the walrus haul-outs are no longer hauling out in some of the haul-outs

on Devon Island anymore. Narwhals used to hang around all in the bays, all along the shoreline. They are having a hard time seeing most of them over there now. That was one question.

One of the things looking at some of the maps we have for Resolute area, some fishing areas are missing, Crossings on the sea ice for caribou are missing. Sometimes our hunting depends on how the ice forms. It forms later and later every year and thaws out faster. With climate change, we have some researchers up there all year round checking on climate and whatnot.

We are trying to get more results on geothermal studies up in Resolute. Our hamlet is trying to plan to move to geothermal once everything is worked out. Hopefully we are doing some studies on it.

One of my main concerns with the wildlife we have up in Resolute, we have a lot of animals that are rare, endangered species, species at risk that come to nest and migrate up there. More cruise ships and yachts are coming up and asking where they all are and starting to harass more animals. All summer long, like I said, cruise ships and yachts and Coast Guard are asking where all the wildlife are. I will add more stuff later. I am very nervous right now. Thank you.

Chairperson: (Translated): Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Kantissee: (Translated): Qujannamiik. Kantissee Idlout, Resolute. I am a member of the HTO. I have never been at a conference of this size. It is very informative, and I am so happy to express what concerns our area, so thank you very much for putting this gathering together.

We are the polar bear country in Resolute Bay. They are very bothersome, so we need stronger doors up there. They have been deterred in many ways. One is bound to be found how they could be deterred from the community and the public areas of the community, although they are very nice to look at.

I will say that the vessels of any size are very much a concern to us. They are a nuisance, a disturbance to the wildlife. Perhaps the sound of their propellers during transportation, they are creating disturbance. Our mammals, our wildlife is starting to move away from our traditional seas.

There is also a huge mess from the earlier oil explorations. When rain and thaw come, they spew all over to our ponds and to our rivers. They are creating havoc for animal feeding areas. Although I think it has been acknowledged, for a long time there are a lot of metal garbage barrels, other metals in our area, and this has created a concern for animal feeding grounds. We need area cleanup in our region. Previous companies up there never have bothered to clean up, and we need our area cleaned up.

We are especially concerned about helicopter traffic. There is so much of that over our area. There is disturbance to wildlife. So, I am at a loss for words right now. I will stop here.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have any more comments to make as a delegation?

Phillip: (Translated): I forgot to mention, we are apparently very rich in oil and a lot of exploration from the past. They just packed up and left everything. We are left with a mess. Some of the mess is huge in land mass. Panarctic especially was very careless when they left the area. This work that you are

undertaking is a living document, so we need to have it recorded as a concern from our community, especially the very polluted land to oil exploration and the company that has left everything behind.

The planning process that you are undertaking, we want to know when it will conclude and what the outcome will be for land use protection. Will this be as far as you will go holding public hearings? What is beyond? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Mark, do you have any more comments? Okay, there is a question by one of the Nunavut Planning Commission staff.

Jonathan: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Just to clarify the next steps of the planning process: Once these public hearings are completed, including the hearing in Iqaluit next month and the record closing on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Commission will be sitting down to consider all of the input that has been received, both through the oral comments during these public hearings as well as any written submissions that have been received.

We will be revising the current Draft Plan to prepare what we are calling a recommended Nunavut Land Use Plan that will be submitted to the Government of Canada, the Government of Nunavut, and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated for their consideration in 2023. The final Land Use Plan does need the approval of all three of those parties.

Once they receive the Commission's recommended Nunavut Land Use Plan, they are able to either accept that Plan as drafted or provide written reasons why they do not accept the Plan. Then at that time, the Commission will be able to further reconsider the recommended Plan that they previously submitted and then provide a final recommended Plan back to those three signatory parties for consideration.

None of those steps have specific timelines, so we can't say when it will be completed, but we are hopeful that the results of these hearings and further revisions to the Draft Plan can lead to an approved Land Use Plan that is acceptable to the three signatory parties.

Chairperson: Sharon will make an additional comment.

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehaloak, Executive Director with the Planning Commission. The Commission is committed to putting the revised Draft Plan forward in early spring of 2023. Just for clarification, we are committed to that timeline, and we will have it put forward to the parties. The clarification for the timing for the parties to accept or reject with reasons, that does not have a timeline. Their process is at their discretion. Once the Plan has been revised and submitted, it is on the parties for the next steps of how they want to move forward.

As well for the record, and for all of the community participants, very clearly our authority of where Commissioners will look at all of the evidence, oral and written submissions, it is outlined in the *Nunavut Agreement* and *NuPPAA* where they must give great weight and priorities. Those are the guiding documents that will provide the clarity of where they go forward. The *Options and Recommendations Document* will also be updated for transparency of decision-making. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: (Translated): Qujannamiik. Is there an addition to your question? We have no idea of a timeline after the process where the three signatories are needed to approve this Land Use Plan. There will always be ways to make amendments to the approved Land Use Plan, perhaps at 7-year intervals. Only what is needed to be amended in the Plan would be amended, so it will be a living document land use plan related to Nunavut. Once it is complete, it is not just going to sit there and be a document. We have done our work to make enquiries. Because of that, it would be considered a living document with amending formula. This would be say, 7 to 10 years before any amendments are made at a request by the public. Jonathan, go ahead.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you very much to the representatives from Resolute Bay for your comments and presentation this morning. Mark, during your comments, you identified some aspects of the Land Use Plan where some information was missing, including caribou sea ice crossings specifically. I was just wondering if your community intends to provide further submissions to identify those specific areas before the close of the record on January 10<sup>th</sup>?

Chairperson: (Translated): You have nodded to the question. We are requesting a verbal comment for the record. Qujannamiik.

Mark: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Thank you. Once we get back to Resolute, we will make a submission, have a meeting set up, and look at all the maps again. Thank you. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you, Mark for that commitment. Could I also just note that it would be helpful if you also identified the specific dates when caribou are using each of the sea ice crossings as part of your submission. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Please state your name if you are going to respond. I saw you nodding, but we need a verbal.

Mark: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Thank you, Jonathan. We will put in some submissions and some dates and crossings. One of the other areas I mentioned, fishing areas, there is quite a bit of missing areas all around our island, so we will have to add some more to that too. Thank you. My name is Mark Aalmarualik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are you done? Are there additional questions from the table? Go ahead.

Namen: (Translated): My name is Namen Inuarak, Hunters and Trappers Organization in Pond Inlet. You were talking about gas in your area, around your community. Some of us have heard about it because people in this area used to go work there in the gas industry, and some have been capped and ready to plug in. Some have been explored and found. This happened before the *Land Claims Agreement*. These have been identified prior to the *Land Claims Agreement*. The petroleum and gas division knows about these things.

These particular leases were done prior to the *Agreement*, so they are considered grandfathered leases or owned by those companies. For example, Baffinland has been grandfathered from the

1960s because the prospecting was done there, and the iron was found at that time. So, they are saying that they are a grandfathered project.

They need to be protected. The communities need to be protected either by the government or there has to be some regulations made by the federal government that if they were to be open, the benefit would go to you to be employed by the project and to be trained to be employed by the project. If they are going to open up areas for manufacturing for the industry, they need to benefit the people in the community. Perhaps the Nunavut Planning Commission could help. If they were to have an opening for this particular area or the caps would be open to make sure that there is a benefit to your community.

For example, in Clyde River, there was seismic testing being done, but because Clyde River has been very adamant in protecting that area, they have been protecting the Pond Inlet area as well from that seismic testing.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. If there are no more questions to this particular presentation. It is not a question. It is a comment, right?

Namen: Yes, it is a comment.

Chairperson: Charlie?

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Charlie Inuarak from the Hunters and Trappers Organization in Pond Inlet. I am happy that you made this presentation. When you comment, those things are not just for yourselves. We also recognize it as Pond Inlet as well for our children and our grandchildren and our descendants to protect them. I believe that.

It is so much better for those people that are trying to work for their descendants and trying to plan ahead of time. I support those endeavours. Chairperson, there was a person in your area that has passed away. His name was Oynguk (*spelled phonetically*). He told me, because he was my buddy, I would go to meetings with him and stuff. He would tell me stories.

A particular one that I remember even up to today and how important it was, he said that baby seals before they become bigger, we call them baby seals when they are yellow. What he said, he brought out a question that I could not answer. He was telling a story that in the springtime when the ice is breaking up, the seals would start to come to Resolute Bay and the baby seals would be a lot more numerous than the regular seals. When the ice starts to break up, all the baby seals would be moving in that area. There were a lot of baby seals in this area when they were born in our particular area. Although they stay a little bit, they seem to have disappeared.

When he said that story about the baby seals being down there, they are there when the ice is breaking. They travel further north, and their skin, they haven't fattened up yet. They don't starve, but they are moving so they get skinny. Once they are there, he said after the summer and in the fall, the beginning of fall the fat seals, baby seals, or young seals start coming back. They become fat, and they are coming back to this area. I think this is important for the Nunavut Planning Commission because that is the story that he was telling. Past Resolute Bay is an area for the seals to grow up and fatten themselves up in that area, because they went down there as baby seals, and

they are there in the summer. In early fall, they start coming back. They are not going to starve anymore. This group of seals provides seals for our region.

It is a strong story that he tells me that the Nunavut Planning Commission needs to take a note of it and perhaps protect the area more in Resolute Bay, so the seals go down there. Baby seals go down there and are skinny wildlife, but I don't know what is down there that the seal needs to eat. Perhaps it is shrimp. Perhaps it is cod. I don't know what it is. They get really fat from in that area. They become adult seals quite fat and healthy. I just want to comment further about what you said, because it was mentioned by your Elders in your community. He was telling me in a relaxed mode, because he would tell stories about those things. I am sure he mentioned those, that there is a movement of seals in one particular area or another. There has to be some sort of action to protect that wildlife route and its existence.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: It is not so much a comment because of the story being told now. Is there is a question to their comments? Is there is a question to your presentation? Lisa?

Lisa: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Lisa Ningiuk from Ajuittuq Hunter's Organization in Grise Fjord. There are some comments here in the presentation, which you mentioned here in your community. North of Resolute used to be a gas drilling area by Panarctic. They just left the buildings there when they stopped doing it. They just up and left and left the buildings because I have seen them. I have seen those buildings where they had the residences before.

The heavy equipment is still in Lougheed Island. You have probably been there before. It has caribou. Those islands, they have good caribou. Have you done anything about those particular areas left by Panarctic? They are basically ready to go. They are on that island, although the gas holes are capped. Have you ever thought about those buildings that people just left? The industry just left all their oil and whatever leftover contaminates they have there.

Is the company going back to clean it up? Do they have to be removed? It is a question to the community. It is more than one island that has a building. There are small islands. I think most of them have buildings on them. Some of them are getting too old. Some have been broken by polar bears. There is a whole bunch of food that they had before they cleaned up and all of that.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead. You can answer the question.

Phillip: *(Translated)*: I am Phillip Manik from Qausuittuq, Resolute Bay. For those items that have been left there, there are lots of them. Some of them are rotting and getting old. The federal Environmental Health and stuff, we have mentioned that to them so many times in the past. Perhaps last year they just started cleaning up. You know, the government is very slow. They don't do things right away. Some of them that are really dirty and are highly contaminated have been cleaned up.

How are we going to deal with the buildings, people who left them there? We do ask them what you are going to do about those buildings. We never get an answer from them. We are not going to stop pressuring them to clean up in this area. This oil and gas and other things have spilled to the ground, especially to our caribou hunting area. They have been contaminating the area.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Is that it? The federal government is here, and they are hearing the comments about cleaning up the contamination, and they hear us. Larry has a question and Joshua. Larry?



Larry: (Translated): Thank you. Just a comment: For the haul-out areas for the walrus, you said there were none anymore. So, in terms of where they have their habitat about the whole haul-out areas, although people come, they try to ask where the walrus are, I just tell them no, I am not going to tell you.

Because of the gas and oil there, there was a *Land Claims Agreement* with the federal government. They only included within the *Land Claims Agreement*, a lot of it belongs to the federal government. They say there is nothing there. There's not even a building there. It is not Inuit Use Land is what the comment in the *Agreement*. So, these lands, when they designated a certain area by the planning people, when you say the Nunavut Planning Commission is also a living document, the high Arctic is also a living document which the federal government is very well that it is important to have it there. People are waiting from other areas. As long as there is no more ice, they really want to explore for oil and gas, so it is not broken up by ice. That is the comment I have.

Chairperson: (Comment not translated). Joshua?

Joshua: Thank you. Joshua Idlout, Pond Inlet. My older brother, Phillip was mentioning about the areas that were indicated on the maps. I just wanted to support them. For those that are written down and have been given to the Planning Commission, and those indications on the maps that are important to you. I think they are important to us as well, and they need to be recorded. So, you need an answer about those particular areas that are not considered anymore. I am just trying to support them to have more responses to the information they have been asking for. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. There was no question in that. Namen?

Namen: (Translated): Thank you, Mr. Chair. Namen Inuarak from Hunters and Trappers Organization, Pond Inlet. I am trying to ask this question. In this *Land Claims Agreement*, within the *Agreement*, this gas and oil, there is no indication in the *Agreement* if you are aware that there is no mention of these things in the *Agreement*.

Chairperson: Make sure you indicate who you are and who you represent.

Phillip: (Translated): I am Phillip Manik from Resolute Bay Hunters and Trappers Organization. We do try to look after them, but we are ordinary people. I think people don't really listen to us, even though we try to look after them. When they first started, we did not have any powers in the 1970s. So, when we are trying to deal with them, it is harder to deal with them today, because we have not been given that authority and there is no indication how we are going to deal with them up to today. Thank you.

That was a comment to the Nunavut Planning Commission. Perhaps it could be something that you could get support from the Planning Commission that perhaps there would be more support from the federal government if the Planning Commission was to say something, but we know that the federal government does a lot of really slow stuff when it comes to the Arctic.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. That is not so much a question. Olayuk?

Olayuk: *(Translated)*: Olayuk Naqitarvik from Arctic Bay Hamlet. Two questions: The first question, because there is a hunting area at Kuuganajuk, Creswell Bay, in their area, do they have different quotas for narwhal or beluga at Creswell Bay? Also, is there a different one for Resolute Bay or is it the same quota? The other question is also, do they have a different quota for Creswell Bay, and also in the community for muskox? Are there different quotas for muskox? That's the question. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Phillip?

Phillip: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Phillip Manik from Resolute Bay Hunter's Organization. They have one quota for Resolute and Creswell. For the narwhal they have the same quota. Also, we have a quota for different islands. Each particular area is allocated a certain quota for the islands.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. That's it? Charlie?

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I wish you could show the map around the Lancaster area, the Lancaster Sound itself. Can someone show the map? *(Pause)*

Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Charlie Inuarak from Hunters and Trappers Organization in Pond Inlet. If you look at the Sound itself of Lancaster, if you could show that, there is this red spot right there just past the green. This particular Sound, this pipe area, we know that wildlife goes through here a lot. Everyone knows that the wildlife goes through this particular area, perhaps on Devon, close to Devon, or maybe even before. Even through Eclipse Sound, narwhal is coming through here as well. Belugas usually go past us behind Bylot Island.

They all go north. This is a highway for the wildlife, because it is a very big one. They all start coming in here. Through Lancaster Sound they are trying to come in. They are trying to come in very hard, with all their might. When there is ice, they would be in the points. Walruses come in during the springtime, and the bearded seals, and the seals start coming in, especially narwhals as well. Because this is a good feeding area for polar bears, that is where a lot of polar bears are down there.

In our area, we don't have muskox, but towards Arctic Bay, the narwhals are going in there. Some of them are going to Creswell Bay, and you have walruses there in your area, lot of walruses. So, in the fall, they start coming back in the same area, narwhals going through Lancaster. I have been in Devon at one point, and the wildlife would be passing during the day and night, 24 hours. So, these probably have impacts to your area how they go to different places past Resolute or around Resolute. I don't know.

But you are saying that you have a lot of polar bears in your area. It used to be called tudjaat where the wildlife, the polar bears have a wide track impacting the area. The Hunters and Trappers Organizations know this very important item, so I am asking you if the Hunters Organization wants to talk about all of these particular concerns, bowhead and stuff like that. It is a huge undertaking. Has the Hunters Organization tried to think about planning for these sorts of things? Have you had discussions with the federal government about the mention about the early spring and early fall or fall kind of seasons?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik.

Phillip: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. I am Phillip Manik from Resolute Bay. With the environment people, I think they all go to the communities. The Fisheries and Oceans, we also meet with them. We were talking about laws and regulations about narwhals that pass through, especially the belugas. The narwhals are further from us, and they continue with their northern travel further from our community.

Yes, we are dealing with that important information, but they also gave us sad news from the south, especially about those sailboats that do come. There is a sailboat company, and he is mentioning that he goes through Devon Island and through Lancaster Sound and goes into the inlet. Some of those inlets do not have whales on them anymore because of the ships, the cruise ships. There is too much trouble from the cruise ships going into the inlets. It is not a good thing to hear.

The rules that we are trying to make, I think the people outside of the Arctic don't listen to the rules that we try to make. We will keep trying to figure out how to implement that.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are there any more questions to the presentation from registered participants? *(Pause)*

What about from Pond Inlet? Questions from the public in Pond Inlet? *(Pause)*.

Thank you for the presentation. Let's give them a hand.

*(Applause)*

It is in between, and we are almost to lunchtime. We will start again at 1:15, because it is almost lunchtime. We might as well quit now. Sharon will mention something before we go anywhere.

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehaloak, Executive Director, Nunavut Planning Commission. For the community participants, could you please ask your billets to come to the hall at 4:30 this afternoon to meet with Brian? If your billets can come, meet with Brian.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik.

### **Lunch Break**

### **Presentation by Arctic Bay Hamlet and HTO**

**Olayuk Naqitarvik, Hamlet Council**

**Susanna Barbabas, Hamlet Council**

**Sakiasee Qaunaq**

**Adrian Arnauyumayuq**

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Good afternoon. I think we will proceed now. Arctic Bay, you may take the table. We will proceed this afternoon. The first on the agenda this afternoon is Arctic Bay. Before we proceed, please turn your cellphones off. It would be much more convenient for everybody. When you are on the mic, please state your name, your community, and your organization you represent. The

portable mic will be passed around to those who wish to speak in relation to the presentation. You may proceed now.

Olayuk: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Olayuk Naqitarvik, Hamlet of Arctic Bay. First of all, I am going to do my presentation, and I will hand it to my colleagues shortly. Most of my comments will appear to be questions, just for your information first of all. The question I have will be followed by our community concerns. It relates to Lancaster Sound and Admiralty Inlet.

We are quite concerned about our seaways. Looking at the map on the screen, I will speak about it. It should be the responsibility of Nunavut Planning Commission in relation to Inuit Owned Lands. The shoreline I believe has a 12 mile limit from the shoreline. I think that is where our jurisdiction lies as Nunavut. If that is the case, is it the responsibility of the federal government outside the 12-mile limit, or is it international waters? How can we know for sure if that is the case?

We would like to make a submission before the January deadline of the concerns in our community. For instance, I think we are far from resolving the problem that is emerging related to Lancaster Sound, if everything is already in place who regulates the water. My questions and my comments, they are urgent to us. We need answers and clarifications.

We have many concerns about these seaways. We are concerned that there might be icebreakers coming in through these areas. We are adamantly against icebreaking ships coming through our seaways. So, the federal government should also be aware that these inland waters should be regulated stringently for the future. As we heard, the area is rich with oil fields. We want these ships regulated. We don't want icebreakers in our areas should these explorations take place. We need to be prepared. We are starting now to voice our concerns that Lancaster Sound and our seaways should be free of these.

Furthermore, looking at the ships today, we are able to track these ships through computer locators. I think we had many ships over our seaways this past summer. Some are yachts, and others are larger. Who is allowing these vessels to come through these waters? Who is the authority? Communities are not informed at all what vessels are within our waterways. Which department is responsible for these vessels to come through? Is it Nunavut Government or federal government?

We will need to know which level of government is responsible for authorizing these vessels to pass through our waterways. There are just too many vessels coming in that we are not aware of. At times, we don't even know how many are coming through. The best path appears to be right now through the Nunavut Planning Commission, how we can have your organization assist us in controlling of these ships coming through our seaways. Some we are aware of.

As hamlet councillor, I am also with QIA Lands Department as a member. Sometimes we are aware of which vessel is coming in or going through our waterways. Who is the authorizing authority for these vessels to pass through these waterways? I need to understand, so I will leave it at that for now.

Another topic is the maps you have produced. Some of them needs to be changed around the Arctic Bay area, although I believe they came from people from our community. But we didn't participate, and we feel that it unclear. The decisions made at that time were incomplete, so some of us are not aware how the designations were marked.

We don't meet often to look at these maps. Our rivers and our areas of concern are not clearly designated or marked on the maps that you are producing. I have been in my area all around the surrounding waters. We need to revisit the designation of these maps. I don't feel they are complete. We will need to look at these maps again before your deadline in January.

Our travel routes are not marked as well. The travel routes are incomplete. According to Arctic Bay, we have travel routes through the sea ice coming into Pond Inlet. When snow does not come, it is very hard to travel on this only route that we have to this community. We need to clear this path using explosives to level some areas so we can have a better travel route to this community. We need to have travel routes. We call this area where it is hard to travel, Kingookalook (*spelled phonetically*). We need to have explosives to remove these rocks so we can have a clear travel route through that particular area.

Yearly, there are dog team races, and it was at a standstill due to COVID-19. Now some of the routes these races take place, some of the areas are very rough and need to be cleared as well, especially near Naujaat area. I feel that we have an incomplete map that you showed here, so we need clarification and our questions answered. I will hand it over to my colleagues.

Chairperson: (Translated): Qujannamiik. Your questions will be responded to in a moment. Once your presentations are complete, our staff, Nunavut Planning Commission staff will be answering your questions. Could we have another presenter please?

Susanna: (Translated): Good afternoon. Susanna Barnabas. From Arctic Bay, I represent the hamlet. In the hamlet of Arctic Bay, the land is scarce. We are running out of spaces. Most of our land is clay. It is not very stable. In our past meetings this past winter, we had a meeting with the Coast Guard and other organizations along with the hamlet council. We had a constructive meeting.

We have a very poor power plan in our community. It has been replaced since. I have not much of a concern from the hamlet. I will pass it over to Sakiasee.

Sakiasee: (Translated): Sakiasee Qaunaq, Hamlet Councillor, Arctic Bay. At this public hearing, I wanted to make a presentation that many of my community people have concern with. Many parts of the land are dangerous, and some people may have a say about this. I used to work in Nanisivik for over 10 years and lived in that community working on the docks. I have seen many things that are quite dangerous.

Nanisivik mines were being mined. There were some minerals that are very bad for the environment, the crushed minerals. Some of it is falling into the water, damaging the water. What they were mining, there were two minerals, two different minerals. From what I have been told, it is very bad for the water, and it contaminated a lot of the area in that site. Some of the land even has turned gray blue. The minerals there were soft. When they are dropped into the water, they evaporate. Smoke comes out from the water due to corrosion of a mineral coming in. That area was mined, and it was not very safe.

The wharf was full of fish, and these minerals were dropped into the water. There were seals and other mammals, whales. They were all around the wharf area, but I have not seen any dead mammals. I have seen seals that are losing their furs. They were just being shredded off from their

skin. Seeing this, I saw they were from corrosion of what was being mined. It did not kill the mammals, but it was dangerous. I don't know what would become of small fish down at the bottom of the wharf.

The wharf was not very good for loading the ships. A lot of the material was falling off to the ocean. Even breathing it, the smoke was very bad. It tasted very smelly. Although there was smoke coming in from the minerals, I did not see any dead fish or whales.

The route that the vessels take isn't populated anymore with beluga whales and other larger animals. When the shipping season stops for the winter, we see whales in the spring. Now since that mine shut down we are starting to see mammals starting to come back. When I hear that what they were mining was corrosive, I believe it even here when I see your community concerns from the iron ore mining here. I see and I believe even ptarmigan are turning red from the dust of the mining here.

I have heard too from Pond Inlet people that fish are starting to die off that are near the rivers. I believe that you are right. People are saying that if fish are not dying off, it is not corrosive, and it is not dangerous. People say that rivers are being polluted. In Nanisivik, there was a river there, and coloured rocks on that river were turning into different colours as here.

At that time before Nanisivik mine was constructed, we used to have a lot of mammals in that area. They were gone during the summer, only coming back during spring. We were hunting by dog team at the time, and there were only certain places then where we could catch seals. There were a lot of seals in that areas, but the fur was being shredded off for some reason. Whatever we are mining I guess is corrosive. Some minerals being mined are being corrosive. I have seen it firsthand what corrosion does when it is in the wrong element like water.

Another area is someone spoke of Lancaster Sound moments ago from Panniqtuuq to Broughton, Clyde River, Arctic Bay. We had a meeting in Iqaluit some time back to discuss what was coming to your area. We were quite active with what we wanted to do, but COVID stopped us in our tracks from doing any productive work. There are groups concerned now from Arctic Bay to Grise Fjord, Clyde River and North Baffin communities. Now it has come into organizations.

When we saw people coming into Grise Fjord by boats, they travelled to Lancaster Sound. I think there is even a group now who are concentrating for the protection of Lancaster Sound. That is how important that area is to us.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. State your name please.

Adrian: Qujannamiik. Adrian Arnauyumayuq, HTO Arctic Bay. I have been with the HTO just for a brief time. I have not much experience with community boards. It is the first time that I became a community member to the HTO. I grew up in the camp. As I grew up knowing the land and how to live off the land, I think we are facing global warming throughout the northern region. Everything has changed our way of harvesting and living.

Beluga whales are a different species now. Their calving is different now. I think so much shipping traffic is creating disturbance to these mammals, especially in this area. When I track ships through a laptop computer, so much traffic is coming and going. If there is a way to control these vessels

from travelling, it may be best for the mammals to live disturbance-free. I think ship traffic, the propulsion noise is too much for many of these mammals to handle.

The shipping, we have concern in these regions, especially to the mine here, the wharf where they are. Even as a person out of this community, it should be controlled in such a way that there is not much disturbance to the mammals.

We need to be concerned with our children as they grow up. Part of growing up, an important aspect of that is harvesting, looking after and maintaining healthy for the animals that are in our Nunavut. We should always be aware. We should be aware that we need to be educated in both ways. Inuit did not live as they live today. Everything appears to be paper permission, paper signature. There is not much concern for a way of life. For instance, this place has changed completely due to the mine.

We are not very bright when it comes to safeguarding our environment, our animals. I have other concerns, but I don't know exactly how yet to express it due to procedures that I lack in knowledge or how I should be able to express myself as new to this organization HTO. Our younger generations have many concerns. They are not given any opportunity to express themselves. This is the only way that we are able to perhaps grow as a healthy community.

We should be more delicate in things we do. As it was expressed on Lancaster Sound, vessel traffic is out of control from large vessels to sail ships. We don't even know where these vessels are coming from, but they are creating disturbance to that region. Perhaps it has cost many mammals to migrate to safer areas away from Lancaster Sound with so much shipping traffic noise. When it was relatively free some years back, we had a lot of mammals in our areas. We have to find ways to control this traffic coming through, mariners, vessel traffic.

You have mentioned that you are working towards a deadline. Once it becomes a law, you also have mentioned an amending formula. You said 7 to 10 years. Suppose something or some concerns were to emerge before these years come, the amending formula time. They could be small, huge problems. Under 7 years, there should be an amending formula if something serious was to come and made into a law according to the Nunavut planning agreement.

I grew up under the guardianship of Elders. Many things that you have produced as maps in your planning sessions, there are many things lacking: low-flying aircrafts, helicopters, other noise-producing transportation disturbing to bird sanctuaries and other waterfowl. I think we are going into the right direction through this process. Thank you for now.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. The questions you have asked will be answered in earlier in this presentation. Jonathan?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you to the representatives from Arctic Bay for your comments and suggestions here today. I think there were a couple of questions that we can provide some responses to throughout your collective presentation.

I would first like to note that near the end, you commented that given the proposed 7-to-10-year timeframe for the complete review of the Land Use Plan, there should be additional mechanisms to



revise the Plan if something new comes up. I do want to just note that under the Draft Plan and under the legislation, the Plan can be amended at any time based on new information or new priorities and values.

If something happens three years, for example, following the approval of the Land Use Plan, an amendment could be considered at that time, and there would be no need to wait until that full 7-to-10-year review.

The other questions that had come up earlier in the presentation about jurisdiction in certain areas, one aspect of the questions that I heard was about who has jurisdiction beyond the Nunavut Settlement Area or the 12-mile distance from the shoreline. I just want to remind everyone that the area outlined on our maps includes the Nunavut Settlement Area as well as the Outer Land Fast Ice Zone along the Baffin coast. Just to be clear, that is the extent of the jurisdiction of the Nunavut Planning Commission and the Nunavut Land Use Plan.

Of course, as we know, the territory of Nunavut extends further into Baffin Bay out to the border with Greenland. Although the Nunavut Planning Commission explicitly does not have jurisdiction within these areas, I would note that they are still under the jurisdiction of the Canadian and Nunavut governments, and those governments may be able to provide additional detail on their management of these areas.

In addition, there were questions about the jurisdiction within Lancaster Sound. In this area, as we know, it is currently being considered to be established as a National Marine Conservation Area. Once that area is fully established, the Nunavut Planning Commission would no longer have jurisdiction in this area. A management board established for the management of this area would then have authorization authority within the area.

Currently, the Nunavut Planning Commission continues to have jurisdiction in this area. We have proposed this Limited Use designation for the proposed boundary for the National Marine Conservation Area. I would also note that a joint Inuit and Government of Canada Management Board is responsible under the Inuit Impact Benefits Agreement for establishing an interim management plan for the area. It is our understanding that this interim management plan has not yet been developed. Once it is, it would also have effect in this area until the full establishment of the conservation area.

The last question that I had noted was in regard to the responsible authorities for permitting the entrance of different types of vessels into the territory, including particular cruise ships and smaller sailing vessels. I will note that particularly the largest of these vessels are submitted to the Nunavut Planning Commission for review against our land use plans. That is the first step in Nunavut's regulatory process.

For those vessel sailings that are considered to be projects under the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, they are subject to any of the requirements of an approved land use plan. However, we are aware that there are smaller sailing vessels that do enter the territory that are not currently providing submissions to the Nunavut Planning Commission for authorization. We are not particularly aware of what authorizations, if any, some of these smaller vessels are seeking or receiving. Again, I would suggest that perhaps the Government of Canada, including Transport

Canada representatives here today may be able to provide additional information on the authorization of those smaller vessels.

The last point was again, as we have heard yesterday, concern being expressed regarding the awareness of what activities are happening in Nunavut's land and waters. The concern in your presentation was mostly related to ship traffic. As I mentioned yesterday, the Commission is currently working to improve the functionality of our online application system and public registry to allow us to more efficiently communicate to communities, in particular what activities have been received by the Nunavut Planning Commission in any given area and what activities are currently anticipated to be active in any given year. That is something the Commission is currently working on, and we hope to have available for communities and all interested in the near future. Thank you very much.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Jonathan. Olayuk, were your questions all answered, or do you have any other statements?

Suzanna: *(Translated)*: I am Suzanna Barnabas from the hamlet. I don't have many statements, but this matter is very important. We had come here to attend meetings with the NWMB. I remember that. NPC would come to Arctic Bay, but we were working on matters regarding Arctic Bay. I enjoyed that.

As an HTO representative, we do have statements also of the wildlife, both marine and terrestrial, even through small wildlife. It can be hard being a member for the HTO in Arctic Bay with respect to wildlife and people wanting to build cabins outside the community and people wanting to go fishing, caribou hunting, but only those who have been approved to do so and people who want to go polar bear hunting.

Those hunting narwhal have used up the quota for the narwhal hunt. The reason being I had heard before, men hunting by boat have not been catching very many seals. It is probably due to the fact that there are less seals because they have less food. We can run our community, for example, Arctic Bay, Pond Inlet, Pangnirtung. We can run our communities. The hamlet lands, the municipal lands are there. I don't know who this statement is directed at.

The work that we will be doing, for example, I have been voted to the HTO, not through ballots but because some directors would leave, and we would replace them. I originally joined the HTO, but when we were having meetings with the HTO, this matter is very important. I think it was last year or this summer we had a person come in from here to the HTO to attend meetings. We had not agreed to their demands to go hunting in Arctic Bay, and we could not agree to that. We can't change the laws that are in place, and I wanted to express that.

Chairperson: Thank you.

Olayuk: *(Translated)*: I am Olayuk Naqitarvik from the Hamlet. I do have another question, and I am sure I will get a response to that. Inuit have small lands. We have been given small lands, small lots in Arctic Bay. I do know that the places we camped at, they are not actually titled to us, but we can manage them.

The Inuit Owned Lands, I am going to ask a question about. I think it is because I don't read too many agreements, so I am not sure about what is in them. Now my question is, are the Inuit Owned

Lands being used to benefit from them, or is anybody benefitting from using Inuit Owned Lands? That is my question, if I can get a response.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. We are not dealing with this matter right now. We are the Nunavut Planning Commission, but as we said, there is the federal government, Nunavut Government, NTI, and QIA. They are here also. They are listening to statements. This is outside our jurisdiction. It is not what we do, so we can't respond to your question. Those other organizations will be able to answer you perhaps during a break. Do you guys have any other statements?

Olayuk: *(Translated)*: I am Olayuk Naqitarvik from the Hamlet organization. The land that is being used that we used, we have markers all over the land from Arctic Bay to Iqaluit. We have markers all over the lands that Inuit had used before. It is obvious that some of these markers are known about because people have not travelled through there. I have gone through Iqaluit twice by skidoo, and starting from Iqaluit to Arctic, there are markers all over, places where people camped, spent the night or camped in.

There are many manmade markers all along the land. Where we live in the cove harbour, we have two or three Inuksuk that are close to each other. Ever since I was a child, they have always been there. We don't know who made these Inuksuk and how valuable they are. Perhaps somebody can deal with these matters. For that reason, I express that. So, from Mary River to here and others, people know all the area because they had used it before.

We had many reasons that people don't know about, that people don't talk about. That is another reason. Employees anywhere need to be able to know what is happening. For example, miners need to do their own exploration, and they all don't express their findings. We all want to do good in our jobs. So, I usually think that we need someone, some organization to do an actual study so we will know the truth. Have you guys considered that? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan? He keeps talking about when he took the trip from Iqaluit to Arctic Bay. During that route, they have seen some old campgrounds or on their way to Arctic Bay there was some old stuff where other people have camped before. I guess you can answer him so that they can submit.

Jonathan S: Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you for clarifying. As indicated, any further comments or recommendations for inclusion in the revised Nunavut Land Use Plan can be provided in writing or by getting in touch by Planning Commission staff before January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023, and all of that information will be given full consideration by Commissioners in the New Year when they are preparing the revised recommended Nunavut Land Use Plan. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have another question?

Olayuk: *(Translated)*: I want to tell a short story about how we lived at a camp. My father had made a sod house at Ikirassaarjuk (?). We got a sod house. After we got a sod house during fall when the sea ice was thick enough and the snow on the lake outside, over there, there are many old sod houses. It was said there are many sod houses too. There are many sod houses, and that is why we are alive today. Yep, I am done talking. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are you guys done?

Sakiasee: (Translated): Sakiasee Qaunaq from Arctic Bay. I am still a hamlet councillor. As I said before, I am part of a subcommittee. We will probably hold meetings after the COVID pandemic. What I have to say is these matters happening in our communities today are different from the past, as said yesterday. Some of them were stated yesterday. In Arctic Bay, we go out on the land. We see old tent rings and sod houses. We see tent rings high up in the hills, and it is obvious that used to be the shoreline way up in the hill. And I wonder, how did the ocean decrease so much?

Today, we don't have very high, high tides or low tides, but today the high and low tides are starting to change. The time of day, the sun has moved a little. Today we are getting very low tides during full and new moon when the tide is low. Places are exposed that used to not be exposed. When the tide comes in, it comes in higher than it used to be. This is part of what is changing. Near our community, there is a very old rock there. The high tide probably began reaching it, so it fell into the ocean. I believe the high tide is increasing.

I heard that Lancaster Sound, there was an old sod house that was being destroyed by waves. They were wondering how they could save that old sod house. I know that old sod house. When I was young, even before I was 20 years old, we used to go down to Lancaster Sound to hunt polar bear by dog team more than once. We used to go polar bear hunting there. With a small sailboat or boat, the Fisheries went down there twice. When the fishing boat was going to come in, I believe I was part of their committee. We went into that sound across from Siqiniq. I know that land is a great land. We had wanted to go there to look for caribou, so we did go there to look for caribou, across from Aqvut (*spelled phonetically*) almost close to Resolute Bay in a sound, but there were no caribou. There was no muskox. It doesn't have a glacier.

The ship captain asked me where now? I said we have no choice but to go to Lancaster Sound. He said it would take 12 hours to get there. Yep, no problem. So, we headed there. We went along Devon Island. I would scope the land as we passed by the sound. There were many, many barrels on the points.

When we landed at a place where we were going, there were many barrels with liquid in them. The empty ones were rusted through, pock-marked with holds. When I scoped the land, somebody had done oil exploration up there. There was an airstrip too. Many, many barrels land up there. There are so many barrels up there.

If they rust, their contents will spill. I saw them. I was scoping them out as we were passing by. The boat was going slowly, so I saw all these barrels within these sounds. The statements made yesterday were true. One of the research people said wildlife disappear. They are not dying off. Yep, that's true. They just move somewhere else. Wildlife is not tame. They are not farm animals. They are wild. Because they are wild, they don't always stay in their same places. Once people have left, they may return to their original places. Yep, wildlife is wild. Other people will speak. I will stop for now. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Adrian: Thank you. I am Adrian Arnauyumayuq from Arctic Bay HTO. I believe our terms as committee members are too short. I am on a two-year term. I believe committee members have two-year terms, although the chair stays on longer. When you are trying to deal with matters, then you are

not a committee member anymore, and you come back later on, I don't think that is right. I believe it slows down the planning processes. When new committee members join, it seems like you have more matters to deal with. I believe committee terms should be extended.

We are very protective of our lands. We live there and want them to be taken good care of. I believe so much money has been made from our lands a long time ago. I believe in the past explorers even died up here. Today I think it was on being 100 years or a little bit over that Inuit had people come in. It still seems new to us, and I believe we were not educated enough. People were taking advantage of us, and later on we realized what had happened. We realized there were things that needed to be fixed, but new issues keep coming up.

We need to decide on the committee members and the wildlife officer. We don't have a wildlife officer in our committee, so it is kind of hard to deal with some matters. We do need a wildlife officer to attend our meeting. We did not have a wildlife officer for a long time. We were told that a person was going to come in, and the matters we had to deal with were delayed for a long time.

It seems like things will finally be fixed and settled properly, and the youth will be attending committees more. I believe it will be exciting. I believe we will have an exciting future as long as people agree with our statements and listen to what we are saying. We are protective of our wildlife and lands, and we will keep depending on them. I suddenly don't know what to say. I'm not such a great orator. I'm getting a little bit shy. I do have a lot of statements. I will stop for now.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Even if you are not educated, we are all people. We are not ignorant. We are not dumb. Don't think that. We all have the same abilities. I believe you are done with your statements. We don't have any questions from our staff. I will ask if anybody else has any questions to their statements. Charlie?

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My Name is Charlie Inuarak from the HTO. Somebody asked a question. My brother asked a question, and nobody could speak to him. He was told to speak to other organizations outside. I don't like that. He asked a question, and I would want to have a response to him now. Are Inuit being used to benefit with monies and where are those monies going? That was the question he asked, and I want a response to that. Those other organizations that know about these are here. I do know that Nanisivik is benefitting from the lands. I believe Qikiqtani Inuit Association can respond to that right now. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Yes, it would be good to hear, but it is not within our jurisdiction or work. The people are here. You can even talk to them on a break or after the meeting, but this is not part of our work regarding monies made from lands. I said before that we cannot answer that. Others can answer that.

We are trying to deal with the work that we are delegated to deal with. So, we are trying to deal with the matters that we are here to deal with. We had expressed that we are here to deal with the matters, and you can speak to people from other organizations perhaps during breaks or outside. You can ask them questions. Yes, we need to deal with our responsibilities, as I said before. Thank you. Do you have another question?

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Yes, I do have another question. The Arctic Bay Hamlet people said the iron ore had fallen into the ocean. That was too much for the ships to carry, and that iron ore isn't hazardous. I

didn't really understand what statement he was trying to say when he was talking about these matters, Mr. Chair. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Sakiasee, can you respond to that?

Sakiasee: *(Translated)*: Yes. That stuff that they were using, that chemical they were using was known to be hazardous. They would use a loader to ship the ore onto the ships, and they would have all this dust coming off of it. Most of those people that were working there all have died. One who worked as a loader is still alive, but he has bad health issues. Other people I have noticed, especially two that were loaders, they got sick from their work, and they have died.

That is probably the same for southerners too. One of them is still alive, although he was working in all that dust. They did have masks on, but apparently, they inhaled some dust, so he is having health problems today even though he is alive. It was a huge pollutant back then.

This chemical was added to water, and this chemical would be dumped into the ocean, but there were no dead sculpin or cod dying from this chemical. I did see a seal one time with no fur on it. We suspected that it was this chemical that was causing this to happen. So, this pollutant chemical, we thought it was due to the chemical that the seal was suffering from. What I was saying when people were talking about dust from Mary River, I don't believe iron ore is toxic or a pollutant.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. We don't have any hands up to ask questions. Oh, we do.

Namen: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Namen Inaurak, HTO Pond Inlet. I do have a question to Sakiasee. You talked about Nanisivik, and you also talked about Mary River. I want to ask you three questions. I will ask two questions together. How many ships did you get? How many tonnes of ore did they mine in a year at Nanisivik?

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: I just want to remind everybody, if you can't respond right away, you can also respond later or even write them a letter. If you wish to respond, you can go ahead. If you wish to respond later, it is up to you. Qujannamiik.

Sakiasee: *(Translated)*: Can you hear me? The ore that was shipped out from Mary River, I heard there are many ships going to Milne that ship ore. There are a lot of ships during the summer. During the whole year, we had four ships come. As I said before, they had to prepare the ore. They had to dry up the ore. It took all year to dry it out. The ore they collected all year would be enough to ship in four ships.

So, they had four ships per summer to ship the ore that was collected all winter. So, they only needed four ships to ship all that ore out. Yep, people know this. Yep, we had four ships. Yep, the ore they mined was not very big, so it only took four ships to ship it all out.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Namen?

Namen: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Namen Inuarak, HTO. The iron ore waiting for the ships, were they kept outside in the open air? Were they covered, or were they kept inside a building?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Sakiasee: *(Translated)*: No, they were stored in a building. They kept the ore inside if people got sick from the dust, because it had the consistency of flour if it was kept outside. If snow was added to it, it would clump together, so they kept it inside a building all winter long. I hope I answered your question.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Yes, he did tell the story, but we need to deal with Nunavut Planning Commission matters. I don't have any other names. We don't have any other names. Are there any questions from the community members of Pond Inlet? *(Pause)*

We don't have any questions. Thank you for your statements, Arctic Bay people.

*(Applause)*

Before we take a break, Sharon will have some statements.

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The Commission would like to ask Jayko Allooooloo to stand up. We would like to do a recognition. Jayko worked for the Commission for over 10 years in our Pond Inlet office. He is also a recognized Elder here in the community. Jayko, if you could stand up. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

*(Applause)*

Chairperson: Thank you, Sharon. We will take a 15-minute break.

### **Break**

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Will you be going separately? The Hamlet representatives from Pond Inlet will go first, and after that the HTO will speak. Anytime you are ready, go ahead. A reminder: don't forget to say your name and your organization. Thank you.

### **Presentation by the Hamlet of Pond Inlet**

**Joshua Idlout, Hamlet Council**

**Moses Koonark, Hamlet Council**

**Elijah Panipakoochoo – Hamlet Elder Consultant**

Joshua: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Joshua Idlout from the Hamlet. I am a councillor along with my fellow council members, Moses Koonark and Elijah Panipakoochoo. He is our Elder consultant. Thank you for giving us this opportunity. Welcome to the community, fellow community members and from the other communities. I will mostly have questions, but Moses and Elijah will explain about places that need protection.

We have been impacted up to today. The other communities find out, and I believe this is part of NPC's mandate to agree to the mining at Mary River and Milne Inlet. We will have short statements on those. We will also explain that these places are calving areas for caribou and narwhal. Here in



our community, we get many cruise ship visits. In years past, we didn't have cruise ship activity due to COVID-19. This year they were trying to see if we could allow cruise ship visits here.

We caught in Eclipse Sound, our Tasiujaq, these huge ships from cruise ships and Mary River Mine ships, cargo ships. This year, we had 25 cruise ship visits. Next year if cruise ship visits will be allowed, we will have more ships with more tourists coming into the Pond Inlet into Eclipse Sound. We are the entrance way and exit through the so-called Northwest Passage. The Northwest Passage is a huge deal for tourists. For that reason, it seems like we have been getting an influx of cruise ships here. Be that as it may, the mining company ships still pass through here on their way to Milne Inlet.

The question I wanted to ask regarding the Valued Component, what exactly does that mean? I want clarification on that, and I will be able to get a response to that later. Yep, I want clarification on that term so that when we are dealing with the matter again, I will know better how to deal with it. We had two ships that came in, and we have had questions about that. We have had questions about that, and I would like an explanation to that.

We had ships going to Tremblay Sound, and we will want an answer on why they were able to. Who approved them to go into Tremblay Sound? They had helicopters. I don't think those ships got approved from the Hamlet or HTO. We don't know who approved them to come up here.

The other thing is old campsites with archeological things, places where people would go to hunt caribou. We are wondering if NPC has authority to protect these places, sites, or if you are actually protecting these sites. I will want clarification. Sometimes the mining people disturb them or make roads through them.

For example, if we were down south and we were a mining company, when they affect Indigenous communities, the Indigenous communities always speak out. I believe we also should have the same opportunity to speak up regarding protection of these old campsites. They are archeological historical sites.

The last item, my fellow council members will explain what we have written down. What we have written down, our community feels are not enough. They will explain what other places need protection. You can respond to my questions later. I will turn the microphone over to my committee members. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. It will be the same process as you guys. Your questions will be answered later.

Moses: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I am a Hamlet Council member from Pond Inlet. We had planned. We had worked on a map locating sites that we felt were precious and needed protection. We had marked these places down. We also marked places down where we hunt our wildlife, our game from. We wrote them down so the places could be protected.

*(Place names spelled phonetically)*: The places are within this map, but it is not visible on this map. We explained them. We wrote down the places that we felt are precious to us, towards Clyde River, and our ancestors used to live there. My parent's parents and grandparents used to live down there. We do have places marked down before that land. I believe the Clyde River people will understand. Over in Pingarjuit, there is a place called Talloytitoo. When you are at Lancaster Sound, there is a

big lake there and up about the Sound from here to there to over past Angijurjuk, up past Mary River near Kanukjuq, and from Kanukjuq close to Sahtut (*spelled phonetically*). We felt these places are precious, and we marked them down as such.

In the past 10 or 11 years, we as the Water Board, we also planned for the waters that we felt needed for protection, and we marked them on maps. People will probably not understand this, but we will have these sites marked on maps at Ikaaqtalik to Tremblay Sound. We too live in these sites, so we marked them down as precious. That is where we get our water from, we community members. When we are hunting during the spring, we get water from there too, so we marked it as such on a map. We want these sites protected, these sites where we get our drinking waters from.

We have glaciers up there, and we get our water from those glaciers. So, we marked those sites as such. As I said before, we had marked on sites that we felt were precious to us, inside those lands. Exploration companies from down south had found minerals beside Mary River, and we marked those sites down too, but those exploration companies have designated those spots as having minerals. The exploration companies will probably lease those lands. Regardless of the fact, we want those sites protected. We want to protect those sites. It is where we get our food from like caribou. We also depend on the fish in those areas.

For that reason within that site we marked down, there are also minerals that I had found. I staked that. That is inside the site we wanted protected. The iron ore, gold is to be used to make money. That is also marked inside our protected site. I have another site. I have that iron ore marked down in the site we want protected. From my markings far from that, I had found gold deposits, and I have staked that site too. That site is also within the site we want protected.

For these reasons and over there towards Clyde River, I had heard there is iron ore that someone had found, two deposits of iron ore. I don't know who the exploration companies are that found the sites, but it is obvious they probably have those sites staked out too. They probably have given you their applications or to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.

Yep, for these reasons the sites we want protected are pretty huge, but it is where our food comes from. It is where our waters come from. It is where we get our terrestrial, our marine wildlife for food. We want to ensure that these sites are marked to prevent them from production. I did not mark down the other sites that the exploration company had their sites on, to be protected. Angijurjuk near Mary River, we feel that land is precious, as caribou calve there. It is very important to us.

Baffinland had wanted to use a railway to go through it, but to us it is very precious as caribou calve there. It is where we get our food from, and we will keep getting our food from there, from caribou that were birthed at those calving grounds. They are beneficial to us as food. They have been gifted to us.

Narwhal had birthing areas near Milne Inlet. They used to have birthing areas up there. Today we all hear a lot whether narwhals are even giving birth up there near Bruce Head. There is probably a few that give birth up there, but I myself have not seen any. I don't know if any give birth up there now. In the years past, that area was a huge narwhal area and a huge char area. Near the community, we had the most char, and it is called Kolutoo Bay (?)

Those are the sites, Mr. Chair, that I wanted to talk about. Within Sirmilik National Park, we do have a few lands, small lands. We had wanted those sites to be protected, although they are within Sirmilik National Park. On Baffin Island, there are sites that we feel are precious to us that are Inuit Owned Lands. We go there for vacation. It is toward Clyde River, and it is located on Baffin Bay. This is one of the sites that we find precious. Mr. Chair, I will stop my report for now. Thank you. I hope I was understood.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are there any other statements? Go ahead. State your name and your organization.

Elijah: I believe your microphone is running out of batteries. Can you hear me, okay? The light is blinking.

Chairperson: We can hear you okay.

Elijah: I am hard of hearing. I tend to speak loudly. Let me know if I am talking too loudly. The sites Moses talked about, we have marked them on a map. We have a copy of the map, and he talked to them already. He expressed that these lands are precious to Inuit, as per their customs. It was last week we meant to deal with these matters.

The caribou areas where they calve, caribou migration areas, we call those trails, tudreenaut (*spelled phonetically*). Caribou move around according to Inuit Traditional Knowledge. I want to make sure you understand. Sorry, my name is Elijah Panipakoochoo, the Elder of Pond Inlet.

Regarding matters with caribou, we were taught when we were young by Nutarak. Our father had already passed away at that time, and the late Nutarak was very knowledgeable about the lands up there. He was very knowledgeable in Traditional Knowledge. He would even write down Inuit customs like how families work. He wrote all these things down. We would use this information to know these things. So, we probably have relatives of people who have come here. This will be something for you to use.

The matter we are meeting is to discuss the plan or perhaps with NTI's plan. They all come here. I'm just expressing that for now. NPC is holding our meeting. We are also discussing wildlife that are dear to us. We are here to discuss them, if we are going to use Inuit Traditional Knowledge, actually use them, but really add to it.

For example, get employees to work on the matter. Get rangers to patrol over. It is not that we dislike people coming into the area, but people do come. When they are approved to come up here, they go anywhere they want to, and they go past what they were approved to do. I have pictures of ships with helicopters that were flying anywhere willy-nilly, pretty much close to where the caribou are, and in the areas where we hunt.

We call Tunit (*spelled phonetically*) on the map there. You go from Pond Inlet straight to that sound, and it has that bend in there. That is our main hunting area now. Our Eclipse Sound is being used, overused during the summer. During the summer, there is no wildlife in Eclipse Sound at all when all these ships that had been approved to be coming up here start coming here.

Especially with those cruise ships, they do whatever they want compared to Baffinland ships. They go pretty much anywhere they want to go. As soon as they are approved to come up here, some of

them start going into the sounds. Because we do have wildlife there, organizations like QIA need to know about these things. These organizations need to know what is happening.

We have lots of companies or people who want to come up and do research on wildlife. I used to be an HTO member for 26 years. We had to deal with these applications to do research. We would receive a lot of letters requesting approval to do research. Cruise ships also need approval to come up here. Some of their applications are approved. Some of them are not approved, but they still come up anyway.

The beauty of the Arctic is used very much to make money by southerners. The communities are bothered and disturbed, their hunting areas. The wildlife is visited. If we are to use Inuit Traditional Knowledge, we grew up in those areas during the 1950s, 1960s, around that time. We learned how to hunt. We were not allowed to touch wildlife that we were not going to hunt. If we weren't going to hunt them, we were told to leave them alone and don't disturb them by Elders. These were the laws of the Elders so there would be plenty of wildlife. They wanted to be able to catch. That wasn't hard to catch.

Today, we go far distances to go hunting, and southerners have free access up here now. This matter needs to be watched carefully. Inuit Traditional Knowledge and laws, if we are going to use them, things will change very much. It is obvious. If we were to follow them, Inuit Traditional Laws need to be presented and written down and enforced.

This should apply to all southerners that will come up here to do whatever so they will know. They will only believe things that they see pictures or see something with their own eyes. Some of them even say if I don't see a picture, I won't believe it at all. That is how we differ in our cultures. Inuit mean the absolute truth when they say something, and they express completely what they remember. I could even tell a story.

In the past, before I was born, before we were born, our ancestors only used to hunt with bow and arrow before there were rifles. So, when they are stalking the caribou, and they get close to the caribou, they even take their pants off, so they won't make a noise with their wind pants. So, he is stalking the caribou without pants on trying not to make a noise, because the caribou will flee. I used to hear these kinds of stories. Our ancestors experienced that.

Anybody ever did that before? That is my question. Did anybody ever stalk caribou with no pants and that's that? Inuit Traditional Knowledge, we began planning for a long time, but it has not been brought up yet by NTI. We requested this from NTI, but they have not brought it up. If we are to use any Traditional Knowledge, the wildlife can come back to the area.

I can tell a story. When I was a boy, when I was a young man, I used to hunt in front of the community here. We would use rowboats. Me and other boys would hunt seals. We would catch seals right to close to shore. When our boat was too full, we had to unload the seals to get more. We would use the seal for food during winter and dog food. There was this much wildlife. Sometimes daily we had narwhal pass by, and people would hunt them.

Today, it has been more than a month that we don't have narwhal pass by. You need to know this has been a huge change for us. We are losing some of our customs here. For those matters, I had wanted to express these things.

I wrote down a few things regarding the applicants we get from southerners. Southerners only believe what they see. They don't listen. They don't take Inuit statements into consideration too much. I know this very well. You tell them we used to live this way. We used to do that following Inuit Traditional Knowledge. They just say yes. They don't even bother to ask questions. That seems to be not right. It would be great if they actually believed this. Then they would be able to follow our instructions.

I grew up with the RCMP as a child. We were always in the company of southerners. Southerners needed help. Even as adults, they were little children, because they are not from up here. Our father used to work very hard to try and support southerners to help protect them. That was their life. I have not lived in Pond Inlet only. I lived on Devon Island, Alexander Fjord, and Ellesmere Island. I remember we were living out in the west. We had been brought over there by ship, and we returned by dog team.

The late Akbarek (*spelled phonetically*) used to help my father. He met us halfway by dog team, as we had very few dogs left. Inuit travelled everywhere by dog team to Igloolik, Hall Beach, and other places. Every year annually, these places would be visited during the cold winter. Using Inuit Traditional Knowledge, they didn't bring all the food they needed. They only brought some food for the dogs with a few store-bought items.

I am talking about my knowledge. I am telling the actual truth. We actually saw these things happen. I do have other pictures, which I brought along when tourists were in the community during the summer. You can also see these pictures if you only believe in pictures. Then you can find out whether our statements are true or not.

I wanted to talk about these things, the things that we are dealing with for NPC. I wrote a few things down. For example, if I were part of NPC, these things would be included, that there be actual employees who will be rangers, I guess patrollers. You would not be able to patrol all year round.

With respect to caribou, using Inuit Traditional Knowledge, starting in May to the end of June, caribou give birth. They need to be protected while they are giving birth, while they are birthing from May to the end of June. Caribou birth here in our land. I have seen them when travelling by dog team. My father used to show me through a telescope, newborn calves.

As Moses said, past Bruce Head, caribou go up there to feed on all the char that are there. Narwhal do hunt char. It is also a calving area in that sound. Of course, narwhal flee from killer whales into sounds. We get killer whales up here every summer. Narwhals are very terrified of killer whales for that reason. If we were to make rules using Inuit Traditional Knowledge, we definitely need to make rules for this area before our lands are polluted or destroyed.

Me and my buddy here are also members of the Sirmilik National Parks Committee. Every year we look into how much the glaciers have melted, receded. When the weather is clear, you can see all these glaciers across from us. We check and monitor those glaciers. There are lots of ships and aircraft of the area now. Oddly the glacier is now melting at a faster rate now by at least a mile from airborne dust pollution.

We need to protect the glaciers too. They are sources of water, and they help provide clean water. As the water flows into the ocean, it helps sink the mud and dirt in the ocean. We need to be aware of our environments to see how clean they are, those of us who live in the Arctic. We can't just do things willy-nilly, as the Arctic is our life.

We are not relocating elsewhere. We will always stay here. We need to take very good care of it. We need to support it. We fellow humans from Clyde River, Grise Fjord, Resolute Bay, I can't tell them you need to do this about your lands. They already know about what is happening in their territories. We need to ask them instead what do we need to do to make things better to protect sites?

These places are our only sources of food. We don't have plants for food up here. Char, caribou, seals, narwhal, cod. They know where the cod are, under the sea ice, even the copepods, which are the food of seals. I am giving a short description of the sites and places that need protection. Our ancestors survived on wildlife, and that is why we are alive. There would be no human if the Arctic did not have wildlife. Luckily for us, there was wildlife, so our ancestors were able to survive.

I wanted to express that. I am trying to make it brief. We can work on these matters very closely together, the Clyde River people, Arctic Bay people, the things we have written down. If we had to deal with land matters, if we need to make rules, we can work closely with these guys and write down the sites on land and in oceans that we want protected. My statements keep getting longer every time I speak. Thank you for giving me the opportunity. I have still a lot more things to say, but we are not going to have enough time. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. We are here to talk about the Nunavut Land Use Plan. According to the *Land Claims Agreement*, we are asked to listen and to plan as the Nunavut Planning Commission and to look at both Traditional Knowledge and scientific knowledge. Our culture, our knowledge has to be just as strong. Your lecture this afternoon was very valuable. It gives us good direction. I would like to acknowledge Aluki, president of NTI. Welcome.

*(Applause)*

Joshua's question, Jon will answer the questions you have asked previously.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you to the representatives from the Hamlet of Pond Inlet for your comments here today. There were a few questions asked at the beginning of the presentation that I will try and run through.

The first question was about Valued Components and how they work as part of the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. As we had mentioned over the last 15 years, the Commission has collected a great deal of information on the lands and waters within Nunavut, including areas that are very important to communities for all manner of reasons.

Not all of this information is included on our Land Use Designations Map A, which shows specific areas that have specific plan requirements, but all of the information that has been collected is included in the Draft Plan as Valued Components that are identified for the consideration of both

project proponents in the design of their project, as well as other regulatory authorities when they conduct their further mandated reviews of individual project proposals.

So, when we say Valued Components in the context of this Draft Plan, we mean that collection of identified values that are not included on Map A. That includes a number of different areas that are discussed throughout the Plan. We gave some examples of things like some of the whale calving areas were not included as land use designations but are included as Valued Components, again to inform project proponents and other regulatory authorities on the importance of these areas.

A key part of these Valued Components is the information directly recorded by the NPC or the Nunavut Planning Commission from community members. The slide showing on the right-hand screen in front of us now represents a high-level overview of some of that information.

For example, the left-hand map shows additional priority areas that were identified by communities. This dataset alone includes over 3,000 separate areas with specific comments identified by groups of community members that the Commission has recorded over the years. In addition, the right-hand side of the slide shows over 10,000 individual points recorded by the Nunavut Planning Commission staff of how community members are using their lands and waters. Together, this collection of information can be summarized through our online computer systems and communicated more effectively to project proponents and other regulatory authorities.

You also mentioned if the Nunavut Planning Commission has the authority or mandate to protect archeological sites or cultural historic locations throughout the territory. I will note that many of those types of locations are included in these types of maps, so we have generalized areas identifying locations of historic campsites, sod houses, and things like that. They are included again, as Valued Components within the Draft Plan.

In addition, we are aware that the Government of Nunavut's Department of Culture and Heritage maintains very detailed databases of archeological and historic sites throughout the territory. Very early on in this planning process, the Government of Nunavut indicated a reluctance or hesitancy to include all of that information in a publicly available land use plan.

The department has a mandate to ensure the protection of historical sites throughout the territory, and they have preferred to focus their efforts on individual reviews of project proposals and potential impacts on archeological sites rather than make all of them publicly available in order to ensure privacy of these locations so that they would not be as regularly visited as some of the more prominently known locations.

The last topic I noted was the authorization of cruise ships within the Lancaster Sound area generally, including Tremblay Sound. I wanted to indicate that currently, the Nunavut Planning Commission does review project proposals for cruise ships coming into the territory. They are required to follow any requirements of approved land use plans in addition to any other authorizations they may require. For example, from the Government of Nunavut's Department of Environment for wildlife observation permits, as an example, those authorizations are also required for cruise ships entering the territory.

One final note: The management of vessel traffic within the proposed Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine Conservation Area will soon be subject to the requirements of an interim management plan



that is required to be prepared jointly by Inuit and Canada to manage ship traffic within this area very carefully. At this time, the Commission is not aware of the current status of that implementation plan. Perhaps the Qikiqtani Inuit Association or the Government of Nunavut would be able to provide an update on that later, perhaps tomorrow when they provide their presentations. So, apologies for the long response to those questions. Those are the ones that I had noted from the beginning of the presentation. Thank you very much.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik, Jonathan. Joshua?

Joshua: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Joshua Idlout, Hamlet Council. Thank you for your response. It was clear. You have answered my questions, especially on Valued Components. I asked. Baffinland has agreed to know what that Valued Component was earlier. The train tracks that were planned by this company, we are in talks with this company, and we will continue to talk with them.

There are to be monitors, perhaps when we come to that topic I will discuss and make comments further on that. At this time, I conclude my presentation. I will ask my colleagues for their further comments.

Moses: *(Translated. Place names spelled phonetically)*: Moses Koonark, Hamlet of Pond Inlet. As I mentioned earlier, we have priorities, as we mentioned earlier and marked them on the map. My father was born in that part I have mentioned earlier, and he lived in qarmaq in the Andorlariq area. He was born in that area near Kingarjuaq Point. He lived in different parts of this area. At Andorlariq area, there were qarmaq and during the seasonal change, they relocate to different areas to Kulikjuaq. These were my grandfather's clan. The points is near Kulikjuaq and Inuliakjuit. These were the areas they spend their camps according to the parts of the season and to follow animals for harvesting and for food sources. These are the areas that I have marked as priority.

On another topic, the cruise ships are coming in more and more each year, especially to Pond Inlet and to the place I mentioned earlier, Inuliakjuit. They are starting to make stop at this area the year before. I think more of the cruise ships will be stopping in that area, and these are ventures that are coming in for money-making purposes.

We want to have these ships curbed and making less stoppages in our area as hamlet councilor or through organizations like Nunavut Planning Commission. The cruise ships are becoming numerous, more and more each year. If they do not have any restrictions imposed on them, it will get out of hand and become more and more numerous.

Heritage sites near Mary River, Naluriat, there are huge historic sites. We know that there are a lot of archeological artifacts and sites. We know of someone who is very much aware of that area and came to the hamlet.

Chairperson: *(Microphone difficulties)*: We were aware the battery was going. Continue please.

Moses: *(Translated)*: I come from the hamlet. Moses Koonark. We used to have a mayor, I don't know which was which at that time. There was someone coming into town who specializes in archeology. We had a meeting with them, and he mentioned that I think Baffinland was forcing us to speed up the research. He was complaining that he is being rushed to come to a conclusion as to what was in

that area. He also knew at the time the archeology, and he and myself were very concerned that it was not paid any attention to for many years.

The archeology has not come in now for quite a while, because he could not come to any conclusions. He was sort of forced to speed up his research, and it was not complete. In the area that he was working on near the mine site is an archeological site. I think this will be a coming practice in the future where archeology and other important artifacts are rushed. At the cove, there was a family that lived in that area where Jayko Allooloo grew up. I think he is the only last survivor who lived in that area. If he has something to say, he might be able to tell you the site, and his parents lived in 1915. I think I will conclude my speech here.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Thank you. We will have Nunavut Planning Commission staff. *(Pause)*

No questions from the community delegates? *(Pause)*

There appears none. Registered guests? Registered participants? *(Pause)*

None. From the public, from the community, any questions to the presenters? *(Pause)*

There appears none. Give them a hand please.

*(Applause)*

Pond Inlet Hunters and Trappers Organization? Qujannamiik. Please state your name, your organization whenever you are ready.

### **Presentation by Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Organization**

**Charlie Inuarak**

**Namen Inuarak**

**David Qajaaq Qamaniq**

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik for coming into the community. We are welcoming you as the HTO organization. Please stay around for a while. Charlie Inuarak. I am with the HTO. Our chair has other businesses to attend to, another meeting. There were going to be three of us to make a presentation, and we appreciate you coming into the community. We anticipated your arrival so we could make a presentation. We will also make a written submission before January 22 coming in from the HTO.

We have other concerns that need to be addressed. We will do that, because we won't be able to make a full presentation of our concerns on this table alone. We are representatives of the community. They have many concerns, and some of them are very important. We have heard a lot of concerns as the HTO.

Chair, I will ask a question. Before I start, you had a presentation of North Baffin, the caribou travel sites where caribou have travels. They were not all recorded so I want to make a clarification on

that. Here at the map, we have some items we want to show you as HTO. We have discussed these maps at the HTO meetings. It is not quite clear, but Chair, I needed some clarification on caribou migration routes that were incomplete in your maps. I don't know how long I will be here to discuss the caribou travel routes.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: I just want to remind you that January 10<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for written submissions. You can write a written submission to staff to your concerns.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We will make written submissions. These are the descendants of the population who depended on caribou where the migration routes are. Can we look at caribou ice crossing sites?

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Just for your information, although they appear to be just presentation, it will help us a lot to do our work. Your presentations are also recorded, just for your information. You can just talk, and we will know what you will be talking about. Qujannamiik.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Thank you for the clarification. Our caribou herd in the North Baffin, they appear to be gone. They come in at times as well. We have heard through Traditional Knowledge that caribou will disappear. As I grew up, there were hardly any caribou herds. In Kuugalik as I was becoming a young man, I first saw caribou starting to come into our area.

In many herds, they were coming across through the Igloodik area, Ajuittuq area, Tonoonoosik (*spelled phonetically*) heading north coming toward our area. They cross to North Baffin coming through their traditional routes where they migrate. They also come in through Sanirajak area during the winter where we didn't know of their travel routes at the time. They migrate, and we were very aware. Sometimes we were told, and they disappeared, and we don't have any more caribou herds.

We just want to inform and make the public aware what we know growing up with caribou herds. The caribou coming into their travel routes from Repulse Bay or Baker Lake Area have come in at times to our area from that far off and crossing to North Baffin Island. A lot of herds have come through, and I have seen a lot of herds migrating northward. I have seen these herds coming into the North Baffin, and the caribou herds have come back, because they cross away from their traditional migration route.

They come in through the Mary River area and that area, Clyde River and Broughton Island, Pangnirtung, Iqaluit, Cape Dorset. They travel this far to harvest caribou because the herd has become numerous. Our forefathers have mentioned that there will be huge herds coming through sometimes, and sometimes spending time they come into Tonoonoosik area (*spelled phonetically*). When they deplete their feeding grounds, then they start migrating to different areas towards Igloodik and to Repulse Bay area. There are huge herds. Wolf packs are following these herds everywhere they travel.

I don't think you have fully documented our knowledge of the caribou. If you don't have it documented, you should, because I don't think you have complete data on wildlife in our area. They say that the caribou herd is endangered in the area due to the climate, and they travel elsewhere. They are not being depleted.

Sometimes they have a vast range area that they travel across. The land is the problem sometimes due to feeding of the herd. The caribou have traveled vast. It was dangerous grounds. Some have gone through the cliffs in this area when it is icy in the land. According to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, the caribou that is arriving, the lead caribou herd, if they were to be harvested too soon, the leaders of the caribou herd when they are harvested and shot, the herds start dispersing everywhere to any direction because they follow their leaders when they migrate. These leader caribou would travel to calving areas. During the rutting season, they would then become stationary at that time. The caribou would be at a standstill. I have seen herds at that stage.

I think full documentation should be included in your Nunavut Land Use Plan of the caribou and their travel areas. I summarize this knowledge that they should be included in your Draft Land Use Plan. You should direct your staff to look into this and have it documented. The person who gave us a presentation yesterday, he mentioned that Kivalliq have documented the migration route of their caribou herd in that region, and he mentioned that we don't have much data for the North Baffin area.

If they are becoming too numerous, if their migration route has drastic changes, for some reason they start to die off. Their ice crossing routes: the hamlet delegation made a nice presentation, very informative. He was talking about the calving areas. The Nunavut Planning Commission should have these presentations documented. I just wanted to inform you in a short presentation that there should be further documentation on ice crossing routes.

There has been too much harvesting on male caribou, and this is why I think the herd has depleted in numbers due to overharvesting of bull caribou. Caribou herds are starting to come back because bull caribou are becoming numerous again. This is the Inuit Traditional Knowledge. We should be aware. If we start misusing our caribou herds, say through bad harvesting, our land at times has no food source sometimes. I think icing on the ground is the reason, and at times they are not able to get their food source due to icing on the ground.

You could tell healthy caribou when you eat it. You can tell it is healthy, and you can also tell it is not healthy to eat when the caribou was numerous. The liver of the caribou used to be dark and healthy. This is Traditional Knowledge of our Elders. When this liver changed, they are about to perhaps deplete due to sicknesses. At one point, we completely ran out of caribou, and I will conclude on my caribou talk.

We have other matters I would like to talk to you about. Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, I don't have much knowledge on that, although I am an Elder now. If I were to have paid attention as a youngster and learned this knowledge, we spoke of it in the presentation in the beginning of this proceeding. It was mentioned that it will be part of the topic, and to date we talk about Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit from both levels of government and other organizations. This is what we base on. This is what we have been told.

We have been told Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is not being utilized. It is lip service just so that companies could come in like Mary River. I used to be a member of QIA. When we negotiated at that time, he mentioned that when we talked about IIBA and Inuit will be employed at these mining companies, they will benefit. It is in paper. Because of that, Inuit are told that they will benefit from this mining company. As it turned out, there were none. We are not benefitting in Baffin Island. The agreement that was signed, Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit was thrown out the window.

When it comes to discussion on wildlife, we turn to Qallunaat knowledge. It is very complicated at times. To substantiate their action, they say it is technical. This has to stop. You as Nunavut Planning Commission should be made aware. You are not using Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit anymore. You are now dictated by the ministers and senior people of the organizations and companies. The ministers are dictated by the consultants and by the lawyers.

If you talk and you talk with them according to the agreement, Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit would be excluded in any discussions with the HTO. We understand it now as HTO organizations. Simple things become very complicated. This has to be addressed. When decisions are made by organizations, it is now a routine for any disagreement to come right up to the Minister for immediate decision, whatever the tactic may be used to achieve what their desire is.

For instance, mining and fuel exploration, we are told now that only the Minister will be able to answer your concerns and answer your questions. That will be the end of it. That conclusion usually is in favour of the applicant who has turned to the minister. Because their request is always technical, Inuit are not included anymore. The Inuit are the basis of the *Nunavut Agreement*. It is not the *Agreement* for non-Inuit.

We also know that the Queen and the government were signatories to this country, and we have to correct everything and include Inuit as landowners. Nunavut Planning Commission Chair, I want to address to you just recently, the federal government senate committee determined at that time we will totally be responsible for the land, our traditional land. The federal government has approved what was in dispute recently.

The mining company has come up with logic that there would be layoffs. I just wanted to make mention of how things are today.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Your name, please, and your organization. Go ahead.

Namen: (*Translated*): Thank you, Mr. Chair. Namen Inuarak, HTO Mittimatalik. Six or seven [topics] will be what I am talking about, and I have a few questions.

The ships going into the Pond Inlet area are increasing, and the small boats called yachts. The sounds up here are pretty far away to Analararik to Milne Inlet to Tremblay Sound. Those sounds are visited by ships and those ones on Bylot Island. Some of the ships have helicopters, and they even have submersibles. Some of the cruise ships bring these things along.

We have gone to them asked them what they are doing and asked to see their permits. They don't even want to show us their permits at all. They say they can only show them to the RCMP. They can't show them to regular people. The cruise ships need approval if they are going to have submersibles or helicopters. They need to be approved on paper first.

When the cruise ships are doing too much, going anywhere too much regardless of Nunavut Impact Review Board and other organizations, they are not in the community. So, the cruise ships do whatever they want, and people are not watching them. Some of us here have seen from their yachts, they go ashore. You see people hiking. When people are asked why you are here on the land walking around, they say they are just enjoying the scenery. We know that they are not just enjoying

the scenery. They are searching. They are searching for things, some extensive things like rocks or minerals. We know this now as that is the case now.

The organizations that give out these permits like Inuit Heritage Trust, government, and NTI, we know they met annually. Some of us know this now. We want the HTO to be a member of these committees because we do have rights regarding our environment. We are the Designated Inuit Organization for environmental matters. We need to be a part of these committees. We need to be a part of the authorizing bodies now. The communities, the members that are from communities, we are saying how can we deal with these things. We want these things dealt with.

The second item: These mining companies come to our lands and are already approved to be up here. These governments, federal government representatives need to work things out. They need to teach and train the companies or the communities or representatives. If that were to happen, for example mining or oil exploration or anything, those are government duties that they need to set rules for these people. They have no rules in place. They don't teach them about different cultures when these companies start doing their things. They go through hard times without rules and regulations in place. I will bring this up when they come here. That is that.

The fourth item is mining companies like Baffinland use the hamlet, and QIA. They use them to get permissions to do things, and the hamlet aren't environmental people. Their jurisdiction is within the community. They have no authority outside community limits. They have no jurisdiction at all in English terms. The hamlet is used by Baffinland and QIA to get easier faster access to what they want to do. They bypassed organizations by going through the hamlet organizations.

To further talk about Baffinland and QIA, they have set up monitoring. They have set up a committee for monitoring the environment called the Facilitative Working Group. The working group is not an organization. They are not a recognized organization within any laws. They were not made out of any agreements. They have no authority.

They say that when we reach Phase 2, they will start using the working group, but that working group has no authority. They have not been recognized by anybody. The working group will be the reminder to monitors. It will be up to them to say yes or no. If the environment begins to change, the working group would be able to halt mining or whatever. This is what people say. They talk about this organization that does not exist at all. It is like they are trying to make something out of a dream.

If they are going to do environmental monitoring, they need an actual body that is already existing like the HTO for their research. I want to read this part from the *Nunavut Land Claim Agreement*. It is on the very first page, right at the beginning. This is broken, even by the representatives of the organizations in Nunavut.

*(Portion of Land Claims Agreement read in English. The audio to English translation was inaudible)*

*(Audio corrected, came in mid-sentence):* and resources including offshore to provide Inuit with wildlife harvesting rights, rights to participate in decision-making concerning wildlife harvesting, to provide with financial compensation and means of participation in economic opportunities, to encourage self-reliance and cultural and social wellbeing of Inuit.

(Translated): That is the first part of the *Agreement* that I read. There is a lot more in there. I want to express this. Whenever there is a meeting, sometimes people go on the radio, people from Arctic Bay. Arctic Bay people used to say this as they used to get five ships in a year. The ships were not that big too. We are told by people who don't come here and those who don't hunt in the area, who don't see what is happening in our environment, what is happening with our wildlife.

For that reason, our situation is nothing like Nanisivik. They are taking huge amounts of ore, and the ships are huge too. I do want to ask two questions to NPC staff if we can go to the HTO office so we can further explain the maps we had designated. I am asking if we can meet with you guys.

Chairperson: Sharon, you can proceed.

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehloak, Executive Director with the Planning Commission. Thank you for the question. As we stated earlier, the Commission is open to listening, working with, and receiving and assisting all of the communities to ensure their voice is heard and the presentations, so the answer is yes. Again, the oral and written presentations up until January 10<sup>th</sup>, the record is open until then. Thank you. If you want further clarification, please advise. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Namen: (Translated): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Namen Inuarak, HTO from Pond Inlet. I do want to ask also to the Mayor of Pond Inlet, apparently the mayor had been a part of the Nunavut Planning Commission, which I just found out. Would the mayor be in conflict of interest when we are dealing with these matters regarding these maps? Is the mayor of Pond Inlet in conflict while working with NPC on these matters?

Chairperson: Alan, go ahead.

Alan: Alan Blair, external legal counsel for the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you for the question. As I think we all know, all of the Commissioners come from all across Nunavut from many different municipalities, many different backgrounds. Their task is to hear the information provided to the Commission through staff and through these meetings and make decisions on a Nunavut-wide basis. So, there is no direct conflict. The decisions they are making will affect all of Nunavut, not necessarily a particular community. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik.

Namen: (Translated): Okay, thank you for clearing that up. I'm done. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Charlie?

Charlie: (Translated): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Charlie Inuarak from the HTO. You were shown a map made from the hamlet, but I think this part has been shaded in red. It is also our thought that this area should be shaded too just before you get to Kanigguk (*spelled phonetically*). There is a place called Kanarkturiq (*spelled phonetically*), which has a river. When you go up there to hunt caribou, it is the only source of water today now. Perhaps long after the mine had closed, the water will become clean again. We only have the one trail when we are going up there, and they are close to the haul trucks and equipment.



That is the only water source up there now. It is a river that flows continuously all year round. It is flowing now. It will keep flowing during the winter. The water is very pure. The other places with water are undrinkable now, so I want that site to be marked as a Valued Component. There is another place past, our Elders and ancestors used to say it was a real favorite caribou birthing site. So, I do want this area marked as a Valued Component. We do want this marked as Valued Component. Most of the water up there has been polluted. Even when you make water from snow, it just turns red from pretty much all in the area up there, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. We are writing down your statements.

Charlie: (*Translated*): Let me make another statement to you. I am Charlie Inuarak from the HTO. I am home here in the community. There are some parts that are worked on, dealt with very well, but there are some that need to be worked with. Is there going to be oil, mining exploration? Will Inuit be able to work with them and try to speak English with them? They need to be able to partner with Inuit. If they don't agree with Inuit, they need to be turned down for their applications.

If those companies will partner up with Inuit, like for example, it was a drilling company that they only be allowed to drill if they will partner with Inuit. Same for construction workers: if they are going to make something, they need to partner with Inuit. Today, Inuit are taking part in jobs, but not a lot of them have jobs. As in job postings, you need educated people, skilled people to fill positions.

So, we need to be able to work out an arrangement where companies can only work up here if they partner with Inuit. I am thinking the same thing for the Mary River Project. Our youth today can speak very good English. It is obvious some of them will create businesses. Inuit can be utilized more for these matters, and I realize you are writing my statements down.

The other statement I want to make representing the HTO is the government has set up, I believe it is the Environment people about Mary River. I will speak about Mary River now, Baffinland now. Baffinland was mandated to monitor caribou and narwhal. This has been mandated for Baffinland to deal with. It seems like they are doing very good researching the wildlife, but up to today looking at the matter, when you look at their research, they say nothing negative about the environment, the animals. We have not affected any narwhal, seals, anything at all is what they say.

As of the HTO, we don't take that impression at all. The seals are very few in numbers. We hardly see narwhal anymore. Sometimes someone will catch a whale or two. This used to be a major narwhal area. I believe this matter needs to be worked on very seriously. For that reason, I am speaking. The Government of Nunavut needs to stand up and do something about this now. The federal government needs to take part in this with respect to the loss of wildlife in the area.

We community members, we don't want anyone to lose their jobs or stop working, but if we don't deal with the environment, it will not be a good thing for our descendants. We need to make sure we work and deal and plan for all these things for our future generations. When there is no more wildlife in the area, it is very noticeable.

Baffinland's research, like Bruce said, the narwhal counting they do, they don't give us reports to the community. They don't give reports to the HTO They don't give us support saying we saw this

many narwhal seals. We don't get those at all. I don't know who they give their reports to. You guys probably get copies of their reports, but you don't report to us either.

When community members who are in different organizations go to meetings, they tell these things. So, we are saying that QIA needs to start an Inuit-led research and monitoring program. Mr. Chair, in the *Agreement*, it says that if there is going to be any activity that the Inuit be used as a base and be given reports on activities.

Even though that is written down, people don't give us reports. They don't tell us how many narwhals they have seen or if they have noticed any changes in behaviour. Their governments are able to do these things, but they never say anything. I don't know where they hide those reports. So, NPC needs to deal with these matters, as we are the HTO. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Sharon will answer some of your questions.

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehloak, Executive Director for the Planning Commission. Charlie, thank you for your comments. First, I know you have heard it before. The Commission mandate and authority is outlined in the *Nunavut Agreement* and the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*. So, your concerns that are within our mandate will be considered.

With regard to your other comments dealing with the environmental concerns and having Inuit actively involved, you do have the organizations, the federal government, territorial government, QIA, and Nunavut Tunngavik sitting here listening. You will have an opportunity when they do their presentations to also comment or question their presentations. I can assure you that collectively as we have gone through these public hearings, they are listening.

We as a goal do want to ensure that Inuit voices are heard, and at the end of the day, the Land Use Plan that goes forward serves Inuit and as outlined in the mandate, and the desires of Nunavummiut. So, I hope that addresses your issue. It is probably not quite the answer you wanted, but some of your issues are not within the Commission authority. I just want to reiterate that your issues are being heard. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead, Charlie.

Charlie: (*Translated*): Thank you, Mr. Chair, for giving us a long opportunity. Mr. Chair, I have a request for you and perhaps the government, but mostly for you guys. There are many jobs in the community. It is pretty close by. We can get there during the day. There are many minerals in the area: iron ore, gold deposits, silver deposits, and I guess uranium. They have found all these minerals up there, and Baffinland has said that they found nine huge deposits.

For that reason, it is obvious these deposits won't be let go, and those projects will go for many years, perhaps long after I am dead. You guys will be very old, and you'll still be working on those projects. There are dangers with respect to our wildlife in some ways. Some of the marine wildlife like cod are pretty small.

The community members of Pond Inlet need something to really happen today. The hamlet does not have any monies to deal with these matters, and same for the HTO. I believe the matters that deal with big projects should be dealt with first, and DFO needs to start on these matters along with

the governments, including GN. NTI and QIA are too small to deal with these matters. They are supporting Inuit.

Others do have authority to monitor the environment, so that is my request to you. When we will be having these projects go on for years and years and deposits are huge, how is it if the plans are included and made stronger through a different way? That is the first thing we are not saying. We used to have an MLA, Joe Inuk, inside the Assembly. He spoke, and he said the community of Pond Inlet needs to be dealt with in a different manner. There are too many possibilities for big projects, and there are dangers within those projects. So, he has said these organizations need to get together and rise up and do something. I am reiterating what he said before, even though he has passed away.

We Elders are having a harder time. We have worked hard to try to have our children, grandchildren for descendants, included in the Benefits. I wanted to express that in my statements. Thank you for giving us the opportunity very much.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. I will ask my employees if we have any questions for you guys. *(Pause)*.

There are none. Any community members have questions? Larry?

Larry: *(Translated)*: I just want to say....

Chairperson: *(Statement not translated)*

Larry: *(Translated)*: Hi, my name is Larry Audlauk, Grise Fjord HTO member. We have heard again, and we will probably hear again from other members, but I am noticing that the cruise ship visits, they don't exactly follow the rules. I believe you as committee members are starting to realize that. This is a huge priority. We do make money from the cruise ships, but how they are set up, they are not properly set up.

It has been explained that sailboats will go pretty much anywhere. We are not dealing with these matters. When you are looking at this, it is not very good. I want you to understand that when you go to communities for our hearings. Statements made by community members of Pond Inlet, especially I was glad to hear them.

We need to stand up and fight for ourselves, not just give into whatever they want. I am glad that the government is listening to these statements. We will also discuss health and wellbeing on these matters with respect to lands, especially of what was said about the dust. The health representatives of Nunavut and the federal government, I wanted to hear them about the dust problem. It is a huge issue, as it causes health problems in the body. That needs to be taken into consideration. That is all.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are there any other questions from anybody? Phillip?

Phillip: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq, and thank you to the community members of Pond Inlet. I totally support Charlie's statements.

Chairperson: A reminder of who you are.

Phillip: (Translated): Phillip Manik from Resolute Bay. Charlie is telling the absolute truth. I totally believe his statements. We are not listened to at all. How can we be taken seriously? Perhaps all the HTOs should get together and make a statement. Maybe then we would be heard. I believe we need to do something about this matter so that organizations will be able to take us seriously and listen to our statements.

We are the environmentalists, as Charlie said, or his partner said. We have no boundaries. As the hamlet, we have further jurisdiction than the hamlet and rights, but we are not exercising our authority or rights. Have you ever taken this into consideration? Did you ever plan for this on how we can become stronger? Perhaps the HTOs can meet together from all the communities and talk about if you had ever wanted to deal with these matters.

Chairperson: Go ahead, Charlie.

Charlie: (Translated): Thank you for your great statements, Phillip. The HTOs are lacking in monies, funding. All HTOs are in that situation. The monies they get to operate are just for operations, but they could do a lot of work within the communities. As we are starting to discuss the matter, we have been saying in Pond Inlet, we need to create an organization to meet the monies, profits we are making bigger. Once we get that corporation up and running, then we can do matters like technical meetings and such and hire lawyers and such.

Once we start working with these people, then we can understand that we can have more authority, rights, and strength if we work in this matter. As HTO members, this will be a priority for us to deal with. Once we have monies, then we will be more able to do projects. This is our priority for us. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Lisa?

Lisa: (Translated): Qujannamiik. Lisa Ningiuk. I forget the representative's names. I am representing the HTO of Grise Fjord. I don't have a question. I just want to say something I am thinking about. Thank you. Thank you, Inuit, and the HTO Hamlet have representatives and that we were invited here.

Let's not just talk about things that we can't deal with. We have been given authority and rights within the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. I think it is only because we are not trying to get things started. Once we get things started, if we work closely together, because we do have the authority. Let's not give up hope. I appreciate that we have authorities and rights, although it looks like we are just starting from scratch.

We have the authority to work with QIA and NTI. Let's not bicker over things. Let's not fight each other. If we work together, we can really stand up and be strong. I am very glad. This is our actual beginning, and we understand that we are given more authority. People, organizations are even listening to us now. I am pretty sure after these things we will be able to stand up and have more authority.

We need to work more closely together. We need to work with QIA and NTI. We can become a very strong authority. If we say I don't think we can do this or do that, it won't get us anywhere. It will just delay our progress.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. I don't have any other names. Jonathan, do you want to speak?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thanks to the members of the Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Organization for your comments here today. I would just like to note that the previous work of the Qikiqtaaluk Hunters and Trappers Organizations working collectively with the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board in providing previous submissions on the Draft Plan has been very effective and has formed an essential component of the latest 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan.

When Commissioners were preparing the current Draft Plan, those submissions were relied on very heavily to inform land use designations for things like caribou calving grounds in the region, caribou sea ice crossings, caribou migration routes, as well as things like polar bear denning areas, walrus haul-outs, and whale calving areas across all three species of whales that are most commonly found in the region.

That is, we think, a strong example of how Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit has been fully considered by Commissioners in the drafting of this current Plan and is reflective of the views that we received through the very detailed Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board submissions.

Further, I would like to note that we do very much appreciate the hard copy map that was presented to staff this week and is shown on the screen. We look forward to meeting with you further to discuss in more detail the additional areas that you have identified so Commissioners can give this additional information equally full consideration. That is not necessarily a question, but I just wanted to provide a bit of clarification on the good work that has been done in the past, and that can hopefully continue into the future. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik, Jonathan. Go ahead, Charlie.

Charlie: (*Translated*): Thank you, Mr. Chair. Another request to NPC: We are working on creating a marine sanctuary for Lancaster Sound. You had said once that has been dealt with, it won't be your mandate to deal with it anymore, but that will only happen after the federal government approves it. Before federal government approval, I would wish that the HTOs from the most affected communities from Lancaster Sound be included in the process.

The southern organizations will be very capable of dealing with these matters, and they have Inuit working for them. If we are going to have so many ships, we need to try and limit the number of ships that would be coming up. There will be other matters that should be delegated to the HTO once you have authority to delegate to other organizations before the federal government approves the conservation area.

I had spoken about what needed to be included in the conservation area, that Inuit Traditional Knowledge be included, that Inuit staff be included who knows how to deal with wildlife. This conservation area has so much diverse wildlife. We will have all icebergs that will be passing through Lancaster Sound. There will be hardships. There will be obstacles, so I had wanted Inuit to be part of the decision-making process for the conservation area.

The federal government will probably have a statement about when they would be finished approving the conservation area. Once that is done, we will have no more voice to add regarding the conservation area. So, I want to send something that would be dealt with in the conservation area process. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. I have no other names listed from community members. Registered participants, any questions to the presenters? *(Pause)*

It appears none. Are there any public members? *(Pause)*

Thank you for your report.

*(Applause)*

We will go ahead with the Clyde River people. Today they will be our last presenters for today. Qujannamiik. You can go ahead when your presentation. State your name and organization, please. Go ahead.

### **Presentation by the Hamlet and HTO of Clyde River**

**Joavee Etuungal**

**Limeekie Palluq**

**Nysana Qillaq**

**Jaysie Tigullaraq**

Limeekie: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My name is Limeekie Palluq from Clyde River, from the Hamlet organization. It is true Clyde River people aren't great orators, but we will have statements to make from Clyde River. Some of us had sat for the first time with the Nunavut Parks people. Later on, if we need to take part in hearings, we will have a better idea of what is expected from us and from others.

While we are sitting here together, I realized I understood that when we go home to our communities, the hamlet and HTOs and perhaps the Parks people will need to meet to discuss these matters. I was thinking that. I was thinking that if we were to meet together, then we would be in a better position to plan. So, this will be a priority for me when we get home.

That is the situation we are in. I will report further. These guys from the HTO, I want to give them an opportunity to speak first. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Nysana: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Nysana Qillaq. I am from the HTO. We are here to represent our community members. I will speak what I am thinking. We are alive today because our ancestors survived on terrestrial and marine wildlife. I am here to represent my community members. If they had not used terrestrial and marine wildlife, I would not be here today. They survived by using all

the parts of the animals. They would eat the meat, use the bones for tools. They were able to use all parts of the wildlife, and I am here today because they were able to do that.

I can say today, I am living in the lap of luxury. I can even show people who are not in my community images and such. So, I am here to represent my community members here today. We have heard from other community members. They are planning for their descendants through their lands and wildlife.

We have heard that there are more cruise ships and other ships coming into the area now today. Yep, some communities have set up boundaries, but others don't respect or follow the boundaries at all. As Lisa said, if we start working closer together, we can have more strength and authority. So, if people who come up here start listening to us more, if we start working more closely together like what she said, what we want for our community members can begin to happen.

Whoever comes to the community for consultation or whatever, if they can start listening more closely to attention and following their wishes, then things can proceed better into the future. The federal government deals with matters in a very slow manner. It is like they are behind. When they do find something exciting that they want to deal with, they can rush the matter through.

I hope that when you go back to your office and the statements you wrote down from the people who made them that you don't just shove them aside and forget about them, that you actually look at the statements made and do something about them.

We hear about how Inuit Traditional Knowledge, how people and organizations want to use more Traditional Knowledge in their operation, but lots of people, organizations, are not following the Inuit Traditional Knowledge. I will probably grow old with people, organizations probably not using Inuit Traditional Knowledge. That may change in the future. I am not sure.

The question I spoke separately, I wanted to ask the Nunavut Planning Commission when you are planning for lands that you be more visible to the communities, to organizations like the HTO, hamlet, that they be included more in your processes. I believe that organizations like the NPC should be more closely linked to the communities with respect to mining, oil, gas exploration, as I believe these projects will be coming up more and more in our future. This will come up more and more in our future.

The world is paying more close attention to what is in the Arctic as they find out more and more resources. More companies will want to come up here to extract those resources. So, the same is being made, I would wish that they are listening to and respecting after we left this building. If they are not taking into consideration with respect, something bad or horrible will also happen to Pond Inlet again. Then we have to go back and try to deal with those matters too. This can happen in any community.

Yep, I doubt exploration for mineral exploration for minerals, oils, gas will cease. Other companies will keep looking. You already know that in Clyde River you remember that the company wants to do oil exploration near the community. This will happen again because the project was just delayed. We will be in the same situation as Pond Inlet.



I believe the Designated Inuit Organizations in the community should ask the community members more about what do you want us to do. What do we need to do? When we had this company who wanted to do seismic testing in our area, none of these organizations came to our support. So, the community had to deal with the matter ourselves. We were able to do something about the seismic activity.

The people who are always, the haters of people who use furs and such, they were our only support for the community of Clyde River. In English, their name is called Greenpeace. They were the only source of assistance to the community. None of the Inuit organizations were available. They did not bother asking us any questions. They did not bother to ask if we needed any assistance at all. That was what I noticed.

As I said, I am not a great orator. I recently became a committee member, so I want to bring this up, as I am starting to understand what is being said from the statements made. This is my first time being invited to a hearing. So, if people's situations won't be taken into consideration, if the organizations won't report to the community when they are supposed to be supporting the community members, as a normal human, my wishes won't be respected.

I need to find a way to, I need to find someone who will support my desires and needs. If I try to make a statement by myself, nobody will take me seriously. Whoever has that company will make lots of money for what they want to do.

We have heard statements made about how these benefits and promises made to Pond Inlet will be appearing, but nothing has materialized from those statements. If people, organizations will just make empty statements, that is not a good thing. It does not assist or support people. Organizations say they don't have any money. Baffinland is saying they don't have enough money because they are not shipping enough ore. We hear that today, but the man who owns the company probably is a billionaire now. He probably has so much money. Still, he is saying we don't have any money to help support you.

When we are representing our community members, what you hear will come in through one ear and out the other. Is this how it is going to be when we are trying to represent our community members? It is now 2022. We are living in the lap of luxury. I can say my late great-grandfather used to travel only by dog team. My grandfather experienced some of this. Today, we have very fast transportation. We can go pretty much anywhere.

My great-grandfather never talked about money. He never had money. Today I survive only on money. Even if it is Inuit traditional food, I still need to buy it. If there is meat from other communities, I still need to buy it, regardless of the fact that I am still an Inuk. In some ways, that is pretty disgusting, selling food for money, especially as today we need to survive with only money.

I don't think this is what you came here to hear. Okay, my fellow community members will speak their own thoughts and speak what I am saying. I am here to speak for my community members, my children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren. We all live up here. Some of them won't see some of the animals, wildlife we have now. My future descendants, they won't see some of the wildlife we have now.

We are told the climate is warming up today. What we call glaciers are much smaller in size now. Even during the month of December, people hunt seals by boat now when we used to travel by sea ice in the past. Today, there is boating during the Christmas season when the sea ice should have formed long ago. These days, the ocean does not get saltier as soon as it used to. It is much more fresh water today.

Today, our marine wildlife sinks faster now. They sink quicker now. That is the situation we are in today. So, I hope when you leave here and go back to your office, the statement you made, don't just shove them aside. You need to consult the people you are representing more today. We have all kinds of communication devices that we can use to communicate with each other.

If you do these things, it will be much better for most of us to work more closely together. Now that we Inuit understand what our rights are, we know that we can get more rights. We can get information from everywhere. People from pretty much anywhere over the world are listening to us now, watching us now. You can get information out from the world in an instant. So, I would want you to take the people's statements into consideration. I will have further statements later. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik.

Joavee? *(Translated)*: I don't talk a lot. I don't have much opinion, but I am here on behalf of my community. At this moment, I would like to say a few things about beluga whale near our community. In the last four years, we have had no beluga whales in our vicinity. We go far looking for beluga whales, and we used a lot of gas in order to look and harvest the beluga whale.

As we travel, we met a huge cruise ship to an area where we are going to harvest beluga whale. We were not aware. No one has mentioned this cruise ship will be at that place. There should be information. Someone should have mentioned this to the cruise ships from our community. We have mentioned before that these areas, certain areas are out of bounds. This was not a very pleasant experience for us.

When we saw this cruise ship, we met them in that location. Same thing the following year. We went up to a certain area for beluga whale, because there is none in our community. So, we went to an area. It was a Coast Guard ship. As a government vessel, they must have been aware that these areas are a concern to the community and recommended out of bound areas to large vessels.

I am always against cruise ships, although I have been told that we will benefit economically. You will be able to sell your crafts, and you will be acquiring extra cash for yourselves. They go to an area where there is no population, no community, and we are usually a last resort for these cruise ships to stop. Even when they come into town, there is no economy. There is no selling of arts and crafts, so I am very much against these cruise ships.

I believe they will only become numerous in the future. They will start arriving more and more and more to the communities. For those of us who live in Nunavut, let's put a stop to this. We have more important concerns, such as our harvesting areas. Once it is disturbed, it is very hard for mammals to come back to an area where we would harvest. There are no economic benefits for us. The sail ships are becoming numerous. Yachts coming into our area. They are all over the coast, so at this time, I will stop for now, and I will have more comments later. Thank you.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Jaysie: *(Translated)*: Jaysie Tigullaraq, HTO Clyde River. I had concerns about the cruise ships as well. My colleagues have explained it well. We need to have these shores monitored. They come in the land without invitation, without much care. They do pretty well as they please. Would NTI and QIA and other governing agencies be able to do something?

Chairperson: Sharon, go ahead.

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehloak, Executive Director for the Planning Commission. I just want to clarify, are you asking for the Commission to have monitors for cruise ships? Was that your question? Thank you.

Jaysie: *(Translated)*: Jaysie Tigullaraaq, HTO Clyde River. I just wanted to know if you were able to place so there can be a monitor related to these cruise ships. That is my question, yes.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you for the question. Sharon Ehloak, Executive Director with the Planning Commission. It goes back to the Commission mandate. That is not within the Commission's mandate. However, the other organizations, governments that provide or are responsible for the cruise ships, they can speak to that. I can't speak for them on whether or not they will allocate the resources that you are identifying that you would like to see. I would just ask if Jonathan had anything further to add, Mr. Chair. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan, go ahead.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you very much for the question. I don't have a definitive answer on that, but I would draw to everyone's attention that the Plan requirements for polar bear denning areas proposed to require a polar bear monitor to conduct a survey of an area in advance of any blasting, drilling, or earth moving, is currently part of the current proposed Draft Plan that we are collecting feedback on.

I don't think we have heard too many concerns with that approach, so I just note that it is possible a similar requirement may be able to be used for cruise ships and monitors. I would really invite further comment from all participants on whether that may or may not be appropriate or within the Commission's mandate. It is not something that the Commission has previously considered, but it is an interesting topic to consider. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Jaysie? *(Translated)*: That is my presentation. For Grise Fjord, they have concerns of their areas today. I think the federal government should take more responsibility because of the unique situation they are in, which they were relocated. They should be assisted with their harvesting areas that they were concerned with.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Limeekie: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Limeekie Palluq, Clyde River Hamlet. The graph up there of the map is in smaller scale. We have a larger one back home that we have identified of no contact zone or areas where we don't want people or companies to be around. These lands are valuable to us.

We have worked on maps in Clyde River, and I want to say that there are concerns about cruise ships and other vessels. They are not coming in right now. They could be there, as mentioned earlier. We do not know of their locations anymore, either north of us or south of us. That is the situation today.

I would like to say I grew up travelling by dog team. We had Peterheads at the time. They were our only mode of transportation. It was my parent's only transportation as well. They used these transportations for harvesting when we hunted by dog team. When people want to come into the community, there was only one travel route.

I was born north of Clyde River, and I grew up inland as well. Akooliakatout (*spelled phonetically*). Some will understand. Some won't. This route was a main travelling route. You have no way to get the community except through this area, travelling to an area where we do our fishing. It is still that case today. It is now used for commercial fishing area. We lived in that area. As we start to travel by snowmobiles today, we don't live in that area anymore. We have moved into the community, me and my parents and the clan. As we moved ourselves to the community, when we started travelling by snowmobile in 1970s, we have moved in closer to the community as a family.

In the '80s and '90s was the time when I learned of these routes that we could use for snowmobile travel from Clyde River. We have to travel overland when we have to get to a certain location. As we travel, we travel through ice, overland ice again and overland to a fishing area. The other areas are not quite suitable for travels.

That reminds me of this route that we take sometimes. It has to be worked on to make it so we can travel. We talked about this area as a community, and how we need to find funding so we can make this travel route, which would be an alternative to be more useable. At this stage, we have not found a way yet how to solve this area. We want to start using a secondary travel route.

As I mentioned, I am not talkative, but I have concerns. I will leave the rest to my colleagues. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik.

Nysana: *(Translated)*: Nysana Qillaq, HTO Clyde River. For those of us who are from Clyde River, our harvesting areas is not very close. As you look at the map, we have to travel past the ice cap. It is a long journey, and we can only access it during winter. Our summer harvesting areas for beluga are very far as well. As we travel south, we travel to Igloolik, Ajuittuq, which is quite a distance. The area we travel to when we go that routes has no shelter for bad weather.

Our community as a whole would have to find ways to make things easier because as I mentioned earlier, our fishing areas and other harvesting areas are quite far. It is an area we would like to travel to. It is quite far. Not many people have travelled to that area for some time now. If we were

to create a sanctuary, perhaps there would be more resources to create roads and travel areas that we need.

Our mammals, pretty much many of them are on a quota system. We are the community without much employment, and we have to travel far away for harvesting. Especially with no economy for a smaller community, jobs are scarce. It is hard sometimes. The costs are exorbitant. Groceries and many people are on the welfare system.

Before I became a member to the HTO, there have been attempts to create a commercial fishing area in Aulitvik area. We are aware it is a good fishing area. It has been dormant. We have not done much to it, because there are not too many people willing to take that task to make it a reality.

There are too many regulations from both levels of government. There is too much work for the HTO alone to do the preparation work. As I mentioned earlier, our harvesting-hunting areas are a far distance. I will stop now. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. I will ask our staff to see if they have any questions. Larry? Go ahead. Please state your name.

Larry: *(Translated)*: Larry Audlauk, Grise Fjord HTO, Aujuittuq. You keep bringing up, many of us keep bringing up the cruise ships and the approving authorities such as the federal government are here listening. Why isn't it being paid attention to? Summer is just around the corner, and more of these vessels will be appearing again. Some mentioned earlier, they arrived without seeming to have authority. Many times, we have no idea where the cruise ships are arriving from.

I know there are many departments responsible for various things. It would be so simple just to be aware of what the needs are and do something about these vessels causing problems, undue hardship, disturbing the wildlife. So, Chair, if you cannot do anything about it, perhaps these organizations who are supposed to be representing us could do something about it, especially summer vessels and cruise ships coming in. This has to be paid attention to.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. It is just a comment. I will accept it as a comment, not a question. Any more questions? *(Pause)*

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Mr. Chair. You said we could ask questions. You mentioned that the environment is not all that great anymore. I think you mentioned it has become polluted. So, I ask that question to you, because we are from different communities, and we are not aware of what local waterways are like. We have it very bad here due to heavy traffic. We don't even know how clean our waterways are here now. It is bad now. Sometimes waves are getting bigger and bigger every summer. It is bad now in many of our waters. They appear out of nowhere.

I do a lot of travel by boat, and there are not too many safety areas where we can beach until the weather improves. It is not like that anywhere where we could partly predict what the weather will be like in our areas. For some reason now, when you shoot a beluga whale, it could be the water condition that they sink now so easily. I do not understand, but I thought I would mention this.

Chairperson: Limeekie?

Limeekie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Limeekie Palluq, Hamlet of Clyde River. When we travel, when the waters are calm, it is not too bad, but when the winds do come up, the conditions of the water and the waves are so different now. As it is, knowing and hearing from our harvesters harvesting sea mammals, especially whales, unlike before they are sinking so quickly now. They are lost. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Thank you for your words. It is in this area in late spring. Now when I was a child, as a youngster, we have been taught never to shoot a mammal so it will not sink and be lost. At that time, they were floating, and sinking to the bottom was not like that in the past. Now today, when you shoot a mammal, Chair, whatever it is, it sinks so easily. I don't know what is causing that. It is a less problem in Arctic Bay area. Could it be due to traffic that is being made a problem by vessels? The current is the way it is where when these mammals are shot. They sink and are lost. Animals, is it because of the climate change that the salt water has lost its saltiness and become less dense?

Chairperson: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Jonathan? Sharon?

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehaloak, Executive Director with the Planning Commission. Thank you, Charlie, for your comments. At this point in time, we don't have an answer of why the changes are happening with the harvesting and why the belugas are sinking.

Chairperson: It's about salt water.

Sharon: Or the salinity, sorry. I don't have an explanation for you. Possibly, I do not know if there is any research that has been done in these areas, but if there is, one of the other organizations, the governments, might be able to provide some insight, but the Commission does not have any information or data on file that has been received to address this specific issue. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

?: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Just supplementary to the question I have, during the fall, it is the time when we hunted most sea mammals. There are waterfowl that we have to go as well. Now they are no longer around, and it is puzzling why we are losing some waterfowl. Is it a problem locally? Is it also a problem as well in the communities? Yes, we are concerned as well.

They are disappeared. I remember when we lived in camps. When we did some fishing, the taste of the fish has changed. When we catch fish in Clyde River, our shores have ample fishing spots when it becomes late fall. It is tasteless now for us to have this fish. We don't eat them anymore. Many of you will understand what we are talking about. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. There are no questions. There are no questions here. Are there questions from registered delegates?

Limeekie: I think we are going to be meeting with delegates from this community, so I am asking the delegates if NPC will be conducting travelling to Clyde River for a public hearing. Did you mention that?

Chairperson: He is asking if NPC will be going to Clyde River- HTO. Are you going to be going to their community too? That is his question. Go ahead, Sharon.

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair and thank you for the question. The Commission staff will not be travelling to the community, but the Commission staff will assist. As you said, we have other means. There is Zoom and what not, so if there are maps that you would like assistance or to provide the Commission, and the guidance of the Commission staff, yes, that will be provided to you. Our office is open and always available to work with the communities and participants.

As we have gone forward in the last couple of years providing information sessions to communities, organizations that have requested for clarity on the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan, 2021 and the *Options and Recommendations Document*, that is always available to all community delegates. Again, also are your submissions oral and written up until January 10<sup>th</sup>. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik.

Limeekie: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Limekee Palluq from Clyde River. I understand. Thank you.

Chairperson: Are there any questions from the registered participants? *(Pause)*.

I don't see any hands. Any questions from the public of Pond Inlet? *(Pause)*

I don't see any, Qujannamiik. Please give a hand to the delegates.

*(Applause)*

We will be back tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m. please.

**End of Day 2**

## **DAY 3: OCTOBER 26, 2022**

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Good morning. Please take you seats. We will start. We have the first group of this morning. They are prepared to give their presentation. Before we proceed, Sharon has some housekeeping.

Sharon: Good morning, everyone. Welcome back to Day 3 of the Pond Inlet public hearing. Just a couple of housekeeping items as normal: Emergency exits, two on the left side and one on the right. Coffee, tea, snacks, please help yourself. Please turn your cellphones on mute. Again, the proceedings are being recorded and streamed live on YouTube, Isuma TV and Facebook. Please be aware of that.

As well, we have a number of presentations today. We will assess how we are doing for time, whether or not we do an evening session. We will be advising by midafternoon for that. With that,



Mr. Chair, to all the new delegates that arrived late yesterday, welcome. We are glad to see so many people here. With that, Mr. Chair, I will turn it back to you. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. The first item of the morning is Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. We will just stick to our procedures. State your name, the organization you represent. It is the same procedure in our public hearing from the past week. Whenever you are ready, please.

## **Presentation by Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated**

**David Ningeongan, Executive Director**  
**Paul Irngaut, Director Department of Wildlife and Environment**  
**Hannah Uniuqsaraq, Director of Self Determination**  
**Naida Gonzalez, Consultant**  
**Marie Belleau, Legal Counsel**

Chairperson: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I am David Ningeongan, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated Executive Director. The colleagues with me will be introducing themselves if that is okay with you, Chair.

Paul: Paul Irngaut, Environment.

Marie: *(Translated)*: Good morning. Marie Belleau, lawyer, NTI

Naida: Naida Gonzalez, Consultant with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated.

Hannah: *(Translated)*: Good morning. Hannah Uniuqsaraq, Self Government Director, NTI, Iqaluit.

Chairperson: Proceed, please.

David N: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Pond Inlet for welcoming us. It is nice to be here, and the community delegates sitting at the table with us. The Nunavut Planning Commission public hearing, they are here to listen to further amended Nunavut Land Use Plan. We have a presentation, and it will be in English, if that is okay with you, Chair. We will proceed now.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

David N: *(The first couple of sentences nearly inaudible due to distance from mic. The following 2 sentences are an approximation)*: As I mentioned, I am David Ningeongan, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. Thank you to the Commissioners for letting us present at this public hearing for the Nunavut Land Use Plan. *(Sentence inaudible)*

*(Audio corrected)*: Nunavut Tunngavik had also presented at the other public hearings in Cambridge Bay, Rankin Inlet, and Thompson, Manitoba. We will be presenting at the final public hearings in Iqaluit next month. I would like to acknowledge the community representatives. You play a very

important part in the creation of the Nunavut Land Use Plan, and Nunavut Tunngavik wants to make sure you are involved as much as possible in the land use planning process.

We are listening very closely to the input of community representatives at these hearings, and we will be taking into account your views in our submission. We have some concerns with the current Draft Plan and would like to see amendments. Overall, we believe we can achieve a final Nunavut Land Use Plan. We congratulate the Commissioners and staff for all the work they have done with the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan and encourage them to continue to work hard on revisions to the Plan.

It is Nunavut Tunngavik's mandate to ensure that obligations in the *Nunavut Agreement* are fulfilled and Inuit rights fully respected. This includes the right of Inuit to be actively involved in this process and in all decision-making over the use, management, and conservation of lands in Nunavut. For the land use planning process to succeed, it is necessary to have the active and informed participation of Inuit as envisioned in the *Nunavut Agreement*.

Nunavut Tunngavik is here to support community representatives that are presenting their views, concerns, knowledge to the Commission for the creation of a Nunavut Land Use Plan. Nunavut Tunngavik also has other important *Nunavut Agreement* responsibilities, including supporting wildlife management, Inuit harvesting, and managing Inuit subsurface lands for the benefit of all Inuit.

Nunavut Tunngavik has actively participated in all Commission's land use planning steps, including technical sessions in the previous hearings. We are providing recommendations on the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan to assist in realizing a final Nunavut Land Use Plan. Nunavut Tunngavik, like the Government of Canada and Government of Nunavut, is an approval body for the final Nunavut Land Use Plan and has responsibility to ensure that it reflects the views and priorities of Inuit. I look forward to hearing the views, concerns, and recommendations of all the participants at this hearing.

Having a Nunavut Land Use Plan in place is important for Inuit and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. We need a plan in place to guide land and resource use for the benefit of Inuit and communities for a prosperous future. We are all striving to ensure a Nunavut Land Use Plan is established.

Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, like many consultants, have concerns with the current Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan, and revisions will have to be made to reach consensus on a final Plan. We believe that the Nunavut Land Use Plan should focus on issues that are most important to Inuit. For the land use planning process to be successful, we must try to reach a consensus on how best to protect our wildlife while planning for economic activities in a manner that is acceptable to Inuit.

Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated is advocating for a Plan that complies with the *Nunavut Agreement* and supports maintaining healthy wildlife populations, Inuit harvesting, access to country food, and reflects Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. It is also important that the right for Inuit to manage Inuit Owned Lands is maintained. The *Nunavut Agreement* provides Inuit the right to decide what activities occur on Inuit Owned Lands, and the Nunavut Land Use Plan must respect this right.

We have heard clearly at this hearing that wildlife is very important and that there are many concerns about the impacts of increased marine shipping, especially cruise ships. Nunavut

Tunngavik Incorporated will be considering how to address these important issues in our final submission.

Nunavut Tunngavik recognizes the important role that Hunters and Trappers Organizations, Regional Wildlife Organizations, as well as Regional Inuit Associations play in managing our wildlife and lands and in establishing the Nunavut Land Use Plan. Nunavut Tunngavik's vision is for our organizations to work together to protect wildlife in the Nunavut Land Use Plan while also preserving control over Inuit Owned Lands for the benefit of Inuit.

We recognize the concerns and knowledge provided by Hunters and Trappers Organizations, the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board, and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association at this hearing, and we will consider how to better reflect this knowledge in our final submission.

For specific designations in the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan, Nunavut Tunngavik supports the Commission's approach to protecting polar bear denning areas and walrus haul-out sites. For migratory bird areas, we are asking for more control over how protection is provided on Inuit Owned Lands. For caribou habitat, we recognize there are regional differences, and that each region may require its own approach. Here in the Qikiqtani, we have heard that Inuit Knowledge shows that there are caribou areas missing from the Draft Plan that must be incorporated.

Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated remains optimistic that an approach for caribou protection can be agreed upon in each region. The right for Nunavut Tunngavik and the Regional Inuit Associations to manage Inuit Owned Lands is a crucial part of the *Nunavut Agreement*. Inuit land ownership and management rights are fundamental to Inuit self-determination and economic self-sufficiency as envisioned in the *Nunavut Agreement*. Unfortunately, these critical rights are impacted greatly by the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan.

For example, although Nunavut Tunngavik only holds 1.8% of subsurface lands in Nunavut on behalf of Inuit, the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan limits activities on 43% of that small percentage of land owned by Inuit. Nunavut Tunngavik wants to keep an appropriate level of decision-making authority over Inuit Owned Lands with Inuit.

Nunavut Tunngavik is calling on the Commission to adopt distinct Plan requirements over Inuit Owned Lands to reduce the impact of the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan on the land management rights of Inuit. Nunavut Tunngavik believes that wildlife protection measures can be achieved without having the effect of restricting Inuit management responsibility over close to 50% of Inuit Owned Lands.

Another issue that is important to Nunavut Tunngavik is that the Nunavut Land Use Plan support the governments in meeting their legal obligations under existing Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements. The Plan requirements in the Nunavut Land Use Plan should not interfere with fulfillment of obligations of Inuit committed to by government and Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements.

For example, the Government of Canada has committed an Inuit Impact Benefits Agreement to allowing applications to conduct activities on Inuit Owned Lands within a national wildlife area and migratory bird sanctuaries. That must be recognized within the Nunavut Land Use Plan. It is our understanding that the Government of Canada may count areas zoned as Limited Use Areas in the

Nunavut Land Use Plan towards meeting their international commitments for protecting lands and waters by 2025.

Nunavut Tunngavik believes that the Nunavut Land Use Plan cannot be used as a tool for long-term conservation without Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements being negotiated. This would contravene the intention in the *Nunavut Agreement* for Inuit to receive benefits when the government establishes conservation areas.

As stated earlier, Nunavut Tunngavik is requesting that the Commission revise the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan 2021 before submitting a final Nunavut Land Use Plan for approval. Nunavut Tunngavik believes that the Nunavut Land Use Plan should provide for wildlife protection measures while allowing Inuit to retain decision-making for Inuit Owned Lands.

We are calling on the Commission to make revisions that support healthy wildlife populations, Inuit harvesting, and the goal of Nunavut Tunngavik and the Regional Inuit Associations of retaining decision-making and management rights over Inuit Owned Lands in the Nunavut Land Use Plan. We are certain that this can be achieved in collaboration with Hunters and Trappers Organizations, Regional Wildlife Organizations, the Commission, and the governments.

In closing, I want to stress that the land use planning process requires active and informed participation in support of Inuit. It is important that the community representatives and all Inuit participants provide their views and knowledge on the Commission's proposals. The Nunavut Land Use Plan will be in place for many years and must reflect the priorities and wishes of Inuit and residents of Nunavut. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I have concluded by presentation.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Other delegates at the table? Jonathan?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you to the representatives from Nunavut Tunngavik for your presentation today. You have indicated the preference for a distinct approach on Inuit Owned Lands generally in the Nunavut Land Use Plan. You have also indicated support for the Draft Plan's approach to polar bear denning areas as well as walrus haul-outs.

I note that polar bear denning areas are Conditional Use Areas with no prohibitions, but the walrus haul-outs do come with some prohibitions within a 1-kilometre buffer of the landward side of these walrus haul-outs. Are you able to clarify whether NTI's support for both polar bear denning and walrus haul-outs extends to Inuit Owned Lands for these two particular issues? Thank you.

Chairperson: Go ahead when you are ready.

David N: (*Translated*): Naida will answer your question.

Naida: Naida Gonzalez, Nunavut Tunngavik. For a number of submissions on walrus haul-out sites, there has been agreement that for a limited number of IOLs that there could be an exception to what we are proposing. There is every indication that the Regional Inuit Associations still agree with that approach and are willing for those exceptional sites to have those IOLs as Limited Use. Unless there is some change in position, then that is what we are saying.

Chairperson: No further questions from the staff? Brian?

Brian: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Brian Aglukark, Nunavut Planning Commission. I am wondering if you can confirm, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated can confirm with your position on the 2021 Draft Plan that you consulted with the Inuit of Nunavut before your submission. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead and answer the question.

Marie: Marie Belleau, Nunavut Tunngavik. Can you express what is the rationale for that question, please?

Chairperson: Brian?

Brian: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I did not hear you. Could you repeat what you are saying?

Marie: Marie Belleau, Nunavut Tunngavik. Can you express what is the rationale for that question, please?

Chairperson: Brian?

Brian: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Nunavut Tunngavik has been guardian and represents all the communities in the Nunavut territory. The position that Nunavut Tunngavik holds at this moment is somewhat different than what we hear from the community levels. I am wondering if you can explain to the Commissioners how the NTI has come to this position on the Draft Plan.

*(Translated)*: The communities have been consulted by NTI before you made your submission?

Chairperson: Any of you can answer the question.

Naida: Naida Gonzalez with Nunavut Tunngavik. So, there are a number of ways that Nunavut Tunngavik does speak to Inuit. There is through the work with Hunters and Trappers Organizations that happens, that Nunavut Tunngavik does, and with the Regional Wildlife Organizations. On the Land Use Plan, there is a reliance on the Regional Associations to a great extent, and the consultations that they have been doing. I think we will be hearing more about the consultations that the Qikiqtani Inuit Association is having with HTOs or Hunters and Trappers Organizations.

Also, NTI has reached out in writing to Hunters and Trappers Organizations recently on wildlife issues, and particularly the migratory bird sites and how those could be managed with Hunters and Trappers Organizations. That letter would have gone out, I believe in September. It is a desire to work with the Hunters and Trappers Organizations on how to resolve some of these issues in the Land Use Plan. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead, Brian.

Brian: Matna, Itsivautaq. Go ahead.

David N: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. To add to the statement, Nunavut Tunngavik last year held a meeting for the communities in the Kivalliq regarding caribou and wildlife, regarding the concerns of the people. In the spring in the Kivalliq, we held community meetings. NTI was trying to

understand about the caribou situation and if the communities had other concerns regarding wildlife. During spring in June, we had a meeting in Iqaluit with invited guests from the communities.

So, NTI has consulted the people regarding wildlife, but I do know that the Associations did visit the communities for consultations. This was part of the whole thing. We worked together with them, and we looked into what they learned from the consultations since we have been working on this up to today, and I wanted to clarify that. That was the situation if it was understandable. Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Brian? Go ahead.

Brian: Matna, Itsivautaq. It would be very helpful for the Commissioners and the Commission if you can provide the minutes of those meetings you had with the QIA organizations. I want to go back to Naida's response with regard to her comment about communicating and consulting with the Regional Inuit Associations.

What we have learned over the last few weeks is that the Regional Inuit Association's position on certain matters in the Draft Plan versus what the Inuit at the community level would like to see in the Draft Plan, is totally different.

So, I am wondering how the NTI would deal with that issue. I guess one more question if I may: Are you confident as an Inuit body representing the Inuit of Nunavut that you have the full support of Inuit in your position on the Draft Plan? Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead and answer.

David N: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Thank you, Brian for your question. The organizations, the associations, and the wildlife, HTOs, we work with them in the communities to better understand what will be in the plan stages for NPC. They were going to obstruct Inuit rights on the land, and we were wondering if the Inuit fully understood that situation. We asked about it when we visited the communities, whether the Planning Committee is making sure the communities understand what is being planned for. We weren't sure about that. We can see on the maps, NPC's plans. Inuit Owned Lands are about 48%. You won't be able to do anything on those lands. Did Inuit understand that this was going to happen, if NPC planned it that way?

So, I believe we can ask NPC if the Inuit understood fully what was happening. Planning is a huge important part for our future and within the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, this Plan will definitely bring obstacles. So, I know that there can be many adjustments later on. We are really concerned about that within NTI. Inuit rights may be blocked or hindered in the Plan. We are really concerned about that with respect to NPC's plans and with the planning process. It is really not set up. We will have less rights within Nunavut, and we are really concerned about that, if I made myself clear, Mr. Chair. Thank you.

Chairperson: Go ahead, Brian.

Brian: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I don't think I have a question. What you are talking about, Inuit rights, it is becoming new these days. Inuit are only hearing about Inuit rights these days. I

don't know why you are waiting for them. If you need to teach Inuit about Inuit rights, it will take a while to plan for that. We have been planning for that for a long time.

Ever since 2012, 2016, and 2021 with the Draft Plans, which you have seen, the Inuit rights were starting to emerge. You are saying that Inuit will need to be trained about their rights because they don't understand what that is. Why is it you are only bringing this up now, if you can understand my statement? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik, Brian. Go ahead.

David N: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik. David Ningeongan, NTI. I keep forgetting to state my name. I am sorry, Mr. Chair. Thank you. That is a great question. After the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* came up, Inuit rights have been used right up to today, but when these plans are being worked on, we community organizations according to what we have heard, the Plan needs strength within the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. So, for these things that are being planned, Inuit have strength in their rights within the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. This will continue to the future using Inuit rights as our strength, which has been recognized for Nunavut. That is all we will be planning, if you understand my statements. Thank you.

Chairperson: Do you have an addition to that?

Hannah: Qujannamiik. Hannah Uniuqsaraq, Nunavut Tunngavik. Brian, you know that NTI has been observing and listening to NPC's community consultations over the years that have helped inform NTI's submissions over the years. We have amended our submissions, added new information, as NTI works with the Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Advisory Committee, the Regional Wildlife Organizations, Regional Inuit Association, interactions with the HTOs, that help inform NTI's submissions on the varying Draft Land Use Plans. NTI's participation in observing those community consultations are on the NPC record. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are you done? Brian, Jonathan, do you have other questions?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you, again for the comments in regard to the previous questions. David, during your response, you indicated that on Inuit Owned Lands that were impacted by Limited Use designations that nothing could occur on those lands. I would like to note that there is a particular list of predominantly industrial activities that would not be permitted on some Limited Use Areas, including things like mineral exploration, oil and gas exploration and production, and things like that.

I wonder if NTI would be able to provide any comments on the value that they see in other forms of land use activities and economic development opportunities, including things like tourism, commercial fisheries, or other activities that would be permitted on these Limited Use designations. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. You can respond.



Marie: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Marie Belleau, Nunavut Tunngavik. That might be a question that requires a little bit of looking into for specific uses that you mention in that list of particular Inuit Owned Lands that have certain permitted uses. We might have to come back and respond to that question.

However, the concern we have about Inuit Owned Lands and the effect that the Land Use Plan has on those Inuit Owned Lands is a concern as landowners on behalf of all Inuit. It does not dictate any particular outcome for those Inuit Owned Lands. As we know, there is a process that needs to be followed to determine what will happen on Inuit Owned Lands.

In previous public hearings, we have expressed that process where NTI, when there is a particular application for a particular Inuit Owned Land, we look to the particular Regional Inuit Association to see if that parcel is open or closed. How that is determined is through consultation by the Regional Inuit Association with the Community Beneficiary Committee or the Community Lands and Resource Committee.

Those types of determinations are made, so when we express concerns about Inuit Owned Lands, it does not mean that they will all be developed, that everything is going to be permitted or allowed on those, but it is a matter of Inuit and landowners being able to maintain that authority and responsibility on those Inuit Owned Lands, as it is something that Inuit have negotiated in the *Nunavut Agreement*. It is something as Nunavut Tunngavik and as landowners that we definitely want to protect to some extent.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik and thank you for reminding me. I forgot to mention that when you have a question, if you cannot respond right away, you can respond later or through letters. Please feel free to answer the question. I apologize for forgetting to remind you. If you want to respond, you can do so with letters. Thank you. Jonathan? Are you done? Go ahead.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you, Marie, for the response to that question. Just as a little bit of a supplementary, I would also note that in my question, I flagged a number of examples of projects that would be allowed within Limited Use Areas in response to the comments that nothing would be allowed, the phrase that was used.

I would also flag for your consideration that those projects that are authorized on Inuit Owned Lands or any lands, are able under the *Nunavut Agreement* to of course infringe of Inuit rights of access for harvesting and traditional uses. Of course, Limited Use designations themselves do not impose any restrictions on community land use and traditional activities. Again, if that can be factored into your consideration of other types of use that could occur on Limited Use designations, that would be helpful. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. That was mostly a statement. Sharon?

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehaloak, Executive Director with the Planning Commission. Thank you for your presentation. The Commission voices, noting that working together to find options and solutions is the only way that we are going to move forward. In listening to the questions and the responses, I am wondering if NTI would provide guidance or a suggestion or solution to Commissioners or to the Commission, and maybe it will be part of your written submission with regard to the varying opinions.

You have been present at all of the public hearings, and you have heard the diverse views of Inuit differing from the Inuit Organizations and the NTI and government positions. We have also heard the community members telling us to listen to them and to hear their voices. They are, as Brian stated, very different with what they want, specifically with regard to caribou management and including on Inuit Owned Lands and all lands.

Can NTI provide guidance or a solution to the Commission of how the Commission can move forward, ensuring we are following our mandate in giving great weight to where we should be giving it, and how the Commission should move forward with this, specifically with your recommendations with Inuit Owned Lands, the protection of caribou, and the other areas if they are not included in the Land Use Plan? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead and respond.

David N: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. David Ningeongan, NTI. Qujannamiik, Sharon for your question. When I was giving my presentation, I said that all the statements made from the communities we visited, we were listening. We even went to Thompson, Manitoba to listen to the Indigenous First Nations. So, we will need take their concerns into consideration.

All the statements made in Kitikmeot, Baffin Island, we are listening to the statements made. We understand the statements that are being made. We understand Inuit concerns in our hearings and what we are listening to the statements and here in Pond Inlet, if we hear them, we can bring up amendments. You know that as the Commission. NTI's organization will be signing on part of this agreement for the federal government along with the Nunavut and federal governments taking part in the process.

As I said before, in the Kitikmeot region from the organizations what we hear are not quite similar to the other statements. So, with these differences in mind, NTI will bring something up in a way that works best for everybody. We will bring this up to NPC before January 10<sup>th</sup>. This is just supplementary to Sharon's question. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Sharon, go ahead.

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehaloak, Executive Director with the Planning Commission. I also want to acknowledge and thank NTI for your presence, your team, and also sending your elected officials, Mr. James Eetoolook to the other hearings. We note that your president is here listening, and the Commissioners respect very much that you sent your elected officials along with the large team, and that you are working with us on this file. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. I don't believe we have any more questions from the staff. Before we move on to the community questions, I want to remind everybody to please make your questions short. I will also see a show of hands. If you have any questions regarding the presentation, I will ask the community members if anybody has any questions.

Thank you. If we need more names, we will get them. We will start with Larry. Go ahead.

Larry: *(Translated)*: Larry Audlauk, Grise Fjord. This is just a statement, Mr. Chair, a short statement. I just want to say that during the hearing, we have been waiting a long time for the Plan. We should have had this Plan finished a long time ago, but of course Nunavut is very big, and the Plan is still not completed yet. Its rights and authorities in the Plan are many, and one of the most important ones.

I don't want to wait too long with respect to me being represented for the Plan. We understand that we won't come to all agreements in all matters, but there will be amendments. I really wish that the NPC Plan be completed by 2023. It definitely needs to go forward with our agreements, because our Agreement has not been a part of it for a long time. It was an important part of the process. So, I am urging people, let's really try to finish this Plan and sign it. Make sure it goes ahead. We will be able to make amendments to it. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Thank you. That was not a question. It was more of a statement. Sakiasee?

Sakiasee: *(Translated)*: Sakiasee Qaunaq, Arctic Bay representing the hamlet organization. I was on a wildlife committee too, but I do have a question. Do we have any wildlife board or DFO representatives here in the hearing? That was my first question.

Chairperson: Go ahead and respond.

Paul: *(Translated)*: I am Paul Irngaut from NTI. We don't have any representation, the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board or Nunavut Wildlife Management Board. I apologize.

Sakiasee: *(Translated)*: I do want to make a statement. Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit says that wildlife are not owned by any man. No man owns wildlife according to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, but within Nunavut and especially on Baffin Island west, especially the marine wildlife, the Nunavut Wildlife Board, because they are divided into their communities or regions, it seems like wildlife are being owned by people. I have wanted to express that.

I went to a meeting representing the Wildlife Board. The quotas given out for narwhal are not fair. I said that. I told them you need to fix the quota to the community's need. The Chair responded only if approved by the Wildlife Board. You need to take Inuit Traditional Knowledge and use it more.

I was shocked last year. The communities of Pond Inlet and Arctic Bay are very close together, and we share the same narwhal population during the whole time Baffinland was operating. The community members of Pond Inlet, the wildlife of Pond Inlet will change, and it already has changed. Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit for example, encompasses all.

Last year, some community members went to Arctic Bay to hunt narwhal. They brought narwhal tags along from Pond Inlet. This was when we had lots of narwhals in the area. When they arrived at Arctic Bay, the Arctic Bay wildlife people looked at the matter. They asked DFO about the matter. We were told that if the Pond Inlet people caught narwhal in Arctic Bay, those would be removed from Arctic Bay's quota, and we would have less narwhal. This was the first time Pond Inlet people had gone over there to hunt narwhal, and they were just turned away emptyhanded.

With respect to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, that was a terrible thing to do. The hunters are fellow humans. They should be allowed to go hunt pretty much anywhere. They are fellow human beings,

so I want provisions made for them. That is my question. I am just expressing my thoughts too. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. If you wish to respond.

Paul: Yes, Thank you. Paul Irngaut, NTI. Yep, that is not the first time we have heard about this. We have heard about this more than once. It is not a good thing. The Nunavut Wildlife Board makes rules for all wildlife regardless of if they are terrestrial or marine. That was set up way in the past. So, the Wildlife Board decides on wildlife quotas for winter, spring, summer. We do not immediately agree with it when it was brought up.

We built the quotas. The quotas were agreed to by the Wildlife Board. In the *Agreement*, it specifically states that the Wildlife Board will make these rules, and we had no choice but to follow them. For example, if you brought a tag from here, and if you were agreed to by the Wildlife Board to hunt, they are still going to remove tags from the quota. We haven't really been able to deal with that issue too much, but we do have committees for narwhal, and we always bring this issue up.

The communities of Arctic Bay and Pond Inlet, we say they share the one narwhal population. DFO always listens to their researchers. We are trying to push that the narwhal population be recognized as one for Arctic Bay and Pond Inlet. The Narwhal Committee will be meeting again in the future, and I just want to say that.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. That is it for the statements? Namen?

Namen: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Namen Inuarak, HTO Pond Inlet. While he is talking about narwhal, I will ask a question regarding narwhal. After that, I will have other questions to NTI. As Sakiasee stated, hunting has broken Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. It is also included in Article 5 within the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. A hunter can pretty much hunt anywhere in the community. That rule is broken by DFO. Some of the HTOs just start following that rule.

The hunters too also break rules within Article 5. How are you pushing those hunter's rights be better protected? What are you doing about that with respect to Article 5 rules being broken? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik.

Paul: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik. Paul Irngaut, NTI. So, DFO and the Wildlife Board, NTI, and Qikiqtani Inuit Association, they cooperate and work together under what is called co-management. Within that co-management are rights. We try to protect our rights. Be that as it may, when we are under a co-management situation, the Wildlife Board, we always discuss these matters during their meetings, Inuit rights.

After they had made a directive, it usually becomes hard to make changes to those directives. Anybody can attend those wildlife board meetings. Anybody. Our work, our *Agreement*, we try to protect our rights. As well, we brought up subcommittee for narwhal. We call them the Narwhal Working Group. We keep expressing our rights in the meetings, but when you are under a co-management system, you can't do anything about directives made by the Wildlife Board, but we need to support and protect our people. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead, Namen.

Namen: (*Translated*): Namen Inaurak, HTO Pond Inlet. Yep, dealing with wildlife and environment are a huge deal within Article 5. The *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* is set up that they will keep things going for the people they represent, and the environment people and the communities, the HTOs. They have very weak strength and authority, but their mandate is huge to deal with the environment and wildlife.

When we have to work by ourselves, we are allotted very few monies to the HTOs. How can we get to the point where we can support ourselves? What are you doing about that? Thank you. Those are my questions regarding wildlife.

Chairperson: Go ahead and respond.

Paul: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik. Paul Inngaut, NTI. Yeah, it is obvious now that we are getting more matters to deal with, and more matters with respect to wildlife. Our governments and DFO or environment rules, they keep bringing more rules to the working committees. Monies were provided for three years for the HTOs I guess. Right now, we are negotiating with the federal government. This is the first time that monies for the HTOs and for the territorial organizations, we had requested that we get more monies. We are starting negotiations, but just the beginning. Thank you.

Chairperson: Namen, are you done? Phillip over there?

Phillip: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Phillip Manik from Grise Fjord representing the HTO. I have a question regarding Inuit Owned Lands. If somebody wanted to do a project, for example, an oil exploration company or a mining company or a person with a business, if they wanted to work on Inuit Owned Lands, who would have the authority to agree to the application? The communities closest, are they included in the processes or are they discussed? That is my question. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead and respond, either one of you.

Naida: Naida Gonzalez, Nunavut Tunngavik. We just wanted to mention on oil and gas that at the moment, there is a moratorium on oil and gas exploration and production. That is still being reviewed, and that is a federal government decision, the moratorium. So, there may be a chance to talk about that a little bit more with the government.

On Inuit Owned Lands, for the Land Use Plan, what we are looking to do is have a process that is included in the Land Use Plan that explains how those decisions will be made on IOLs. Right now, as Marie Belleau mentioned, there is a process that the Regional Inuit Associations do take, but how do we express that process in the Land Use Plan in a way that is very clear to the communities and Hunters and Trappers Organizations?

We are working on that with the Regional Inuit Associations. We will hear a little bit more today from the Qikiqtani Inuit Association about their vision on how to do that, but the goal is that there would be a process included or described in the Land Use Plan that would explain how the Regional

Inuit Association, how Nunavut Tunngavik would consult with the communities when there is a proposal on Inuit Owned Lands and how that decision would be made.

How it is has been described already today, there is a desire to make sure that the communities support the activities that are allowed or not allowed on Inuit Owned Lands, and that the Regional Inuit Association and Nunavut Tunngavik will work closely with each community when a proposal comes forward for Inuit Owned Lands. Qujannamiik.

Hannah: Currently, for....Hannah Uniuqsaraq, NTI. Right now, for proposals on Inuit Owned Lands, this responsibility is delegated to the Regional Inuit Associations. QIA has Community Lands and Resource Committees. They are able to provide you the names of the community representatives for each community. I am sure they can give you a list of their members outside of this hearing. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Lisa?

Lisa: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Lisa Ningiuk, HTO Grise Fjord. It was said that wildlife needs to be taken care of, polar bear dens, walrus haul-outs. The bigger wildlife is described or included. Our wildlife in the high Arctic is important to muskox. I feel like they should be a priority, but there is no muskox on Baffin Island. It's only caribou.

I will probably get a response for this, but you guys don't come up. Do they have reasons? The people who want to do good jobs, and they have work, and they work, and they attend committees. They would need to be away for 3 days during meetings. I want this situation looked at very carefully. When you are trying to keep up, and when home and family are important, you are not necessarily able to attend all meetings and functions.

I am very happy that we are starting on this process. When we are done with these meetings, they will send us home. I want this looked at again, especially for our community, how we can work more closely with others. I would want to hear that the muskox are included in the Plan. The muskoxen are important, and I think that perhaps in the future, Pond Inlet may get narwhal in the future, as narwhal are more susceptible to crossing islands. I feel now muskox need to be taken care of better.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Any response to her comment? Go ahead.

David N: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. David Ningeongan, NTI. We understand your statements fully. We will work some more on decision-making processes. We understand that they are mostly caribou concentric during the meetings. They don't necessarily discuss concerns regarding muskox, but we need to take into consideration all Inuit foods for the planning process. It is obvious. We will explain that muskox need to be included in these plans.

Chairperson: Are you done, Lisa? Charlie?

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Thank you, NTI. We want to see NTI come to the community a lot. We always want them to come to the community, and we want to express our reports for what is happening. Same with QIA. Welcome to the community wholeheartedly.

From our understanding, some of us, this meeting is important. It is meant for Inuit to have a voice. You can make legislation from all of this process. Mr. Chair and committee members, I wish to ask these NTI people quite a few questions, but I will shorten my statements and questions.

NTI plans, from my understanding, they keep planning and planning. They will probably enact some rules, and their mandate is huge, so I wrote this down. Nunavut Tunngavik, the wildlife people, I believe they are called QC, they are in the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* that they hold onto the quotas of wildlife. The quota system, that is all they are set up. That is in the *Land Claim Agreement*. You are the caretakers of the tags. Up to today, DFO, it seems obvious they don't want them in charge of the tags. During years when you question them, they say instead that we will respond to the statements, but they bring up a lot of issues. This is written out in the *Land Claims Agreement*, and their mandate is huge. Mr. Chair, let me ask with respect to tags and quotas, are you planning with respect to tags? That is my question. My question is who has authority to manage the people who have the responsibility for the tags?

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Paul: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik. Paul Irngaut, NTI. The process is now up to the Wildlife Board. They have made decisions on tags, how many tags. They give them to the Regional Wildlife Boards, what wildlife is included. The Wildlife Boards here is on Baffin Island, Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board. Then they divide the tags for each community that will be allotted to the HTOs. That is the system in place now, and before those changes, that will be the system. That is my understanding. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead, Charlie.

Charlie: (*Translated*): Charlie Inuarak, Pond Inlet HTO. Yep, my question, you are not planning to do anything about this to change the system with respect to NTI with *Nunavut Land Claim Agreement*? So, the HTOs hold onto the tags. Have you even considered this?

Chairperson: Okay, go ahead.

Paul: (*Translated*): Paul Irnguat, NTI. We have not thought about this process. If people wanted to make changes, then this would have to be brought up to the Wildlife Board, and then we would need to work on it to change it.

Charlie: (*Translated*): So, within our *Agreement*, the Wildlife Boards have to follow what is in the *Land Claims Agreement*. That is how it is set up.

Chairperson: (*Translated*): Yep, I will just say with respect to quotas, those are not NPC's mandate. I want to explain that. Perhaps during break or after the meeting or at lunch hour, outside of our meetings you can have discussions. We don't deal with quotas. I just wanted to remind everybody. Quota matters are dealt with by other organizations, and we are here to deal with other matters. We don't deal with quotas. I just wanted to remind everybody that we are not here to discuss this. Please make your question short. Qujannamiik. Go ahead, Charlie.

Charlie: (*Translated*): Yeah, I was not asking you guys. I was asking NTI with respect to wildlife planning. Another statement within the Plans with respect to statements being made, you are saying polar



bear and muskox need to be protected. We did not say a lot about marine wildlife but let me say this to NTI.

How much have you taken into consideration, for example, Pond Inlet used to have many seals. You could catch so many seals. People would catch lots of seals. They would use the seal meat for food, dog food, and fuel. They used the skins for clothing, and that has been the custom for pretty much all, I guess. Up to today, we do have seals, but it is not like the past anymore. Sometimes we will spend a whole day without seeing a single seal.

In the past, we used to have so many narwhals. We had some of the most narwhals in the area because the waters are very deep. When we catch narwhal, we check to see the stomach contents, and they used to have a lot of turbot in their stomachs. So, them and other wildlife, those are the main game in our community. When this wildlife is gone from the area, has NTI taken into consideration how they will replace that?

For example, I will say to you that making clothes is very important. The children of mothers and grandmothers are being trained, taught how to make boots. They make great kamik now. That same skin is different for fall. The leather is being used now, and they are not using the traditional materials anymore. People have been taught how to work with these materials for a long time, and they don't have any more materials to work with. What will you replace them with? How will the generations teaching their traditional skills continue? Thank you.

David N: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. David Ningeongan, NTI. That is a great question, Charlie. As the ships are increasing near the Community of Pond Inlet, we have heard that they are impacting the wildlife. We have heard that too that the seals, narwhal, wildlife are being impacted, even the caribou. Some of the caribou calving areas are in the mining grounds. For those statements, these matters are included in the Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements and QIA takes care of that. Working more closely with Inuit, that was the mandate of the organization.

Yeah, working more closely together with organizations, NTI has taken hold of some of their mandates. So, the statements you made like training women how to sew and how to work, the Inuit Organizations are taking more control of authorities away from NTI. That has been set up a few years ago now. Your question, what QIA has in plans if you would ask them, that would be great. Yes, we are part of the processes. We provide the funding, but they run their data operations themselves. I just wanted to explain that. Thank you. I believe my buddy wants to add to my statement.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Paul: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Paul Irgaut, Nunavut Tunngavik. Yep, food security is important to people. Regardless of the food they eat, Inuit need food security, and we keep hearing that. Sometimes, NTI brings that up and discusses that. We are just discussing it further.

David: *(Translated)*: He reminded me. Sorry, David Ningeongan from Nunavut Tunngavik. Yes, for community food securities, this is a mandate for NTI. I am part of the plan that will be worked on for communities to have food security. This is a matter we just started working on. The federal government had brought up some monies geared for food security, so NTI will be planning for that. I wanted to explain that.

We understand that traditional food is getting harder to get in the communities. This has really impacted food security with traditional foods. We will be dealing with that matter, and I wanted to explain that. We will do further consultations with communities. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Thank you for your response. HTOs some time back, when Caleb was representing and speaking to the Mary River Project, Nuluyait at that time he caught many seals, and he was able to buy capital equipment, skidoo, and a boat, and other hunting implements. He was successful. Hunting at that time was successful. So, in addition to my question, Caleb mentioned also that he was able to make a good living doing harvest studies. This study was related to narwhal studies, if harvesting could be possible for commercial use.

These ideas, practices are no longer practical. In relation to that, what replacements have you implemented so we can get back to proper harvesting from the past? We have abundant wildlife that we can utilize to earn a wage economy. There is none today. As a hunter, it has impacted me a great deal when these practices we had in the past are no longer available.

According to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, those who are practitioners in our traditional life, for instances child rearing, it was a practice that there are no children sleeping past a certain morning. It was also a practice that in the evening when they are asked to go to bed, they have to be in bed. This is Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. It was working well. They were practical in their everyday life for survival mode. Where does NTI stand on these practices?

Chairperson: Go ahead.

David N: *(Translated)*: That is a good comment. David Ningeongan, Nunavut Tunngavik. We have a program called Nunavut Harvesters Program that assisted harvesters. We have passed that on to QIA organizations, and we want to revive that project so food insecurity could be looked at in this region. It is being prepared. It will come back to the communities, because of preparation in conjunction with HTOs of how the program should proceed and how we can get this program back.

Food insecurity appears to be in very much evidence in the communities along with traditional food trade. We are planning what on how we will make deliveries to these programs. I anticipate that we will get these programs. I have just started in my position this spring, and I am still in the learning process. We will see how we can work on food insecurity in this region. Thank you.

Chairperson: Okay, last comment, last question. Make it short, please.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: I know you want to pass the mic, so I have a short question. I am trying to question short ones. As HTO, our chair has asked me to ask in relation to mammals. That is why I am asking these questions. I know these works are hard to resolve with so many problems. I am hoping that NTI has requested assistance over the years, including to QIA. At the best of times, the answers are not forthcoming.

According to NA, if this can be implemented to the HTO and the community through IIBA, I think you really should look at how this program should be implemented due to the lack of harvesting

opportunities, not only in our community. Many communities in this region should be able to benefit from companies in this area. IIBA is in progress, but we do not see any benefits from it. It is a huge concern to us. It impacts our day-to-day living.

When this program is over, we have absolutely nothing. Minerals will be gone. Gold will be gone and what? We would be even poorer than we are today. The communities in these regions should be benefitted. I ask that you revisit your programs in this area. The Nunavut Planning Commission is doing their best to plan how best to settle the land question, and we need to see benefits coming in. I know you will not be able to respond and act on it quickly. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

David N: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Your comments are worthwhile. Over time in various organizations, I have taken lead roles. This is not the first time that I heard comments towards NTI in what you are saying. All these concerns that you have mentioned are negotiated through NA, and it has not completely settled yet. It was implemented not to benefit an individual.

For instance, IIBA, if it was passed on to an individual, suppose you receive \$1 dollar, and there would be \$0.30 cents tax applied. Now if you were to add all the peoples in this region, the cost is just too much. The taxes would be so high. I don't think we are even to the point of benefit to an individual. It looks much better that it be paid to organizations. Different organizations have looked at this and what is needed most in each region, each community in this region. So, it is more beneficial that we look at how communities as a whole could benefit.

Yes, there is benefit to NTI, over as much as \$100 million in revenue sharing scheme. Then we can start looking at Nunavut as a whole in general, for instance housing and other essentials that communities really need today. These are just examples. I am not saying we will be doing this. For those of us who are in elected positions and as an organization, we will have to review the community needs so we can go forward.

Inuit Agreements have been used towards Elders in this community and come in as a benefit from our Benefit Agreement. A bit of that has gone to Nunavut Elders, so the benefits are starting to come in. Elders in Nunavut are first to be benefitting right now. If huge funds were to come in, say over \$100 million, it would work. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik for your comments. Just as a reminder, your questions please try to keep them short and have them related to what we are here for. We are not concerned about a quota system. We are not concerned about Benefit Agreements. That is not our role. As an organization, we are here to talk to the public in relation to the Draft Land Use Plan.

Your concerns, if you still want to pursue them, you can talk to organization representatives who are here. You can talk to them during breaks and lunchtime, but we are here to discuss our purpose here and stick to that subject. Let's try to keep it to our mandate. We are going to take a 15-minute break right now. Elijah, you will be next to talk after these 15 minutes.

**Break**

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Let's resume. We have Nunavut Tunngavik at the head table. We will continue where we left off before the coffee break. Before we proceed, I just want to remind you that you state your comments and questions relevant to the Nunavut Planning Commission and why we are here. We are not here to discuss quotas. We are not here to discuss the economy. That is not our mandate. Just a reminder to the community delegates to state your name, your community for the record, and please mute your cellphones. Qujannamiik. Elijah?

Elijah: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. We are trying to keep our questions short, as I will. To NTI, thank you for coming into this community to participate. I always look forward to seeing people from NTI. I will try to be concise.

Some you don't have to answer. The people of Pond Inlet, we have many concerns. There is a major mine nearby. We are the major transportation hub for cargo ships. Also, the hunting area is affected. Back in 2008, Mary River used to be our hunting area. You know the plywood 4x8, there was something written on it directed to NTI. It was a message from the mining company. At that time, we were then assured there would be some benefit. I could read a bit of English, so I understood there what was written there. Someone had written on that plywood, and it said benefit to this community would be \$100 million dollars.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Please let's not talk about the mining company. I am just reminding you again, as I have to the delegates. You can discuss this to NTI at your own time.

Elijah: *(Translated)*: Our concern as a community on North Baffin, there has been absolutely no benefit to individuals in our area. So, my question was, let's see if I can express it another way. We are the beneficiaries. We are the reason why the *Nunavut Agreement* was signed. At that time, we are aware that the negotiations had to conclude at one point back then. Your rules are to carry what was on the *Nunavut Agreement*, and so has NPC. They are trying to do their designated roles.

There are many misunderstandings. Perhaps each role, each organization has deviated from their mandate. As you have said, you are our government. Of course, we will come to you for assistance, what is available for our benefits. Suppose you were to work within your mandate. I think we would have benefitted a great deal long ago. Perhaps we would be understanding and working in harmony with each other if there was not so much misunderstanding. For instance, will there be one between NTI and Nunavut Planning Commission, Qikiqtani Inuit Association? We have sat through many meetings trying to solve these problems out. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. I understand. Each of us has our own rules. As for the Nunavut Planning Commission, we have specific roles. As I mentioned earlier, you can work on your concerns directly with NTI and other organizations existing under the *Nunavut Agreement*. Olayuk?

Olayuk: *(Translated)*: Olayuk Naqitarvik, Arctic Bay Hamlet, delegate. You have discussed and there was concern that wildlife organizations in each region are not within line. There are so many discrepancies of how policies and bylaws are made in Nunavut.

You speak of calving areas, either mammal or terrestrial. Their calving schedule in each region is not the same. So, how will you be handling wildlife issues because we have different timeframes for each mammal according to which region you are in due to their calving times. Even our winter and

yearly seasons are not the same in each region, so policies and rules cannot be uniform. They must be tailored to each community. Will Nunavut Planning Commission plan accordingly to what our seasons are?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go head.

David N: *(Translated)*: David Ningeongan, Nunavut Tunngavik. Wildlife in each region, we are starting to become aware that each region has different cycles for mammals. We will be planning accordingly. We understand it now. What Baffin needs and what the Kivalliq and Kitikmeot need are not the same. We will adjust to each climate and yearly changes in each region. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Nysana?

Nysana: *(Translated)*: Nysana Qillaq, Clyde River HTO. I would like to ask where you stand on cruise ships travelling through our territorial waters within our region. There is a lot of disturbance to narwhal, seals, and other mammals. Where do you stand on that?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Naida: Naida Gonzalez, Nunavut Tunngavik. Nunavut Tunngavik is very concerned about controlling marine traffic and cruise ships in the waters. Nunavut Tunngavik is asking the Planning Commission whether more restrictions can be placed on marine vessels, whether there can be area protection in the marine, limiting ship traffic around important areas.

We heard yesterday that there is a lot of concern about cruise ships. NTI, Nunavut Tunngavik would like to see that there would be certain areas that are restricted for cruise ships and interest in seeing what the Hunters and Trappers Organizations and communities' information is on what areas cruise ships should not go in.

It would be good to get a clarification from the Commission about the jurisdiction to do that. Our understanding yesterday was the that the Nunavut Planning Commission thought that their jurisdiction was limited for cruise ships. Nunavut Tunngavik sees that there is a role for the Land Use Plan to actually place restrictions on where cruise ships can go. That would something that could be developed with the Regional Inuit Association and the Hunters and Trappers Organizations, but it would be nice to hear from the Commission that it would be possible to do that. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Jaysie: *(Translated)*: Jaysie Tigullaraq, Clyde River HTO. The cruise ships are not numerous in my community. They are more to this area. Some you are aware of their arrivals, and sometimes you are not. The cargo ships transporting minerals, the traffic is hard enough. It is too congested. The water noise disturbance travels a long way through the water. How will this be curbed disturbing animals?

Chairperson: I think it is a comment for your question. Go ahead.

Hannah: Qujannamiik. Hannah Uniuqsaraq, Nunavut Tunngavik. One program that NTI has started is that Inuit Marine Monitoring Program. The aim of the monitoring program is to provide Inuit with a

greater role in monitoring shipping in Nunavut waters. A key part of this initiative is to have community members involved in the installation and maintenance of Automatic Identification System. These track all vessels that transit within Nunavut, given the Government of Canada only monitors shipping vessels over 300 tonnes.

NTI has created the Marine Monitoring Program to monitor all vessels in Nunavut. The AIS, the Automatic Information System, shipping in international waters must have AIS systems on their ship. They transmit information and broadcast information including the name of the vessel, the type of vessel, its cargo, navigation status, the position, the speed, their destination.

We are creating a website so communities can monitor shipping in and around the communities. This website should be launched in 2023. We also contrast Inuit monitors in some communities that go out in the water and observe and record. We have monitors in Kanngitugaapik. Their names are Lucassie Panipak, Jonas Saillou (*sp?*), Jamie Panipak, Michael Idlout that are contracted to monitor waters around Kanngitugaapik.

NTI aims to expand the Inuit Marine Monitoring Program to other communities and train Inuit monitors in partnership with Coast Guard and Transport Canada. The Inuit monitors are provided training for small vessel operator proficiency, how to identify types of vessels, real-time in reach data collection, Automated Identification System assembly and maintenance, search and rescue training, and environmental response training. They are provided floater suits. They each have radios, in reach safety devices.

We just built a cabin outside of Kanngitugaapik as well, too, in partnership with the HTO this summer. We currently have monitors in the Qikiqtani region in Qausuittuq, Kanngitugaapik, Qikiqtarjuaq, Kimmirut. We plan to expand to other communities in the coming years. We also have monitors in the Kivalliq and Kitikmeot region.

More recently to advance NTI's advocacy and strengthen services and programs for a marine environmental management and monitoring, we are in the beginning stages of developing a Nunavut-specific marine framework. This work will unfold this winter and spring. We will reach out to communities to inform the marine framework. This is intended to influence government programs, policies, regulations, legislation.

We know Inuit can have great influence. For example, the NTI Board of Directors passed a resolution in 2016 calling on the International Maritime Organization to ban the use of heavy fuel oils in the Arctic. NTI's resolution was supported by the Inuit Circumpolar Council who brought it to the International Maritime Organization. Canada supported Inuit position on this, and the use of heavy fuel oil will be banned for use in our waters by July 1, 2024, with a complete ban coming into effect in 2029. We know your voice, your knowledge will be critical to the marine framework, and NTI will reach out to the communities in the winter and spring months. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan had a statement about the cruise ships. Go ahead.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Just in response to NTI's previous request for clarification on the management of cruise ship access in the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan, I would like to remind all participants that the current Draft of the Land Use Plan does include examples of restrictions on vessels, including cruise ships, for

example, setbacks around walrus haul-out sites for various size of vessels, as well as setbacks around migratory bird habitat sites, and also seasonal restrictions around some beluga calving areas during calving season.

So, those Plan requirements would apply to cruise ships as well as any smaller launch vessels that they may also operate in addition to the main vessel. Just to clarify, the Draft Land Use Plan does propose a variety of methods to manage cruise ship traffic, and the Commission will be giving full consideration to all of the feedback that is received in regard to those measures, as well as any additional ones that may be suggested. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Nysana has another question.

Nysana: (*Translated*): Nysana Qillaq, Clyde River HTO. What you just said regarding the marine waters in our community, they were replaced by a computer. There is nobody working there now. I think it was about a year and a half ago, or maybe a year ago. The Inuit are not employed anymore. They have been replaced by a computer.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. That was just a statement.

Joshua: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Joshua Idlout, Hamlet of Pond Inlet. Perhaps if we are going to discuss these shipping matters, perhaps next year NTI could come to the community just to deal with this matter. I believe we have huge concerns among other things. The question I want to ask is on Inuit Owned Lands and parks lands. We can hunt. We can do whatever activities inside these areas.

The Valued Components that we are marking down, I want to ask Nunavut Planning Commission about. Even though we will be able to hunt wildlife in them, I want to ask everybody I guess if Inuit had wanted to mine in those Valued Components, would they be not allowed to do it, or could they mine in those Valued Component areas? That is my question to NPC and NTI.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan can respond to that.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you, Joshua, for the question. I would just like to clarify that under the framework of the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan, the Valued Components in particular that are identified in the Draft Plan do not come with any specific Plan requirements that would limit how the lands are being used. That is very different from the Limited Use or Conditional Use designation that do include Plan requirements that could restrict activities.

So, in areas that are identified, for example, as Mixed Use with overlaying Valued Components, project proponents would be able to propose any type of activity that would be supported by the Nunavut Land Use Plan, and then those particular projects would be passed on to other regulatory authorities for their mandated review, and they would determine whether those project proposals would take place or not. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are you done? Namen.



Namen: (Translated): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Namen Inuarak, HTO. The Nunavut Planning Commission has a deadline of January 10<sup>th</sup> for our submissions. These matters regarding cruise ships, these aren't new issues to the community members. We have been discussing these for a long time. Here in the high Arctic, we get so many ships. If we were like Iqaluit, there they get a ship like once a year, but here we get so many ships along with sailboats and smaller ships.

If these rules won't be set in place now, it will take 10 years whether it will take effect. It will be too long, but what we want enacted here and the question I am asking to NTI, the HTOs that allow cruise ships and sailboats to authorize them to come up here, can HTOs join the committee or whoever permits authorizations to cruise ships? You NTI, I know, and other organizations are part of the authorization process. I would want Nunavut Planning Commission to fix this process and allow HTOs to join the committees or authorities in charge of authorizing cruise ships to come up here. NPC is a DIO and permit authority, I guess.

The gas and oil, disaster compensation, I will be talking about, regarding gas, oil. If there was an accident or something bad happened, for example, if a ship had run aground and there was a huge environmental effect. Gas and oil exploration, their lawyer said there is a moratorium for exploration in the Arctic, but there is a 10-year moratorium only. Only 10 years and after 10 years, the explorations will come up here to do more research in our waters. I believe they will work even harder to obtain those exploration permits.

The reason for having the moratorium was when the Clyde River people stood up to protect our waters. They stood up, and they got assistance from people who were not even from Nunavut. NTI did not have anything to do with this. This is not within the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. With gas and oil matters for disaster compensation, there is nothing in there. These are huge matters before us. We will be trying to approve them, the representatives.

If the companies had an accident, they could have a huge environmental impact. This is not included in the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, so it can't protect us. I don't think we can really do anything about it. Even though we Inuit are deeply impacted, we will be impacted even more on top of that, and there are no benefits towards these matters. So, when you will be negotiating for disaster compensation matters dealing with gas and oil, you definitely need to work on those too. We have these huge issues that we are not sure about when they will be working on them. There definitely needs to be disaster compensation. I wish to thank Clyde River for standing up. I don't think they have even been recognized that this was your responsibility that they did for you. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: (Translated): Qujannamiik. This is outside of our jurisdiction and mandate. You can probably explain that to them, but probably not today and not during our setting. Do you have a question regarding our mandate with Nunavut Planning Commission?

Namen: (Translated): I wish to say that the HTOs have invited these organizations with respect to the impacts to the community are huge. You can't make small statements with respect to the impacts we face. We have to make motions to invite these representatives who are supposed to be representing us. For these reasons while we still have an opportunity, we tend to express our statements. I apologize, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: (Translated): I understand your situation. Yes, you and QIA, you guys definitely need to work things out, but these matters are outside of our jurisdiction and mandate. We understand your

statements. We understand you feel strongly about these matters, but they are outside of our mandate and duties. It is clear that you guys need to work with the other organizations.

As I said, these matters are outside of our mandate and responsibility. I have been saying all this morning that we are not talking about benefits, compensations, quotas. We are not talking about these. We are the Nunavut Planning Commission. We are planning for what will be used for all of Nunavut. It is obviously you guys need to work more closely together. They can hear your statements, and they understand what you are saying. I will go to Susanna.

Susanna: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. I am Susanna Barnabas, HTO representative. I am also a member of the organization. During spring when you are travelling to the floe edge by skidoo and during summer and fall, these are broken up into those seasons. I don't want to agree to just everything. I, too, represent our community members like the hamlet representatives I appreciate.

The assistance as the HTO holds their meetings regularly and they attend their annual general meetings, I voted on motions, and I would speak. The HTOs are welcoming. So, I want clarification on that. I will be representing. Well, we are representing our community members, and we will have good statements to make. This is the first time I have gone on about this and the first time I am learning about this. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Yes, she is also talking about quota, and this is not our mandate. You are entirely free to discuss these matters outside of our meeting. Limeekie?

Limeekie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Limeekie Palluq from Clyde River, hamlet representative. I had wanted to make a statement and also ask a question. You had mentioned the monitors or researchers in our community. On the outside of Clyde River in an old camp, they had a place there. The original cabins had been kind of destroyed, and during the fall, you can't live in a tent there. During the fall, there are lots of polar bears there across from Clyde River where the researchers were.

For that reason, the question I wanted to ask, and I sort of understand it, is whether that research group can get a new building. That is why I raised my hand. If they were to remain in the same place, it would be good if they got a nice safe building. What I am thinking is they may have a place already, or they had tried to get a building, but the building isn't completely constructed. It has been erected and may be geared to what those researchers are now clear on the matters. So, I wanted to bring this matter up. I wanted to say the researchers need a good decent building. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Yep, that is also outside of our jurisdiction and mandate. You will probably be able to get an answer later on.

Limeekie: *(Translated)*: I apologize. Thank you.

?: *(Name not provided. Translated)*: I will say what I will think. Stop me if I am wrong. I am a traditional Inuit. What had been planned by NTI and people need to hear about, I am not sure what they are. As for my Inukness, I have statements to make but no venue to make my statements. Across from us from where we hunt narwhal, it has huge waves, and there is a like a harbour. When the wind is

blowing up that way, it is safe shelter. When the wind is blowing up from the other direction, there is no safe harbour. We have boats broken there and we had siblings killed there by waves.

From my understanding, NPC is the planners. I believe that place needs to be planned for. Somebody had said they build cabins for others. I believe we need to create a shelter harbour there. In the past, we have had researchers stay there to do their research, but that has been done for a while. This is our major hunting area.

It is scary when our youth are going narwhal hunting, you will think they will cross the sound over there. They do have internet now, so they are always checking the weather. If the weather is going to blow from that side, they are always careful to be sure to stay out of bad weather. Yep, you NTI people need to create a shelter in that place. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq for giving me the opportunity to speak.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

David N: *(Translated)*: David Ningeongan, Nunavut Tunngavik. Your statements are clearly understandable. Nunavut Tunngavik hears these things. Transport Canada is also here, and they deal with these matters. They are here also. I just want to explain that they may have the mandate or responsibility to deal with these matters. So, later on, they will have DFO and others to be making their statements today.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. I don't have any other names. Jonathan, do you have a statement or question?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. I just want to bring us back to some of the discussion that took place before the last break in regard to caribou habitat as well as the topic of food security that was raised by the presenters as well as some of the community questions.

The Commission understands that generally, Nunavut Tunngavik has been deferring on the management of caribou and caribou habitat to the Regional Inuit Associations and that there are regional differences among the different perspectives on this issue. Some participants have advocated, for example, for mobile caribou protection measures as a means of protecting caribou but not caribou habitat, as they have indicated. I am wondering if NTI is able to share any views on the role that caribou habitat management would have to play in the support of Inuit food security and food sovereignty in terms of the ability for Inuit to feed themselves. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik, Jonathan. Can somebody respond to his question?

David N: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. David Ningeongan, Nunavut Tunngavik. We have talked with the organizations in regions regarding caribou and their calving grounds. We will keep discussing this before January 10<sup>th</sup>. We will discuss on how we can have better laid plans. As stated, for community members of Nunavut, we understand that these calving grounds are very important, and we understand that our caribou populations have decreased. That is the same for Baffin Island. What we noticed most was here during the hearing in Pond Inlet, the caribou and caribou birthing areas, crossing areas, none of them were listed on the plans.

I want to say that NTI as an organization, we will be working with Inuit organizations in the Nunavut regions so Inuit can have food security in the best possible manner. I am saying we will bring up land. We will be working with the Regional Organizations to be able to provide plans for food security. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Was that okay? Do you have a supplement? Go ahead.

Paul: *(Translated)*: Paul Irngaut, Nunavut Tunngavik. Yes, this will probably be discussed. Last week, October 11 to 13, we had a meeting in Iqaluit, Baffin Island HTOs. They brought up, and they will probably bring it up again in Iqaluit when you have a hearing, there are not enough sites listed. We have noticed that. So, we will have more listings for you guys in the coming weeks. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Sharon has a question.

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehaloak, Executive Director for the Planning Commission. I have a supplementary question to Jonathan's question. Can NTI please advise or share their position or their view on whether or not they support exploration and development in the caribou calving grounds, post-calving grounds, and the important water crossings? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead and respond to that.

David N: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. David Ningeongan, Nunavut Tunngavik. I had said earlier, we are working with the Inuit Organizations regarding the calving areas and post-calving areas and crossings. Today, when they have been holding community meetings in Cambridge Bay, Rankin, Thompson Manitoba, Pond Inlet, and they will be going back to Iqaluit after two weeks. What we heard from Inuit, we will bring up amendments before January 10<sup>th</sup>. So, I can't really expound on that. We will be working with the Inuit and the organizations, and we will bring up something to think about regarding calving areas, post-calving areas, and crossings. They will need to be all explained on the map. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Charlie had his hand up again. Charlie, go ahead and ask your question.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I do have a question. The QIA has its head office in Iqaluit. In the communities, they have employees, usually one staff member. QIA's mandate is very huge. The federal government says that Inuit are taught with ITK. When the federal government talks to ITK, they think they are talking to all the Inuit. When they have discussions with ITK they believe they are talking to all the Inuit, but we don't get to hear what is discussed.

ITK has an office very far away. We probably will never see them. We have invited them to come up here in the past, as we invite NTI and QIA to the community. So, what needs to be fixed is a huge matter, Mr. Chair. This needs to be taken into consideration.

Baffin Island is huge, and it is very well populated. QIA needs to deal with the matter. It is too big a mandate for them. We know there are many of us. QIA can't deal with these matters by themselves. The issue is too big for them. How the government is set up, Baffin Island is divided into two groups. We don't know how the Iqaluit people are set up. We should go there, and we should see QIA's buildings. They have lots of buildings, and we don't have any buildings in our communities. You need to take that into consideration. We need to better work out how Baffin Island is dealt with.

The organizations can't deal with the matters. They don't even come to the communities, and our Chair says for NPC that this is not a mandate for NPC. We understand that, but if we had these organizations come here to the community more. We are glad that are here and able to express our statements, but we do wish to have our statements heard. You need to take us into consideration. The matter is bigger than anything else.

In the Kitikmeot, the organizations have a few things to deal with. I am not saying we need to divide. What I am saying is NTI needs to have two offices. You need two organizations to deal with Baffin Island. We talk with QIA, but they listen to NTI, and they thought we were trying to split the organization in two. We are left out in the cold here with respect to Inuit organizations. You should be thinking about this, and I'm saying you should take this into further consideration.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. The statements were clear. That is also outside our jurisdiction and mandate. I don't have any other names. Go ahead.

Paul O: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Paul Okalik, World Wildlife Fund. They were saying their lands can be used by anybody. As an Inuk, when you hear that, these people that you are supposed to be representing, they make their statements, and they need protection. This is where they get their food sources. I as an Inuk crave fresh meat. My body knows that is healthy for me. You need to look at these lands in the same way.

Look at the lands that people find to be of Valued Components. This is where they get their lands. They are like gold to them. Their food is like gold. If those are spoiled, if the lands are spoiled, we will have no more food. You need to take a look at these. You need to realize that Inuit need to work together. They are precious to us. We want them protected. We don't want people just coming in from the outside and doing whatever they want to.

These organizations need to wake up and listen to the statements made by their people. Don't just act like we are going to do whatever we want in the future. These plans can be amended, and they can even be replaced. They can even be replaced if the communities so desire. So, I urge you, you Inuit Organizations, open your ears and listen to these statements. Do what your representatives are telling you to do. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. That was more of a comment. I don't see any hands. Namen, go ahead and ask your question before we break for lunch.

Namen: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Namen Inuarak, HTO. The statements made are very important, and the statements keep getting bigger and bigger. NTI and QIA go to meetings, mostly to the regional hubs. They go for AGMs. We are the most affected. We keep inviting them to come to the community, and they don't bother. They take a long time to come here.

When they come here to work on things, things that are geared for Pond Inlet or for the high Arctic impacts, they go far away distances to deal with them, like Cambridge Bay and Rankin Inlet and Baker Lake. Even the community directors are not allowed to attend those planning meeting for the community that has been impacted. When you make rules geared for us, but you go far away to plan for them and then we find out what you are working on, then we find out we had these things planned for us. We were not informed about them.

Your planning processes are very negative to those affected. So, I am making these statements as a representative of the HTO. These duties need to be dealt with here, not somewhere else outside the community when the affected are not informed or involved. That is my statement. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Yes, that is also outside our mandate. I don't believe we have any other questions. Are there any other questions?

Olayuk: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Olayuk Naqitarvik, Arctic Bay Hamlet. This is probably not geared towards NTI. It is part of the concerns we have. It is obvious Transport Canada has mandate on this. For example, Baffin Island people tend to go to hospitals often, and sometimes we don't have airline tickets, as the airline people are in Iqaluit, I mean Pangnirtung. Can we explain what is happening to those in charge of the airline matters?

Another reason for this is people that need to go to the hospital, the help people just return them to their homes and say they are not as sick as they think they are. Do we know who can respond to my question? Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Yes, that is a question that is also outside our mandate. I am telling you that the GN is here. They can respond to your question, not through our venue. This is outside our mandate. As discussed before, you can talk with others outside our meeting. I don't have any more names listed. I am asking if there are any questions from the community members of Pond Inlet? I want to ask this before we break for lunch. We are just following our procedures as usual. *(Pause)*

I don't have any hands. A round of applause for NTI for answering their questions. Thank you.

*(Applause)*

Before we leave, I want to inform you that we still have some duties to deal with, so we will probably have to come back this evening. I want to inform you that we will be coming back this evening. We will start again at 1:15. Qujannamiik.

### **Lunch Break**

Chairperson: Good afternoon. We will now proceed. Before we continue, Sharon has housekeeping.

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just one item: On the record this morning when Paul Okalik spoke, in the translations it was translated that he is from Oceans North. We just want to ensure the record is correct. He is World Wildlife Fund, not Oceans North. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. We have the Qikiqtani Inuit Association at the head table. Same procedure. They will make a presentation. Proceed whenever you are ready.

## Presentation by Qikiqtani Inuit Association

**Levi Barnabas, Secretary-Treasurer & VP for Board of Director Executive Committee**  
**Solomon Awa, Director of Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit and Engagement**  
**Richard Paton, Senior Director of Projects**

Levi: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Good afternoon to the Nunavut Planning Commission and Commissioners, and the community delegates. Some of you, I sat with you before at QIA. Lisa Ninguiq, we sat together. She is from Grise Fjord. Larry Audlauk, he is also used to sit with me. Larry had concerns about Kangiqtugaapik, Aujuittuq area. Charlie Inuarak, I used to sit with him when he was a QIA member.

As you know, I am Levi Barabbas. I am Secretary-Treasurer for QIA. I am also the Vice Chair of QIA. I am here today with my colleagues. With me today is Solomon Awa, Director of Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit and Engagement, and Richard Paton, Senior Director of Projects. I would like to thank the Nunavut Planning Commission for hearing our presentation on the 2021 Draft Land Use Plan. Thank you to the community delegates and other presenters who spoke before us.

Today, we will be providing you with an overview of the Qikiqtani Inuit Association's review and comments on the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. On Slide 2, I have not been in a meeting situation for a while, so it is a little confusing. Slide 2, please note that while we were not updated on these slides since August 12<sup>th</sup>, we have made further progress relating to Qikiqtani Inuit Association's position on caribou habitat protection. These updates are reflected in our speaking notes.

On Slide 3, we would like to provide you with a brief overview of the Qikiqtani Inuit Association's mandate and interests in the planning process and development of the Nunavut Land Use Plan. The Qikiqtani Inuit Association is responsible for advancing the rights and benefits of Qikiqtani Inuit through protection and promoting our social, political, economic, and culture interests, while also safeguarding the land, waters, and resources that sustain our communities.

Like the Nunavut Land Use Plan, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association is interested in achieving a balance between economic opportunity and land protection. We are responsible for managing nearly half of all Inuit Owned Lands in Nunavut and are accountable to Inuit beneficiaries in the Qikiqtani region. We are the Regional Inuit Association for the Qikiqtani region, and we are a Designated Inuit Organization per Article 39 of the *Nunavut Agreement*.

On Slide 4, the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan is a culmination of many years of effort to fulfill the requirements of Article 11 of the *Nunavut Agreement*. We feel that overall, this is an important step forward and commend all those who have worked hard to provide input into the drafting of this Plan. However, after review, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association has identified several areas of concern, which must be addressed to achieve the principles and objectives of Article 11.



Please note that this presentation is not an exhaustive list of the Qikiqtani Inuit Association's concerns. For more detail, please see our written submission to the Nunavut Planning Commission that is available on the public registry.

The Qikiqtani Inuit Association's key concerns with the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan are centered here:

1. Caribou, particularly the amount of land and areas proposed for protection
2. Inuit Owned Lands and the constraints that may be placed upon them by land use designations and Plan requirements
3. Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements and how the Plan may preclude the fulfillment of legal requirements of existing Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements or unduly influence future Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements. We know that it impacts us all today and our future, our great-grandchildren as well.
4. Conservation Areas such as key migratory bird habitats and land use designations that may interfere with the terms of specific existing or future IIBAs.
5. Vessel traffic and marine shipping, which is not sufficiently restricted under the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan as it is written, and our colleagues will explain further

The bottom left corner of each slide includes a reference to the section of our written submission on the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. We encourage participants to review our submission on the public registry for more detailed information of our position. Mr. Chair, I would like to ask Solomon Awa to complete our presentation. Thank you.

Solomon: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Qujannamiik, Levi for your presentation and introduction. Thank you, Pond Inlet for welcoming us, and community delegates. I know most of you, and it is so nice to see you again in your participation to meet with the Nunavut Planning Commission and its Commissioners at the public hearing.

Mr. Chair, caribou are the keystone species for maintaining Inuit culture and wellbeing, and therefore, it is our priority to protect them. In order to determine how to best do this, we must first understand where they live and how they behave, and how this differs from other regions in Nunavut.

There are barren ground caribou. They are a species that live up here year-round in barren lands. There is caribou species in the Kitikmeot region, and we have decided them to include them in our presentation, the barren and caribou on Baffin Island and Melville peninsula. There is Peary caribou in the high Arctic, and a herd of introduced reindeer to the Sanikiluaq area.

Our June 2022 submission focuses on barren ground and Peary caribou. However, our submission will include consideration for introduced reindeer in Sanikiluaq.

Barren land caribou in the Qikiqtaaluk are tundra dwelling and have long-term cycles of approximately 40 to 70 years that are linked to habitat quality. Currently, they are in the lowest phase, but this is not an indication that they will be low forever. Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit tells us that the population will rebound, and there are already some signs that caribou numbers are increasing in some areas.

As I mentioned, Baffin Island caribou also have different behaviour and migration patterns than barren ground caribou on the mainland, which varies somewhat in different areas of Baffin: south, north, and northcentral. Therefore, a regional approach to protection is required.

They do not understand long-distance migration in the way that mainland barren ground caribou do. Instead, they generally calve at higher elevations in dispersed locations and then move into post-calving areas. In 1999, I heard that in Pond Inlet, the plane could not land because there were caribou on the runway. Recently, the caribou numbers have been lowest. This seems like after so many years, it takes the caribou to return to the area, and they do die off.

QIA has concerns regarding the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan that it is not supporting protecting the caribou enough. On the barren land caribou on Baffin Island, at this time, they are not protecting the caribou that inhabit the forests along with the high-Arctic caribou. Looking at the rules and looking at Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, and in the west caribou management, responsibility for the caribou has been transferred to them. We have Inuit Traditional Knowledge written down.

There are things that are left out regarding the protection of caribou in Baffin Island in the high Arctic and in Sanikiluaq. Whether there are plans for the return of the caribou, we will need to know. QIA supports activities that will be used for the 2021 Draft Land Use Plan, but we have concerns regarding how the caribou are protected on Baffin Island and near Baffin Island on other islands. We have no protection mandates. There is no draft protection in the Nunavut Planning Commission's plans.

For the caribou to be protected on Baffin Island, there needs to be legislation and authorities that can be used. There needs to be priorities for protection. They need to take that into consideration that can be used so the caribou are not disturbed. These matters were not written down for the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan.

Specifically, QIA stated that the protection of caribou, there were parts missing in the 2021 Nunavut Land Use Plan. If we look at the calving areas, the calving areas are not stated enough in the Land Use Plan. It seems like the Draft Plan is omitting the parts where they are protected. These matters were assigned to the Nunavut Wildlife Board, and there were some missing parts regarding the Nettilling area.

It seems like there is nothing else written down about Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit regarding caribou. There are a few in the west that were explained there as Limited Use. The Nunavut Planning Commission had agreed in which years that have been designated by committees of Baffin Island in the 2021 Draft Land Use Plan. This is used for the protection that some lands need to be protect where the caribou inhabit during the winter. It is important that these lands be protected for South Baffin and in the mountains, in the high Arctic. What I believe we are talking about Ilulliik between Sanirajak and Naujaat, and in Sanikiluaq.

The QIA are concerned about the caribou trails, and they need to be expressed. They also need to designate caribou crossing areas, for example on sea ice or rivers or lakes. All these trails support the caribou migrations. The migration routes are found, and they are important for the wildlife, for the caribou. QIA had wanted some of those trails to be recognized, as they are important for these areas to be protected and have boundaries put in.

The Nunavut Planning Commission did not agree to any of these winter habitat areas on Baffin Island that the Wildlife Board had submitted. This omission is used for the protection. Inuit had submitted designated areas that they wanted protected during the winter. It is important that the caribou habitats that winter on Baffin Island, in the high Arctic, in the mountains, and Sanikiluaq.

The QIA's mandate, for example all caribou trails, should be taken into consideration with respect to caribou crossings on sea ice and on land. Where they go, land crossings on land are usually highlighted. They are important to the people of Baffin Island. We want these corridors protected. For example, rivers need to be given boundaries and used that they have protection.

The Land Use Plan did not have any caribou crossings in that 2021 Draft. There were important aspects that were delegated in Baffin Island by the Wildlife Board. They designated sites like lakes that should be protected. Sea ice crossings for caribou were located that caribou use to cross during the winter, but some important crossings were not listed in the 2021 Draft Plan. There are some crossings on sea ice. At the minimum amount, they should be listed as important.

QIA and the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board want to work together for the protection of the caribou on Baffin Island. This would be run by Inuit, and they work together. Their expectations are that what is missing in the Plan that has not been explained whether NPC is including these protection plans and listed them for Baffin Island for land use.

On October 11 to 13 for this year, QIA and the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board met together with the important caribou people. We had guests that were here, for example Inuit. There are two people here that attended the meeting. QIA was present at the meeting, as they are representatives of the Inuit.

Based on these workshops, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association and Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board are working on developing a joint submission on caribou protection to the Nunavut Planning Commission for inclusion in the final Nunavut Land Use Plan. This submission will focus on areas that are not disturbed. The Qikiqtani Inuit Association and Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board joint submission will include the summary of areas proposed for protection under the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan that we support, maps of additional areas that should be protected, and additional recommendations on Plan requirements.

In the long-term, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association and the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board aspire to work together to develop a full Inuit protection strategy for caribou in the Qikiqtaaluk region, which may consider other protection measures for caribou in areas that are less sensitive to disturbance.

The Qikiqtani Inuit Association and Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board's joint submission will include a summary of areas proposed for protection under the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan that we support, maps of additional areas that should be protected, and additional recommendations on Plan requirements.

QIA recognizes that not all areas can be protected, so this joint submission will reflect those that are most important. QIA and QWB are currently in the process of analyzing the spatial and qualitative data from the October 11 to 13 workshop. This December, QIA and QWB will hold a follow-up data verification and strengthening session to finalize the priority areas to be submitted to the Nunavut Planning Commission.

Another concern for us with the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan is how the Plan treats Inuit Owned Lands. As written, Qikiqtani Inuit Association does not agree with the land use designations that are applied to Inuit Owned Lands. This concern relates in general to all designations applied by the Nunavut Planning Commission, for example, Limited Use, Conditional Use, Mixed Use, Valued Ecosystem Components, and Valued Socioeconomic Components.

The Qikiqtani Inuit Association already endeavours to maintain a balance between environmental, social, and economic needs and potential when it comes to the management of Inuit Owned Lands, and so there is no need to supplicate this through land use designations as proposed in the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan.

We have an established process for consulting with Inuit communities in the Qikiqtani region to ensure that Inuit Owned Lands designations collectively maintain the balance between environmental, social, and economic needs and potential as well as an established land use registry and permit application process to ensure that any proposed land uses are reviewed and carried out in accordance with Qikiqtani Inuit Association standards.

Qikiqtani Inuit Association's more pronounced concerns are how under the current Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan, Inuit Owned Lands are constrained in these ways: Conditional or Limited Use designation are applied to 42% of surface Inuit Owned Lands combined; and Conditional or Limited Use designations are applied to 57.91% of subsurface Inuit Owned Lands combined.

The application of Limited Use designations to Inuit Owned Lands in the Qikiqtani region erodes the decision-making authority of the Qikiqtani Inuit Association as a Designated Inuit Organization to determine what activities are allowed to proceed on Inuit Owned Lands as well as any necessary conformity requirements that should apply.

Article 11.8.2 of the *Nunavut Agreement* states that the land use planning processes is to apply to Inuit Owned Lands and the Nunavut Land Use Plan must take into account Inuit goals and objectives for Inuit Owned Lands. The Qikiqtani Inuit Association is not at a stage where it has conclusively identified the goals and objectives for all Inuit Owned Lands in the region, in collaboration with communities. Applying land use designations and Plan requirements is premature and a significant hindrance to Qikiqtani Inuit Association's decision-making authority.

Therefore, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association recommends that the Nunavut Planning Commission develop a unique approach to land use planning on Inuit Owned Lands that adequately respects and protects QIA's right to manage and determine acceptable uses of Inuit Owned Lands. As written, Qikiqtani Inuit Association does not agree with the application of land use designations that may interfere with the terms of existing Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements or unduly influence the negotiation of future Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements.

Qikiqtani Inuit Association's concerns with existing Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements relate to areas where land use designations and Plan requirements apply to existing conservation areas like migratory bird sanctuaries, national wildlife areas, and Canadian heritage rivers. For example, on the map on the right of the slides shows where the national wildlife areas and migratory bird sanctuaries Inuit Impact Benefits Agreement allows; Qikiqtani Inuit Association is to build

ecotourism lodge and research facility; twin otter airstrip; and docking facilities on Inuit Owned Lands within Ninginganiq National Wildlife Area. Will a Limited Use designation prohibit this?

The Qikiqtani Inuit Association has concerns with the potential influence the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan would have on future Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements negotiations related to areas where land use designations and Plan requirements apply to future parks as shaded in red, such as Aggutinni Proposed Territorial Park and Katannilik Territorial Park, along with conservation areas for the national historic sites.

For example, the map on the right shows the proposed Aggutinni Territorial Park where an Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements has not yet been ratified. Will a Limited Use designation set a precedent for land protection and influence these negotiations?

To demonstrate this concern related to future negotiations of Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements, we would like to go over a case study regarding Class 1 key migratory bird habitats. The maps on the right show areas of Class 1 migratory bird habitats which are listed as Limited Use in purple. The green hatched areas are Inuit Owned Lands with surface rights only, and the orange hatched areas are Inuit Owned Lands with both surface and subsurface areas. The map on the left shows the names in English of Cape Searle/Reid Bay area whereas the map on the right shows East Axel Heiberg Island and Fosheim Peninsula. I apologize for saying their names in English.

Qikiqtani Inuit Association and Environment and Climate Change Canada must negotiate Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements for all new migratory bird sanctuaries. As currently written, the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan designates that Class 1 key migratory bird habitats will receive similar protections to migratory bird sanctuaries, without a clear need or directive for Inuit Impact Benefits Agreement negotiation. Class 1 key migratory bird habitat designations will directly interfere with Qikiqtani Inuit Association's decision-making authority in portions of 37 Inuit Owned Lands and a total area of 4,726.32 km<sup>2</sup>.

Qikiqtani Inuit Association's recommendations to address concerns about Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements are that the Nunavut Planning Commission must acknowledge all existing Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements between the Government of Canada or Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and Regional Inuit Associations and specify that the Inuit Impact Benefits Agreement terms and requirements must be adhered to regardless of the land use designation and Plan requirements.

The Nunavut Planning Commission must also acknowledge Articles 8, 9, and 26 of the *Nunavut Agreement*, which set parameters for future Inuit Impact Benefits Agreement negotiations between the Government of Canada or Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik and the Regional Inuit Association Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements. The final land use designations and Plan requirements must not preclude the negotiation of future Impact and Benefit Agreements.

They are more concerned that they are not recognized, and they don't have plans set up for their committees and for the subcommittees. There are no terms for where they travel and go to or during shoulder seasons.

Qikiqtani Inuit Association is concerned that the measures contained in the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan are insufficient to protect Inuit values and the practice of rights in the marine

environment. Measures outlined in the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan are considerably weaker than the existing measures in the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan and the measures the Qikiqtani Inuit Association has proposed to be included as part of the Tallurutiup Imanga Interim Management Plan.

The impact of marine shipping on marine mammals and birds is a critical concern to Qikiqtani Inuit Association as outlined in the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan. If approved as is, new proposals by proponents to conduct icebreaking within Tallurutiup Imanga would be in conformity with the Land Use Plan and would limit Qikiqtani Inuit Association's ability to ensure icebreaking does not impact Inuit values and rights.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: I will ask the staff first if they have any questions. Jonathan and Brian, I have your names. Jonathan, go ahead.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. I have a number of topics I would like to ask a few questions about. I will start with the Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine Conservation Area. QIA has indicated the requirement to develop an Interim Management Plan for the area. I would first like to ask for an update on the status of the Interim Management Plan. As well, if you could, provide an update on the status of the full and final establishment of the National Marine Conservation Area in general. Thank you.

Levi: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Thank you, Jonathan, for the question. The Lancaster Sound, as we all know as QIA, and Larry and Charlie were also members as well when we started planning a plan for Lancaster Sound. It was a pilot project to determine if negotiation with the federal government is worthwhile and to have it become a marine park. We spoke to the federal government looking for a pilot project.

We did not know how to start at the time, how we should plan. Sometimes we look at and determine how the park should be. Should it be larger or smaller to see how we could manage should it become a reality. We did the negotiations to benefit for the Inuit living in that part. We started to plan, and a lot of things emerged from our planning. Baffin Island and our area how they would benefit if we were to negotiate to have that area become a park. I just wanted to do a brief background story on this. Perhaps it does not answer your question.

Richard: Richard Paton, QIA. The question for the Interim Management Plan for Tallurutiup Imanga, currently it does not exist. We have been in negotiations with the Government of Canada over the last two years in relation to getting to a point where we could have an Interim Management Plan. We feel that the Management Plan should be done on the basis of consensus, and we are at a point where we have non-consensus regarding the use of the Interim Management Plan and the Final Management Plan. We have a goal of looking to resolve that impasse, but currently we do not have an Interim Management Plan for the Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine Conservation Area. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan, do you have another question?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. On the same subject, you have also indicated that Qikiqtani Inuit Association does not agree with the proposed land use designation in the 2021 Draft Plan for the Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine

Conservation Area. I am wondering if the Qikiqtani Inuit Association has specific recommendations on how the Land Use Plan should be revised in the next version. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Richard: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Richard Paton, Qikiqtani Inuit Association. We are proposing that when it comes to the designations for Inuit Owned Lands within the region, that we are still working on a proposal that we aim to include within our final submission in 2023.

I can say that what was said here today is that for the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, designation as it applies within the Nunavut land use planning process are ones that for the Qikiqtani Inuit Association impede on the governance structure that the Qikiqtani Inuit Association has in place with respect to Inuit Owned Lands, and that we would seek to have limitations on what those designations could mean for Inuit Owned Lands.

We are still working on a submission in respect of Inuit Owned Lands, and we could consider potentially looking at either having Inuit Owned Lands completely removed from the land use planning process, but we are not averse right now to potentially looking at what the other regions are considering in Nunavut.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan, further questions?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you for your responses. You have indicated ongoing work with the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board to identify more detailed recommendations on caribou, in particular that this work would continue in December. I would just like to confirm that the Qikiqtani Inuit Association's intention is to conclude this work before the close of the record on January 10<sup>th</sup>.

As a follow-up to that note that you have indicated at this time, you have not conclusively identified Inuit goals and objectives for Inuit Owned Lands and that it would be premature to identify direction on these areas. Could you clarify whether these upcoming discussions with the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board would be adequate to determine Inuit goals and objectives for these lands that fall within important caribou habitat? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Levi: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Thank you for your question, Jonathan. As I mentioned in my earlier remarks, we had a meeting with the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board, and we spoke about the caribou. There will be a meeting in Iqaluit on December 4<sup>th</sup>. We will revisit our concerns related to caribou. Inuit Owned Lands will be on the agenda as well. We will do a written submission before January 10<sup>th</sup>, and we will prepare this submission in our December meeting.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Just to link back to some of the discussion this morning on food security and also food sovereignty, the Commission notes that in 2019, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association prepared a report entitled, "*Food Sovereignty and Harvesting*." We are just wondering if the Qikiqtani Inuit Association could comment on the value of regional land use planning in supporting the goals of the Qikiqtani Inuit Association in achieving food sovereignty for Inuit of the region. Thank you.



Chairperson: Qujannamiik, Jonathan. Go ahead.

Levi: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. We have plans, and we know what we should be doing now with food security, the cost of food, game. The game is becoming harder and harder to find in this region for a food source. As a result, we wanted to do research on food insecurity. In North Baffin, it is very scarce at times. I cannot answer your question right now.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. If you cannot provide an answer, you can make a submission prior to January 10<sup>th</sup>.

Levi: *(Translated)*: We will look into this and provide an answer to the question later.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Please, just a reminder to state your name for the record. Jonathan, do you have any further questions?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you again, to the representatives for your previous responses. The Commission has heard today and previously the concerns regarding the negotiation of Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements and the recommendations that the Land Use Plan does not preclude the negotiation of future Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements.

I am just wondering if the Qikiqtani Inuit Association acknowledges any difference between the establishment of conservation areas through legislation under the *Agreement* and the mandate of the Nunavut Planning Commission to prepare land use plans separately to those processes. Thank you.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Richard: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Richard Paton, Qikiqtani Inuit Association. I believe I heard the question as to whether or not there is a delineation between the existing conservation areas and what we would propose within the context of the Nunavut Land Use Plan. I can say that more detailed information in relation to our position on Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements will be forthcoming.

What our submission here today in terms of the presentation is as it relates to the distinction of the potential to impede on Inuit's rights to negotiate future Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements and the potential the proposed Plan has on existing Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements, specifically the key migratory bird habitats and future proposed territorial parks, conclusions of the agreements within the Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine Conservation that would include Tuvaijuittuq and the potential for migratory bird sanctuaries, national wildlife areas, and Canadian heritage rivers. I hope that in part helps answer the question you sought, but also with an understanding that we will add additional information in our future submission to the Nunavut Planning Commission.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan, have you concluded your questions? Brian?

Brian: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Brian Aglugark, Nunavut Planning Commission. I did not have any questions planned today, but during your presentation in relation to caribou habitat, it is good to hear that there are concerns and research that will be discussed in your December meeting. Will

you be able to talk with your communities in North Baffin? Will this be a public hearing or discussed only by the board?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Solomon: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Solomon Awa, Qikiqtani Inuit Association. Thank you, Brian for your question. I briefly mentioned Qikiqtani Inuit Association and the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board and HTOs in Baffin communities. They have their own local committees, and we are in touch with them so we can discuss caribou problems within the Baffin region.

At our last meeting with the HTOs in Iqaluit, we heard about their concerns, and they are very concerned about caribou calving grounds and caribou crossings. At that meeting, it was an important revelation that we should be more aware of Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit and have them documented. They are not fully documented, and we plan to pursue documenting these important sites. We will further discuss it with the Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board at their next meeting, and we will work with them closely. Whatever information we acquire from this group will be passed on to you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: It appears there are no more questions from the Planning Commission. I will turn it now to the community delegates to see what your questions are. Elijah?

Elijah: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I have a question related to polar bears, if I may talk about it a bit to our locality.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: As long as it is not about quota, you may proceed. We want to focus on our proceedings here. Please, go ahead.

Elijah: *(Translated)*: During the 1960s, quotas were imposed by authorities and saying that Inuit were harvesting too many polar bears. We were told that polar bear populations were decreasing drastically. It was not very good to Inuit who depend on polar bear as a food source. The polar bears have been doing poorly too for food sources. It has been very bad for them until today.

There has been no research of how these species should be cared for, because they are in very poor condition today. The researchers should be able to determine now where polar bear dens are and other wildlife like wolves, foxes. I am not saying I am against these other species who have taken food sources for the polar bear. We used to use dogs. We were doing well. I think we still have to look back to see how it was if we are going to do any planning, which would include how and why the quota system was imposed.

In our areas, there are many polar bear dens that are endangered by many things including exploration and disturbance to the habitats. How can we ensure that these areas are protected? Once they are gone, we are not able to see them increase in population. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: As mentioned, it is outside of what we are here for, what our proceedings are about. We are not here to discuss fur prices and other animal-related economic benefits.

Moses: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Mittimatalik Hamlet Councillor. In relation to the presentation regarding Lancaster Sound, you said during your negotiations, that did not come to

any conclusion. Lancaster Sound, as you mentioned was to become a National Marine Park. Are you still in negotiations? Why are you talking about negotiations that have not concluded?

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Richard: Richard Paton, Qikiqtani Inuit Association. The Interim Management Plan for Tallurutiup Imanga is considered a co-management process. For Inuit, we have a plan. We are understanding of what needs to go into the plan, including specific restrictions on marine shipping, restrictions on icebreaking, measures to protect seasonal ice features, and the ability for Inuit to exercise their rights to travel with access to harvest in the region in general.

The Interim Management Plan, from within the Qikiqtani Inuit Association's perspective, is ready to go, but from a co-management perspective on the part of the Government of Canada, it is not seen in the same way. So, we are negotiating with Canada to advance an Inuit position on co-management for the area. That is an ongoing process, and we hope to have that resolved very soon. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have a question?

Namen: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Namen Inuarak, HTO. Lancaster Sound, as in your presentation related to IIBA, it appears that you are still in negotiations for the benefits of the communities in North Baffin. We are not aware that the HTO committees are not part of what you are negotiating with Canada. We have just recently heard and learned that the Lancaster area, especially Arctic Bay, Resolute Bay, Grise Fjord, and Mittimatalik what negotiations have been going on.

We heard briefly through rumours that there was to be a training center. It has been in works, and it has been discussed at length by QIA and Baffinland. Both claim that it would be beneficial to the region as an institution. Now we community HTOs, no one has approached us to participate what is being planned for our regions. We are the community organization that is concerned with the environment. The idea that you have mentioned is in good form, but still we are excluded when Lancaster Sound is discussed.

Whatever you are planning related to this waterway, we are asking to be part of the negotiations. Thank you.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Levi: You are directly participating. You as the HTO, in this community, you are part of the subcommittee of QIA. You are a participant.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Namen: (*Translated*): Namen Inuarak, HTO. We are not aware. We are not aware. We don't even have members identified to sit on the board that you have mentioned, planning committee.

Chairperson: (*Translated*): I think both of your organizations could discuss this privately and come to your own conclusions.

Adrian: *(Translated)*: Adrian Arnauyumayuq, Arctic Bay HTO. Listening to the topics is interesting. It is hard to understand at times. We have abundant wildlife, and we want to safeguard our wildlife to a great extent. There has been knowledge for a long time that we have abundant wildlife. I did not realize that we would be having problems, management of it.

The deadline for the Commission to receive submissions, and then you mentioned the file will be closed on that date, although there are still very many concerns with the Land Use Plan, especially the cruise ships and larger vessels.

Although I have not been participating that long, I am just starting to hear and learn what I am hearing. I was not supposed to be representing my community. The one that was supposed to be here had to go on medical. Now hearing this, I am quite anxious to participate.

There are many cruise ships coming into the communities. It was mentioned and it was true that we don't even know what part of the shorelines or areas they are visiting or mooring for sightseeing. There is no information of who authorized their arrival. They have no idea where walrus haul-outs and other mammals are. Even at times, the Coast Guard has their own way where they stop and where they travel to.

January 10<sup>th</sup> is so close. I am saying this because I have a concern about wildlife in our area, caribou. Looking at the maps where the crossings are, calving grounds many of them are not documented on the maps. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Levi: *(Translated)*: Levi Barnabas, Qikiqtani Inuit Association. I will answer the question, and it will be supplemented in a bit. Lancaster Sound.... *(Audio cut off due to technical problems)*

### Break

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: I think we can resume. The technical problems have been resolved. Phillip?

Phillip: *(Translated)*: Thank you. We have... *(Audio once again cut off)*

Chairperson: *(Audio resumed mid-sentence)*...our mandate, our planning for the Draft Land Use Plan.

Phillip: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Chair. Phillip Manik, Resolute Bay. I had a question this morning to NTI, so I will ask the same question to Qikiqtani Inuit Association. It relates to Inuit Owned Land. Who does the administration to these lands? We have no idea how huge or small these lands are or oil exploration where they are. Are they on Inuit Owned Lands?

There is a resort across from us. It is at Cunningham. It is not too far from Creswell Bay. This resort operator across from us is looking to expand. I would like to know who is responsible for allocating that land where he sits. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Levi: *(Translated)*: Levi Barnabas, Qikiqtani Inuit Association. Inuit Owned Lands is our responsibility for QIA. We have different departments to look after these lands. We work with QIA, CLRCs in each community. They receive letters, applications that they in turn pass on to us. They know their community, their surrounding areas very well. So, they are the first point of contact. They determine what piece of land is in question and who the applicant is. They give us suggestions as to approve or deny the applicant of the land use that they are requesting to use.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik.

Phillip: *(Translated)*: Just a comment: We have many works ahead of us. I know your organization is very busy. We would like to see you in our community for a face-to-face meeting with you. Are you able to answer that question?

Levi: *(Translated)*: Levi Barnabas, QIA. The person who has a resort, we know who he is. We have visited him at times. He has tourists coming into his place. We are concerned to make sure that he is not on Inuit Owned Lands. QIA will take into consideration to determine if we should be travelling to your community. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Elijah: *(Translated)*: I will make a short statement. What was discussed regarding Tallurutiup Imanga, Lancaster Sound, I will give a brief description. With respect to oil exploration companies and ships becoming too numerous in the area, this was delegated to Parks Canada, and the site was marked in red. This was used to further protect the areas north of Baffin Island, as the current there moves towards Newfoundland.

This was brought up to further discuss how to further protect the wildlife in the area. We had met with the Prime Minister, and we were planning the Tallurutiup Conservation Area. This included areas where the sea ice does not break up. This was geared for protecting the area and wildlife, and the four communities of Clyde River, Pond Inlet, Resolute Bay, and Arctic Bay were to be the monitors or guardians of the Lancaster Sound. That is what I can say. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Charlie, you have a question?

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I appreciate that you came here to hold meetings. Please feel free to feel entirely welcome to the community, although it is cold. The questions I have for QIA, they are not necessarily discussed, but I believe they need to be part of the discussion because they are under QIA's mandate. The Tallurutiup Conservation Area is coming to fruition. We had gone to Iqaluit to meet. I believe it was QIA who was holding the meeting. Their committee members explained that the Ottawa person from Parks Canada was there to talk about how they would enact this into law.

From then on, they have been talking about the matter. I won't necessarily explain all the details, but if there are items missing, I would wish the community members of Pond Inlet Hamlet and HTO to voice their concerns. If someone were to assign us something to deal with in a rushed manner, QIA is our representative. So, if the communities are given information that QIA or others are

working on, it would be beneficial to the community to make sure the community members have time to absorb the information. I wanted to express that.

This matter will take a long time to deal with, and NPC staff has said that once the conservation area becomes a conservation area, NPC will have no mandate as to the area. I believe you need to add these items to how the conservation area is set up. If we have your statements before the end of the conservation area enactment, that would be great.

We do have parks here on Bylot Island and on this part of Baffin Island and in the Sirmilik area is also Parks Canada territory. We are situated in between the parks, and our waters will be included as a conservation area. I understand it has not been enacted yet, but after the federal government has enacted it, then it will become a conservation area. I want Inuit Knowledge to be actually included in the planning process. Once it has become a conservation area, people will know that it is a conservation area. They will always want to come up.

The cruise ships want to come up here. They are getting too much. When I just say there are too many ships, we actually know that there are too many ships. Even tourists are coming in on aircraft as soon as spring arrives. When you have a park, you have lots of people coming up to visit. We had that huge cruise ship, Crystal Serenity. I was mayor at the time.

We were invited to the Crystal Serenity ship for dinner. My wife and I attended. We needed a passport to get on board. I did have a passport, but the captain said as long as you are mayor, you don't need a passport to get aboard this ship. My community members loved me so much as mayor, they all followed me like I was a rock star. I have never experienced about how great a mayor I was until that time. While the ship was there, there was a news report about the cruise ship, Serenity. Yep, lots of people want to come up here to visit the area. I explained part of that.

I will move on to another statement, Mr. Chair, still towards QIA. If they can't respond, it is okay. We can discuss it after. The statements they had made at the beginning of the meeting regarding Inuit Benefits for Impact Agreements, when QIA were reading their statements, they were talking about Inuit Impact Benefits. Yesterday, Namen read from the *Nunavut Land Claim Agreement* that it says Inuit should be treated properly and for them to benefit. Some articles have explained that.

Up to now, nobody is talking about businesses for Inuit. There are only very few businesses, and perhaps somebody has a lot of money. You guys probably have a lot of money, but some of us are pretty poor. What have you done to plan for that with respect to businesses or those who want to start up business, and how can you support them? Have you any plans in place or any clarification on that? I do understand that QIA does support businesses.

Mr. Chair, the question I am really asking to QIA, it has been how many years that people have been asking whether we can sell lots of land. People have asked this before. After maybe 20 years have passed, we will be asked this question again. Do you want to be able to sell lots? If the majority votes yes, then I guess QIA would sell their lots. Up to now, Inuit when they are not discussing businesses, I doubt the lots would be cheap. It seems like the Inuit would have their lands bought away from them. Have you taken that into consideration? Once we are able to buy lots, these are heavy matters to deal with. Have you taken that into consideration, Mr. Chair?

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Yep, that is also outside our mandate. We are not dealing with these matters. You can talk to these guys after outside this venue. Sorry about that, Levi. You probably want to respond to that, but we are not discussing this. Sakiasee has a question.

Sakiasee: *(Translated)*: I can respond. My name is Sakiasee Qaunaq from Arctic Bay from the hamlet. Somebody had asked a question, and it was probably responded to. I do have a statement I wish to make regarding the question. Somebody asked is the protection of Lancaster Sound of benefit to anyone. We were a subcommittee at Iqaluit. Namen and Elijah touched on the subject.

Lancaster Sound was being planned for protection purposes. I believe QIA had that mandate. It is obvious that all these ships will want to travel to Alaska or from Alaska through Lancaster Sound, along with the exploration companies. It will be hazardous for oil exploration companies to travel through Lancaster Sound. Narwhal, walrus, harp seals, they have a place somewhere in Baffin Bay where they spend the winter. We don't get a lot of wildlife coming in from Alaska.

Our wildlife travels through Lancaster Sound. It is a sensitive ecosystem. We have exploration companies who want to look for oil and gas there. They want to do blasting in the oceans. So, to protect from that, we had wanted to build a conservation area. They have rangers or patrollers, and they are becoming more numerous. We have two boats here with QIA colors on them. The patrollers do have a net, so they support the community by catching fish and so on. I expect that there will be IIBA benefits from that sound.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Levi, you want to respond?

Levi: *(Translated)*: Levi Barnabas, QIA. Please note that you will always be part of the planning process regarding Lancaster Sound. Without you guys, we won't be able to approve the project. We will keep your community members involved. We still have two years to deal with the matter. For that reason, our employees will come to your communities. It may not necessarily be us. We do too have other duties to deal with, but our staff will be talking to you for your input regarding the Lancaster Sound Conservation Area.

Some of the things that we are doing that you approved, or you had agreed to, we can show them to you. We still have negotiations with you guys on the matters that we still have to deal with. We still have two years to deal with this. I wanted to explain that. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Namen?

Namen: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Namen Inuarak, HTO. The people that have been brought here to speak, we have been asking the same questions for a long time. We have been trying to take part in these processes, but there are many obstacles in our way. You say these matters are not your mandate, but because they were not dealt with, while we have the opportunity, we are asking questions about them. We want to take part in the processes. You say it is not your mandate, but also you have the authority to include others to be able to plan with others for what we want. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Yes, I understand your statement, but I keep saying that some matters are outside of the Nunavut Planning Commission's mandate. That seems pretty easy to understand. I understand you have statements for QIA, NTI, but they are not in our mandate. For that reason, we need to turn



to others. Our mandate is our priority. As I said, during breaks and during coffee, you can talk to them anytime. Yep, you can talk to these people from these organizations, but we are here to deal with the Nunavut Planning Commission duties and our mandate. That is why we keep saying that.

I understand what you are saying. It is understandable you will make the statements you will want to make, but we are not here for those statements. We are here for the Nunavut Planning Commission's mandate to deal with the Nunavut Land Use Plan for all of Nunavut. For that reason, I try to talk to people who have questions regarding our processes. If you have any questions regarding their presentation, go ahead. Thank you.

Namen: *(Translated)*: Yes, thank you. Namen Inuarak, HTO. Your statements, when we take breaks for coffee that we talk with the organizations, in the past we have been doing that. When you have talked with them, it is not an official discussion. During informal conversations, our statements are not used for anything. That is why we are talking about them here.

Chairperson: Limeekie has something to say.

Limeekie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Limeekie Palluq from Clyde River from the hamlet. As you stated, I will probably be talking about something else.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Feel free to ask questions regarding their presentation.

Limeekie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. This area in red on the map, it is a small parcel of land. It is pretty small. It only goes up to Nuvuttapik (?) Even the place where we go to fish is not shaded red. It is only the Netsilik area that is shaded red. Now I would want to expand this area. We will probably try and push for that. I just wanted to express that. It is not necessarily a question. I just wanted to explain that. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Levi, do you want to respond?

Levi: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Levi Barnabas. Thank you, Limeekie for your question. You have a great question. You have the opportunity if you want to make changes to this parcel of land, we can do that now. You have until January 10<sup>th</sup> to try and change the borders of this Valued Component.

We don't want to shut down opportunities for our future that people may experience on these lands. For example, my grandfather lived a different life than I did. My father lived a different life than I did, and I am living a life different. My son will have a different life than me, and so on. Our lifestyle changes as we progress into the future. We need to take this into consideration when we are planning for the future to make sure we don't shut down opportunities for people. We need to take that into consideration. Thank you.

Chairperson: Go ahead, Limeekie.

Limeekie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Limeekie Palluq, Clyde River Hamlet. What I think is if we go too close to the area, the community members of Pond Inlet have marked down, I think that could be dangerous, hazardous. I believe that if we extended the borders, it would be good. I may go past

where the community members of Pond Inlet had staked out for their Valued Component lots. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Sharon has something to add. Sharon?

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehloak, Executive Director for the Planning Commission. To Limeekie and Namen and others who have raised their issues, like Levi stated, the opportunity to have your input, whether it is too close to a boundary or where it is, the whole point of you coming together is to tell the Commission what you want. So, there is no right or wrong opinion. Everybody's opinion is important.

If that is something that you think is important to have a change on the boundary, then we recommend that you tell us what it is you want when you hear these presentations: if you support these presentations, if you give that guidance to the Commission, or whether you don't support it, whether you want protection of the caribou in the Plan, whether you want it as they recommend to be separate under IOL. I am just giving examples.

But to focus so everyone understands, when the Chair keeps saying that we are here for the Planning Commission, we are here to hear your opinions and to give us guidance, give Commissioner's guidance for direction of what it is you want in the Land Use Plan. We have heard a lot about shipping. Jon in his presentation went through the Plan, what the Plan proposes. The more guidance on those topics that you can give us, that gives the Commission direction. So, yes, the boundary change if you think that is appropriate, regardless of what area it is, you have the right to provide that to us and to tell all organizations that are presenting to ask them questions based on their perspectives.

At the end of the day, we need to have a Land Use Plan in place, and the only way that we are going to move forward is that we listen to each other, we hear what each other is saying, and we look at opportunities and solutions. We can see that community members are saying what they want, and we see that presentations are different. How do we find the solution? It is really important for each community member and for the organizations that going forward that we find some compromises or what you agree on, what you can't agree on for the Commission to be able to make those final decisions.

In the absence of getting those directions, Commissioners must make decisions on the evidence and the submissions that they have in front of them. I hope that helps. It is a little bit longwinded, but to get us back on track. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you for your comments. They are all important.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Charlie has a question.

Charlie: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. You moved on before I was done questioning. On the other side past Navy Board Inlet where we had the other floe edge, that is a park over there. The tourists, some of them are very rich, and that area has caribou. It is full of diverse wildlife, polar bear and such. There are lots of narwhals over there.

Last year, the tourist company wanted to stay over there. They did not want us going over there. It is a park too. All these tourists want to go over there. They have helicopters. They have ships. They

go into the area, and helicopters go everywhere. They have all these skidoos. Can we shade the parks area red too? QIA probably knows more about the situation.

Chairperson: Go ahead. Sharon will respond.

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehloak, Executive Director with the Planning Commission. If I am understanding the question correct, are you asking for the parks to be changed in its designation?

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Yep. The Navy Board Inlet area, they also go there to hunt caribou. Yep, that one. There is a part where caribou go, and community members go there to hunt caribou along with Arctic Bay people. We don't want too many helicopters in that area. We don't want too many aircraft in that area. There is a tourist company that comes around here. They go diving at the floe edge, and they have helicopters flying at low levels, so the tourists can see everything. So, my question is can we shade that area red so we can keep the tourists away? Parks Canada is not doing anything about them. I understand that it is Parks Canada's territory, but can we shade it as red?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Brian can respond. Go ahead, Brian.

Brian: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I will try and be clear. Yep, you were talking about this now, and you are recorded. Your concern will be taken into consideration by NPC, and your statement. It seems like it has been settled before, but if you want to add more land to the Valued Component area, you would have to work on it. You can pass on the map before January 10<sup>th</sup>, and NPC will take that into consideration. We are still open for statements and recommendations, so if you had wanted to deal with the land in some way, our Commission wants to hear about this. I hope I answered your question. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead, Charlie.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Another short statement: Our floe edge, we have two floe edges. We call the other one the Other Side, and the button point area, we just call it the floe edge. We get tourists. Okay, we don't mind them, but when they start using helicopters and other means of transport, the HTO has said before that these tourist companies need to hire Inuit to go where they want to go. We said we would not accept their visits if they did not hire Inuit, but they go way past where they are allowed to go. The tourists are going nuts.

The tourist companies are probably thinking we will show them what they want to see, and we will make good money off of it. So, I am wondering if you can deal with the matter somehow by dealing with the floe edge. That is it for me. Taima.

Chairperson: Thank you. Do you want to respond, Levi?

Levi: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Levi Barnabas, QIA. We have said earlier that the Lancaster Sound Conservation Area, we will still be working on it for two years. You can add that component to this matter. If you HTOs have concerns about the floe edge being disturbed, you have the authority to write to us requesting support.

We will be able to support you, as we are working on the conservation area for Lancaster Sound. I have seen that part shaded, the lands you were talking about. That is Tasiujaq Sound. I had heard

before. I have seen that area marked in red. It is probably somewhere in our files, and we can look at that and see exactly how that situation stands. We will be able to get back to you with a response, but please understand you have no obstacles in the way if you want to make changes to that. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead, Charlie.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. This area we call the Other Side, the Navy Board Inlet side, when the Elders met the community members, we were discussing mining. We call that area the Other Side Channel. Ships were not allowed to travel through there, as there was too much wildlife in the area. This was the feeling of the Elders of the community. So, I want further clarification on what else we can do.

The community members, I believe are protective of the Other Side, because it does have lots of narwhals. Because of all the cruise ships, can we have more authority? Can we do something? I understand that we will be meeting with the Nunavut Planning Commission to discuss maps. That area is a very Valued Component, and the hamlet representative said that this was a Valued Component. This needs to be a part of the Valued Components. I am just reiterating that. Can we add to the borders before January 10<sup>th</sup>? Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you want to respond?

Levi: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Levi Barnabas, QIA. Absolutely. You still have the opportunity. You have the opportunity to deal with that. Yeah, I was amazed about this. I heard about a ship that travelled through there but did not understand who authorized that ship to pass through there. When there are ships, it is usually the HTO's responsibility to approve or disapprove ships travelling through there. I am thinking that ship had been approved to travel through there, so they were able to go through there.

Yes, we will have to look at the situation. The HTO needs to be used more for monitoring the environment and such. I too, when I was an HTO member in Arctic Bay, I too had noticed that a person had caught way more fish than he had applied for. I wrote to the Economic government regarding the tourists. The tourists need to be approved by the HTOs to come into our lands. They need to respect the boundaries too. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Limeekie has a statement, and please try to make it short.

Limeekie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Limeekie Palluq from Clyde River Hamlet. I will add to his statement earlier. Back in the 1900s, there used to be a lot of caribou. In the past when people lived at Nettiisjuak (*spelled phonetically*), when someone had an outpost camp there, there were no caribou. After that land was left behind, all the caribou moved into the area, and they all moved into that point. We even saw caribou tracks on the sea ice going down to the icebergs. It is not like that anymore today, but we had heard that caribou returned to their old stomping grounds.

This applies not just to us, but it also applies to our descendants. For that reason, I wanted to expand the Valued Component boundaries for that. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Levi, you can respond.

Levi: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Levi Barnabas. Yes, it is entirely up to you if you want to expand the boundaries. As Brian said, you have the opportunity now. All you have to do is mark the boundaries. If your council agrees to that, then you can go ahead and submit your idea before January 10<sup>th</sup>. As long as your council agrees to all this and understands to this, then you can go ahead and do it. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are you done, Limeekie? Again? Okay, go ahead.

Limeekie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I have one more. Limeekie Palluq from the Hamlet. Unfortunately, we don't have a map at this time. This little thing is too small to write on. Perhaps when we are at our community we can deal with the matters. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. I will remind you all that as we were told, we still have until January 10<sup>th</sup> to work on these matters. Larry?

Larry: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Larry Audlauk, HTO Grise Fjord. Regarding Lancaster Sound, Levi and QIA want you to know that we all know the whole world is watching us very closely. The world even knows who is passing through Lancaster Sound. They are waiting for Lancaster Sound to melt so they can travel east-west through Lancaster Sound, for instance, China. The world is still holding onto the idea, and you know they found the Franklin ships. They were looking for the Northwest Passage when they got lost.

So, when Lancaster Sound starts and ships travel through there, tourist companies plan for a long time. For examples, China and the Orient people, they plan to go through Lancaster Sound. Once they start travelling through there, we will have no authority to stop them. We need to request more assistance for that protection. Lots of countries are saying this is not Canadian waters but international waters. They are even saying that.

I wanted to express that. You are dealing with a huge mandate, so we need to make sure we know QIA's mandate so we will be able to support them in their endeavours. I am saying once Lancaster Sound is opened up for international travel, we will not be able to stop them. We heard recently that Russia, the Northeast Passage has been shut down at this time. All we have now is Lancaster Sound. For those reasons, let's be united on this matter and start to benefit from it.

You try to question the federal government about how they stand on Lancaster Sound, but they won't respond. This happened after I had talked with the Prime Minister. He told me don't worry about Canadian waters. We will deal with it. They did not talk about any plans or whatever, so I don't really believe him. I believe we will have no authority, no power once it becomes an international routeway. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. That was more of a statement than a question. I don't have any more names from staff. Are there any questions from the registered participants?

Paul O: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Okalik, World Wildlife Fund. I am here looking at this document. There are no page numbers. It says that caribou calving areas and post-calving areas, NPC wants them protected. It says that Inuit lands not be used for these purposes. I used to be a

negotiator when we were choosing our lands, our protected areas. The caribou, we tried to go for the lands the caribou inhabit so we can protect them.

Then looking at this report, the caribou areas won't be protected, the lands that we had wanted protected. We did our work for nothing. It was a waste of time. So, if QIA is going to continue on this, can they pick other lots like mountaintops so we can protect the lands where the caribou inhabit? That is my first question. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead and respond.

Solomon: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq and Paul, thank you for the question. The Inuit Owned Lands, they won't all be designated the same way. QIA in the past had visited communities for consultation. They asked how you will use these Inuit Owned Lands. Then later on, all of that to the 1970s, the Inuit Owned Lands were considered to be in different ways. People want to use them for spending the night or camping.

As we said, they are lands that caribou inhabit, but with some of these lands, we can deal with them through agreements. Not all lands are included, but we are requesting from NPC that we don't want to be closed out of these Inuit Owned Lands. We will probably have some lands designated for where caribou inhabit. For example, the community members who are in the high Arctic, if they were to say this is our land, yes, it is protected because of the caribou.

They can do that, but if they do say yes we can mine in this area on our land so let's make an agreement so we can make money from it, it will be up to the communities to decide how those lands will be used. What we are trying to say, we don't want NPC to shut down opportunities for Inuit Owned Lands. For example, the land near Clyde River, it will be a part of Parks Canada's commands, and some of it is Inuit Owned Land, so we will need to plan for an IIBA for Inuit impacts. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have any other questions?

Paul O: *(Translated)*: Yes, Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Paul Okalik, World Wildlife Fund. It is good to hear this answer. We have been told that we have before January to work on these maps. So, can QIA have these maps ready before January, because these lands are important for caribou? Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Okay, go ahead and respond.

Solomon: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Solomon Awa, Qikiqtani Inuit Association. I forgot to mention my name. Thank you, Paul Okalik for the question. We wrote this down in our presentation. We talked about how the caribou need to be protected. We also talked about how some communities, we had met with them for a consultation into where caribou occupy lands.

We will say to NPC this: What you have written down with respect to the lands you have allocated as important, they are not enough. Some lands are missing from your maps. So, we will be writing to NPC to say this will be heard from the communities regarding caribou birthing areas, crossing areas, and post-calving areas. All these sites, we want to make sure we write them down and inform NPC of them. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are there any other questions from the registered participants? *(Pause)*

I don't see any hands. From the public? Do you have a question for QIA? Go ahead and ask.

Public: *(Name not stated - Translated)*: Qujannamiik. I have a question for QIA and I have a question for the Hamlet of Pond Inlet. When QIA is planning something, why don't they meet with the community members of Pond Inlet, for example regarding Mary River? Mary River goes ahead and just does whatever they want, plan whatever they want. They don't make any statements to the community of Pond Inlet. The Hamlet mayor, he is supposed to represent the community, but he never says anything. He is a member of the Nunavut Planning Commission. He never said anything about this process for so many years. We have been dealing with Baffinland for a long time now. Is he the mayor or is he Nunavut Planning Commission?

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. That is not within our mandate. We are not here to cast blame or make these statements. It is understandable that you had a question for QIA and for the Hamlet of Pond Inlet, but your question falls outside of our mandate.

Public: *(Name not stated - Translated)*: I apologize. I will change to something else. We have been waiting for so many years. I have been trying to get a job at Mary River. I don't think I will ever get a job with Mary River, so I want to buy Mary River myself and sell iron ore to southerners to the rich people, and all the community, I will support the hamlet. I doubt Baffinland will help support this. Our mayor is supporting the community. I don't think he will support the community. I want to buy Baffinland with support from QIA, NTI, and the hamlet organization. I want support from this. I mean this. I want to work at Mary River. If I can't get a job, I want to buy Mary River, Baffinland. Okay, I am going to stop now.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: I'm sorry. This is not our mandate. You need to use other venues outside of our meeting. Thank you. If you don't have any questions regarding QIA's report or presentation, that is pretty much it. We had a hand up. Sakiasee, you had your hand up? Do you have a question for QIA?

Sakiasee: *(Translated)*: I am Sakiasee from Arctic Bay, Hamlet organization. I have a statement-question for QIA. Parks Canada has lands over there. On part of our hunting area down to the beach, down to the floe edge area, we call that area Navu *(spelled phonetically)*. When people are cast adrift on ice, they make land at that point there.

There used to be a cabin there, but that cabin had to be removed. We talked with the Parks Canada people telling them we need to have a cabin there. A person wanted to make a cabin there, but they haven't started working on it. So, we need to have boats ready, but the land is owned by Parks Canada. Can QIA do something about the shore of that point? That is my question. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Yep, that is also outside of our mandate or jurisdiction. I don't have any more names. During breaks, we can talk with the people from other organizations. Okay, I don't have any more names here. How about a round of applause for the Qikiqtani Inuit Association?

*(Applause)*



We will take a break. Next will be the federal government. We will be back at 6:00.

### **Break**

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: The federal government is ready to make their presentation. We will be proceeding shortly. Please mute your cellphones, just as a reminder. I appreciate when you obey to have your phones turned off. We discussed national parks this morning, this afternoon. It is an established park. We have no jurisdiction on established parks. We would suggest that you don't even bring up your concerns of national parks to NPC. Your opinions to count on a related matter. As always, I will ask you to stick to the Nunavut Planning Commission Draft Land Use Plan. You may proceed now. Please state your name and your organization. Thank you. Go ahead please.

### **Presentation by the Government of Canada**

**Terry Audla, Regional Director General with CIRNAC**  
**Kim Pawley, Manager CIRNAC**  
**Spencer Dewar, Director of Resource Management, CIRNAC**  
**Jeff Hart, Manager of Land Use Planning, CIRNAC**  
**Janice Traynor, Policy Coordinator Sustainable Development, CIRNAC**  
**Michelle-Claire Roy, Environmental Policy Analyst**  
**Anita Gudmundson – Transport Canada**  
**Scott Kidd – Transport Canada**  
**Simon Gruda-Dolbec – Department of Justice**

Terry: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. My name is Terry Audla. I am with the federal government, and I would like to say first of all to the Community and Hamlet of Pond Inlet, thank you for hosting these proceedings. Community representatives, I have seen some of you. I recognize you. It is nice meeting you again. Resolute Bay, Mark Aamarrualik is a relative of mine – Phillip, Jazlin. And Grise Fjord, I just want to recognize Lisa, Marty, and Jimmy.

Planning Commission, thank you for bringing this group together. It is important that we exercise the Planning Commission work. Thank you. It is good work.

*(Applause)*

I started my role with the federal government in March. Therefore, I am going to have a short presentation. We will do our best to answer your questions. If we are not able to respond to your questions right away, we can do so in writing related to this process.

I would like to recognize NTI, Aluki Kotierk and other delegations.

*(Applause)*

First of all, I would like to introduce my colleagues: Transport Canada's Anita Gudmunson; the Manager of Land Use Plans, Jeff Hart; the Manager of Policy Coordinator Development, Michelle Claire-Roy; Spencer Dewar, Director of Resource Management; Kim Pawley; Janice Trainer; and sitting behind us is Scott Kidd and Simon Gruda-Dolbec.

As a way of introduction, developing a first-generation Nunavut Land Use Plan is difficult, complex, and the Government of Canada recognizes the efforts and commitment of the Nunavut Planning Commission.

(Translated): For the fact that Nunavut has many concerns, we have heard your questions today and that answers that you have received. We are pretty much aware of what your needs are. You don't always get what you want in terms of answers, but at the best of times, your concerns are answered. In English there is a saying:

(English): Strive for perfection. When I think about the task at hand for the Nunavut Planning Commission and that it is a territorial-wide Plan, it is a very difficult task. It is very complex. There are competing interests. There are people like the Inuit Associations, Nunavut Tunngavik, Regional Inuit Association, Hunters and Trappers, Hamlets, community members, and everyone else sitting here, the people that have other interests. All have competing values, and to try and balance all that and to put it into a Plan is not easy. I know we won't arrive to anything that is perfect, but we can work together to try and make it as perfect as we can.

The principles and objectives in Article 11 of the *Nunavut Agreement*, and Part 2 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* require an understanding of how people are supported by the land socially, culturally, and economically, the values and priorities of residents, and particularly the aspirations Inuit have to determine their own path to future wellbeing. The result must be a Plan that meets these aspirations, guides development, and also provides for conservation and other uses of the land.

Since the Plan was released in July 2021, the Government of Canada has been working to provide productive recommendations to the Commission, as well as working with the Government of Nunavut and the Designated Inuit Organizations to discuss issues we have in common, and we continue to be committed to this process for the benefit of Nunavummiut and all Canadians.

The mandate for Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada continues to renew the nation-to-nation Inuit Crown, government-to-government relationship between Canada and First Nations, Inuit, and Metis, modernized Government of Canada structures to enable Indigenous peoples to build capacity and support their vision of self-determination and lead the Government of Canada's work in the North. The Government of Canada, under the *Nunavut Agreement* and the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* is an approving party to land use plans in Nunavut. In addition, it shares a role in ensuring the principles and objectives of the planning process, and that process and those principles are being carried out and met.

The submission that I am providing today was developed on behalf of the Government of Canada in part, by the Canadian Coast Guard, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, Department of National Defence, Environmental and Climate Change Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Global Affairs Canada, Justice Canada, Natural Resources Canada, Parks Canada, and Transport Canada.

As I mentioned earlier, some representatives from various departments are here with me today, while others are viewing on the live stream. The summary of each department's mandates can be found in the annex at the end of this presentation, which are available in front in Inuktitut and English.

*(Translated):* These documents are at the front.

*(English):* The Crown has a duty to consult because of its role in deciding whether to approve the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. The Crown relies on the Commission's process to assist with fulfilling the duty to consult. When drafting and revising the Plan, the Commission considers comments at the hearings and community meetings as well as any written submissions. These could include any concerns brought forward on potential impacts to Section 35 rights.

*(Audio reduced to significantly. The following is an approximation):* The Government of Canada encourages Indigenous organizations and governments to identify to the Commission any potential adverse impacts to their rights and how these may be addressed through the Draft Plan. The Government of Canada remains actively engaged throughout the Commission's process, listening to Inuit concerns, and seeking any information on how they may be resolved. *(Inaudible)....why we are here, (inaudible)* Nunavut Planning Commission in bringing out these hearings that we have had so far.

*(Audio corrected):* We have participated in the public hearings in Cambridge Bay, Rankin, Thompson, here in Pond Inlet, and in a couple of weeks' time in Iqaluit. It is a very important process. One of the members from the communities read the Preamble from the *Nunavut Agreement* earlier today. I won't read it in its entirety, but it starts with an agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area as presented by the Tunngavik Federation of Nunavut and her Majesty, the Queen in right of Canada, may she rest in the peace, and the whereas that mentions the following objectives:

To provide for certainty and clarity of rights to ownership and use of lands and resources, and rights of Inuit to participate in decision-making concerning the youth, management, and conservation of land, water, and resources, including the offshore; to provide Inuit with wildlife harvesting rights and rights to participate in decision-making concerning wildlife harvesting; to provide Inuit with financial compensation and means of participating in economic opportunities; and lastly to encourage self-reliance and the cultural and social wellbeing of the Inuit.

I have worked with this *Land Claim* since it was ratified, and I have had amazing experience with various leaders that were at the negotiations and to have good insight as to why it is that they negotiated specific clauses as they were written. When you look at the objectives that I just read out, everything that follows is working towards these objectives. A big part of that is Article 10. That is what created the Institutions of Public Government; Article 11, the Nunavut Planning Commission; then the Nunavut Impact Review Board, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, and the Nunavut Water Board.

Even though they are Institutions of Public Government, it fulfills part of the mandate where Inuit jointly manage their resources. The Planning Commission is comprised of individuals appointed not only by the Government of Canada, but by the Government of Nunavut and the Inuit Organizations.

It is the Planning Commission that are co-management institutions, and we rely heavily on your work to ensure that the right decisions are being made for Nunavummiut.

There is beauty in the design of that, and this is something that we hold in high regard and that we want everyone around the table, in the communities, and all Nunavummiut to know and understand that we do work to ensure that everyone is being heard. We all know that not everyone will be heard, but we want to try and make sure that everyone from the communities, from the Inuit organizations, all the representative bodies, have some say so that we do the right thing for all of Nunavummiut.

The purpose of this presentation is to provide a high-level overview of the comments and recommendations submitted to the Commission by the Government of Canada on the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. The written submissions we provide to the Commission are on the public record. They are more comprehensive and contain more detail on the issues than we have time right now to present. It is important to note that although we are identifying issues that need resolution, the Government of Canada is confident and committed to a collaborative process that will make progress toward developing a sound, well-supported, and clear first-generation Land Use Plan that can be successfully implemented.

The remainder of our presentation will focus on key outstanding issues and recommendations for how they may be resolved. We will then provide some conclusions and talk about a process for moving forward.

The Government of Canada's review is guided by our priority expectations for a first-generation Land Use Plan. These include that the planning and resulting Plan legally comply with *the Nunavut Agreement* and the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*. The Plan must be consistent with federal commitments and policies. The planning process has credibility, so it is clear that the development of the Plan is supported by a meaningful, inclusive, and transparent public and stakeholder consultation process. As well, the Plan must be clear, understandable, and provide certainty for users. The Plan must be practical, implementable, and conformity requirements must be clear. The Plan should contribute to the efficiency of Nunavut's integrated regulatory system.

Our review is also guided by the Commission's *Broad Planning Policies, Objectives, and Goals* that were developed by the Commission with the Government of Canada, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and the Government of Nunavut. The 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan has addressed many concerns that the Government of Canada brought forward in 2017 and 2018. There have been significant improvements. However, several substantive issues remain, and these important issues should be addressed and resolved prior to the Plan being submitted for approval. That was advice from the interpreter to make sure I drink water. Thanks.

The Government of Canada has key outstanding issues. Clarity and certainty in how the Plan should be read are critical to successful implementation of the Plan. There have been improvements from previous drafts, but there are still areas that need work. For instance, overlapping land use designations remain. These should be eliminated from the Plan, or clear guidance should be provided on how overlapping land use designations are to be applied to avoid ambiguous interpretation.

Language in the Plan requirements should also be improved to add certainty. The Government of Canada recommends adding guidance on how to interpret the application of Plan requirements, especially where designations overlap, and revising language to be clear and in line with legislation. For example, replacing the term “no person” with “no proponent” would be in line with the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* definition of proponent.

Maps are the basis for being able to understand and apply any land use plan. The accuracy of the maps that show the zoning in the Nunavut Land Use Plan are necessary for the public, project proponents, and regulators, as well as the Commission to make decisions about the requirements that the Plan intends to apply to a project.

Here, we have selected a map of Ikaluktutiak to provide an example of overlapping lands that are legally recognized, in addition to those land use designations found in the Plan. As you can see, the overlap in this case is extensive. The Government of Canada understands there were some challenges experienced by the Commission in accessing certain map data and understands that work is underway to address this issue. Before a final Plan is submitted, the Government of Canada recommends that the Commission revise all maps in the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan to improve their accuracy and use a consistent mapping standard for the Land Use Plan.

Now we will speak to finding the balance between economic development and conservation, and the treatment of existing rights. The Government of Canada recognizes the efforts the Commission has made and the challenges it has faced. We want to be clear: the Government of Canada supports protection of caribou. Nunavut includes important habitat for caribou and wildlife, which are critical to the wellbeing of Inuit and the environment. As well, there are existing rights related to mineral tenure and Inuit rights, including those associated with Inuit Owned Lands.

In our view, the Plan cannot and should not be counted on as a solution to protecting all of these values on its own. There are a number of mechanisms available in Nunavut that will help to achieve these purposes. Overlaps between existing mineral tenure and Limited Use zoning in the Draft Plan are creating conflict. These need a closer look by all parties to ensure the benefits and rights guaranteed in the *Nunavut Agreement*, and the rights of tenure holders can still be realized, and caribou and wildlife are still protected. It is a big task. It is not a one-size-fits-all, so I wish you good luck. We will assist where we can.

Caribou population numbers have declined over time, which generates concern amongst all the participants here. The Government of Canada’s objective is that the Land Use Plan supports healthy populations that can support sustainable harvesting into the future. The Commission has many tools to consider for supporting caribou conservation, from applying Valued Eco-systemic Component designations, to prohibiting land uses through Limited Use zoning. In a Plan the size of Nunavut, again not one size fits all. The Commission’s use of these tools should target resolving potential land use conflicts and consider regional diversity. It is important that the Commission ensures that it knows whether the selected approach is working. Ongoing monitoring could help inform the Commission if its measures are effective.

It is important to acknowledge the value the mineral economy brings to Nunavut must be a key consideration. A healthy mining sector provides opportunity for Nunavummiut. It provides employment, contracting, training, and vital contributions to government, Inuit organizations, and communities that allow support of local programming. We all know it is very expensive to be able

to go out and harvest. We all know in Nunavut, nothing comes cheap. It is expensive to go out and harvest. It is expensive to buy a boat. It is expensive to buy motors. It is expensive to buy snowmobiles, ammunition, so there has got to be some kind of balance that we can look at, and we understand that there are different values applied for each of these areas.

The challenge for approving parties and the Commission is to determine the best approach to ensuring that caribou and other wildlife habitat is conserved so that caribou can thrive, and ensure that Nunavummiut have the opportunity to benefit from the economic potential that comes from the mineral sector. Clear zoning without conflicts is important for ensuring conservation, as well as clarifying opportunities for economic investment.

Right now, mineral tenure covers 2.5 percent of Nunavut. Over one-third of that tenure is overlapped with Limited Use zones that prohibit mineral exploration, development, and related activities. As well, a number of areas with mineral tenure are fully enclosed within Limited Use zones. There are options to create clarity in such areas through place-based analysis. This analysis should result in clarity so that land use is clear, and impact on communities, rights holders, and the environment is considered and understood.

The Government of Canada has heard from and agrees with the Designated Inuit Organizations about the importance of considering Inuit goals and objectives with respect to Inuit Owned Lands. From the perspective of a Land Use Plan, this could be achieved in multiple ways. Nunavut has a robust regulatory system. The Land Use Plan can be one tool. Others include collaborative work with wildlife boards, and the regulatory process in Nunavut.

It is important to keep in mind that all projects remain subject to Nunavut's regulatory regime. In addition to the Land Use Plan, projects are further regulated with a view to protecting the environment. They all possess Nunavut Impact Review Board project certificates, Nunavut Water Board Type A water licenses, Crown land use permits and leases, and authorizations from the Regional Inuit Associations. Collectively, these authorizations tailor a robust set of terms and conditions under which the projects must operate.

The Draft Plan applies a Limited Use designation to three of Nunavut's four active mines. The Government of Canada recommends that the Commission rezone areas where existing mineral tenure overlaps with a Limited Use designation to Mixed Use. There should be no overlap of Limited Use zoning with mineral tenure. Information on important caribou habitat should be retained as a Valued Ecosystem Components designation to ensure it is considered by proponents and other parts of the regulatory regime.

The approach in the current Draft Plan to address the issue of overlap between Limited Use zones and existing mineral rights includes a list of projects in Appendix A that would be exceptions to the Limited Use prohibition on future mineral development. Just to provide some context on the scope of this exception, existing mineral tenure makes up about 4 percent of the Limited Use caribou calving areas currently included in the Draft Plan. Should the Commission remain committed to using Appendix A to list properties that are an exception to the zoning, the Government of Canada recommends that the Commission rezone Limited Use Areas where they overlap with Nunavut's operating mines, to Mixed Use areas with no applicable prohibitions, seasonal restrictions, and setbacks.

As well, information on important caribou habitats not already identified as Valued Ecosystem Components should be retained under the Valued Ecosystem Components designation to ensure that it is considered by proponents and regulators. In addition, all remaining mineral tenure that overlaps with Limited Use designation should be included in Appendix A and clarified that the prohibitions for exploration, development, and ancillary activities, such as roads and quarrying, do not apply to new project proposals or significant modifications to current projects.

The Government of Canada recommends that the Commission work with Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada and holders of existing mineral rights and interests to ensure that any existing or future projects arising from existing mineral tenure that would be impacted by proposed Limited Use Areas, are accurately identified under Appendix A of the Plan.

For that portion, a good summary would be that as it stands right now, there is no existing Nunavut Land Use Plan, except for the North Baffin Tallurutiup area as well as the Kivalliq, and this territorial-wide Plan would kind of become the overall Plan for all of Nunavut. In absence of that, there has always been regulatory processes and regimes.

Again, I will list them: the Government of Canada, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, the Nunavut Impact Review Board, the Nunavut Water Board, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and the Regional Inuit Associations, as well as the local Community Lands and Resource Committees in conjunction with the Hamlets and the HTOs, all working together to make sure that everyone is being heard and that all considerations are being included with respect to the regulatory processes right now. What we are suggesting is that we have to work with that existing system within the current Draft.

Now we will focus on marine transportation. The Government of Canada understands the importance of the marine environment to Inuit and Inuit culture. Given this, a number of key considerations have guided the Government of Canada's comments about marine transportation, being that it is important that navigation is done in a way that reduces its potential environmental impacts. Where there is an exception or exemption that applies to a vessel that would otherwise be restricted, the vessel should follow what the Plan sets out for that area when and where possible.

The Plan could help provide protection to Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine Conservation Area in the period before it is fully established by legislation, and Canada has international legal obligations to meet. It has to have the ability to ensure proper control of foreign navigation in areas where icebreaking restrictions will be put in place. Plan requirements for the protection of the marine environment such as setbacks around walrus haul-outs, should not prevent the delivery of vital services required to maintain healthy communities or to protect the environment.

The Government of Canada supports the exceptions in the Draft Plan for activities such as community resupply, emergencies, and safe navigation. We have recommended to the Commission that other activities, such as law enforcement monitoring and the placement and maintenance of navigational aids be added to the list of exceptions in the Plan, and the Plan define certain vital services for clarity.

For example, without definition, the meaning of "safe navigation" could be unclear. Someone could argue they can travel near a walrus haul-out when they think it is safe to do so. However, the



Government of Canada's interpretation of safe navigation is that a vessel can travel near a walrus haul-out only when it is required for the safety of the ship, crew, and passengers.

The Government of Canada is also seeking confirmation that the Commission's conformity determinations will also include the exemptions granted to the Ministry of National Defence within the *Nunavut Agreement*. This will help ensure the Plan complies with the exemptions in the *Nunavut Agreement* and improve clarity and certainty for users.

The Plan includes seasonal prohibitions on icebreaking. Seasonal prohibitions on icebreaking through any part of the Northwest Passage could be challenging. Possible differences of views with some other countries regarding the status of the water of the Northwest Passage make it important for the Government of Canada to retain the flexibility to allow navigation in order to assert Canada's sovereignty over its Arctic waters. We must be able to meet all legal obligations, and the proposed restrictions may prevent this.

The Government of Canada has considered how the Plan could provide necessary protection of sea ice during critical seasons, while at the same time providing the flexibility required to meet international legal obligations. We have recommended a collaborative approach to address the need for such protection, which would allow the Government of Canada to retain the capacity to consent to navigation, as well as proposing an exception of individual vessel movements from the requirements of the Plan.

Regarding individual vessel movements, the Government of Canada recommends that Plan requirements which restrict icebreaking include an exception for individual vessel movements where a vessel is transiting through but not stopping in the Nunavut Settlement Area. The Government of Canada's understanding is that individual vessel movements are not typically considered projects.

We note that these small number of individual vessel movements would still be subject to oversight including being required to follow applicable laws and regulations. As well, whenever the Government of Canada is contacted by vessels prior to their navigation in Canadian Arctic waters, we communicate about environmental considerations, such as ecologically sensitive areas or known mammal migrations, as well as recommended routing.

For individual vessel movements, we could also encourage vessel operators to engage with communities as part of the voyage planning. It is our experience that these vessels take this advice into consideration.

The collaborative process the Government of Canada is recommending for caribou crossings would be similar to the collaborative process for on-ice travel routes in the Draft Plan, which is itself similar to the model currently in place in the Kitikmeot region under the Proactive Vessel Management Initiative.

As outlined for on-ice travel routes, project proponents would need to engage with communities and Hunters and Trappers Organizations before a project shipping occurs. Importantly, if a Plan requirement for a collaborative process to protect caribou sea ice crossings is included in the Plan, it would be enforceable under the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*.

It should also be noted that the proposed exception would not apply to shipping associated with a broader project, such as a mining project. The reason for this is that recurring shipping associated with such a project would not qualify as an individual vessel movement. In addition, the Nunavut Impact Review Board can impose additional terms and conditions that further mitigate the impacts of shipping in respect of such a project.

Now we will focus on National Marine Conservation Areas. The Nunavut Land Use Plan will only apply to Tallurutiup Imanga until the *Canada National Marine Conservation Areas Act* comes into effect. A joint Inuit-Canada co-management board makes consensus decisions that include Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit for managing the marine conservation area. Some of the prohibited activities listed in the Plan requirements may change after legal establishment as the co-management board and planning processes will make decisions on appropriate activities.

Migratory bird setbacks will apply to the key habitat areas located in Tallurutiup Imanga. The Plan requirements currently do not address this. It is recommended that activities that may be changed after establishment be identified as interim prohibitions to avoid confusion with future management direction. It is further recommended that the migratory bird setbacks identified in Table 1 of the Nunavut Land Use Plan be included in the Plan requirements for the National Marine Conservation Area. The Government of Canada has provided some suggested wording for Section 3.1.2 to clarify the difference between the National Marine Conservation Area awaiting establishment and future National Marine Conservation Areas.

In regard to disposal at sea, the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* governs disposal activities in Canadian and international waters near Canada. The act prohibits disposal at sea without a permit. The Government of Canada prefers that the disposal at sea prohibitions be removed from the Draft Plan and suggest that disposal at sea continues to be addressed on a case-by-case basis under the *Canadian Environment Protection Act* using the mandated consultation processes.

As required under the Act, the Disposal at Sea Program will continue to consult on permits in Northern waters to address environmental concerns, including those in Marine Conservation Areas and Limited Use Areas. It should also be noted that vessel discharges are regulated under the *Canada Shipping Act 2001*, the *Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act*, and their regulations.

In regard to operations at Department of National Defence sites, the Government of Canada is reevaluating the prohibitions of all uses and areas zoned as Limited Use for military facilities. There may be an opportunity to allow for some uses that would not conflict with national defence and national security. The planning process would ideally include the Department of National Defence in decision-making and approval processes, which would allow activities not contrary to those of the department to advance. This may be achieved through a Valued Socioeconomic Component designation for military but would require a clear definition and what planning considerations are afforded as a result. The Government of Canada is seeking to strike a balance between having to uphold its national defence and national security mandate and remaining a partner in Nunavut.

To summarize, the Government of Canada recognizes the importance of land use planning in Nunavut's regulatory system and will continue its role on a path towards a Plan that can be accepted. We believe the issues presented by the Government of Canada can be resolved through continued collaboration with all involved. The Government of Canada along with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, the Regional Inuit Associations, and the Government of Nunavut recognize

that issues related to Inuit Owned Land, Inuit Impact Benefit Agreements, and consultation as they relate to the Land Use Plan are important issues in this process. The parties have begun discussions on these topics in hopes to advise the Commission on a path forward to resolve these issues.

The Government of Canada supports the Commission working with the Government of Canada, the Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and the Regional Inuit Associations to develop a post-hearing process to collaboratively address concerns raised in this submission and at the public hearings for a refined Draft Plan. The Government of Canada will also continue to listen to Indigenous concerns, noting how they may be resolved and will take any further steps necessary to ensure its duty to Indigenous rights holders has been met.

*(Translated):* To summarize, we need to hear from the communities and from Nunavut, the Indigenous nation, for those of you who will be buried up here, if you have any concerns on Draft Land Use Planning and how we should proceed to plan accordingly with Indigenous population. We need to carefully plan, and the Planning Commission is doing that work. I would like to thank you again for allowing us to make a presentation in the Community of Pond Inlet on the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. For those who made a presentation yesterday, Pond Inlet and people of Nunavut, we are now open to answer your questions. If we cannot answer immediately, we will answer your questions before January 10<sup>th</sup>. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. We will follow our procedure. The Nunavut Planning Commission staff will go first.

Terry: *(Translated):* If you don't mind, before we start answering questions, we have a short video that we would like to present. If it is okay with you, Chair, we have it playing on video.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

*(Video Presentation)*

*Voyage of a Vessel: Understanding Canada's Marine Safety & Security System - Arctic*  
<https://youtu.be/7YOiNPVwdiU>

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan, do you have a question?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thanks again to the Government of Canada representatives for their presentation here today. I will start on the topic of overlapping land use designations. The Government of Canada has expressed the concern over the extent and potential confusion with overlapping land use designations in the Draft Plan.

The Commission has made efforts to reduce those overlapping designations in the current Draft Plan, including primarily in the area of the proposed National Marine Conservation Area in Tallurutiup Imanga. We also note in your comments, you identify setbacks, for example, around key migratory bird habitat sites as not being included in the current Draft, and again recommend that they be included.

As we indicated earlier in this hearing, the Commission consciously chose to remove overlapping land use designations within the proposed National Marine Conservation Area in an effort to hopefully streamline future amendments to either the Draft or approved Nunavut Land Use Plan once the full establishment of this area is accomplished.

I would also like to note that not just migratory bird habitat sites overlap with the Tallurutiup Imanga proposed National Marine Conservation Area, but a large number of other issues including walrus haul-out sites, whale calving areas, polynya. Plenty of other values as we know exist in the area. Does the Government of Canada appreciate this attempt to simplify future amendments of the Land Use Plan, and is it just the migratory bird sites that it is interested in incorporating into the next version of the Draft Plan, or do you see opportunity to find compromise and simplification in this complex situation? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead, please.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq for the question. We brought up, I guess in different areas of our presentation where clarity is important. We got into the whole map datasets, existing conservation areas, migratory bird sanctuaries, and the like, as well as any existing or future IBAs that are coming up as well.

What we are recommending is that if there is any potential for any overlap that there is more certainty and clarity with respect to potential users and to the proponents, and to all parties involved. It is good that you have pulled out some aspects of that with respect to sort of the migratory bird sanctuaries. But it is also important to know that when you look at Tallurutiup Imanga as an example, when it comes to the co-management body that is going to be established, whether or not the Plan is in conformity with respect to what has been established and whether or not there is overlapping jurisdiction. We don't necessarily want to see that happen, but what we want to see is that both sides actually meld together and work collaboratively in respect to what needs to happen in the Tallurutiup Imanga management for conservation purposes.

For specific sites, we will need to work at the key migratory bird habitat sites, which ones in particular. We can provide that comprehensive list in writing to you. We will provide that to the Commission within a very short period of time. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead, Jonathan.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair, and thank you, Terry, for the response. I think the concern, maybe if I can state it more concisely is that if we follow that logic through, the Commission may end up re-incorporating perhaps tens of land use designations into the area, and then once the area is fully established, the Commission would need to go back and separately remove tens of land use designations with separate ID numbers and Plan requirements, which would create a more onerous process.

If we have confidence the area is going to be established in the near future, the Commission took the approach of simply putting one designation in. Then when the Plan came to be amended, it would be one land use designation to remove. So, I would encourage thoughts on the likelihood of its imminent establishment and the amount of effort that would be required to adjust it once it is established. Thanks.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. I want to remind everyone to state your name and your organization. Thank you.

Terry: Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. So long as we can create simplicity so that it is clear to everyone, that there is enhanced clarity. That way, we will collaborate and work together on that and provide that information. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan, go ahead.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. I apologize. My computer went to sleep here. My next question is in regard to comments that have been raised during previous hearings and in written submissions by the Nunavut Water Board in regard to proposed national and territorial parks, where the Commission followed a suggestion of the Government of Canada to include a five-year term limit on the issuance of any authorizations within these areas.

Apologies, I don't have the direct quote in front of me, but the Water Board raised the concern that this may infringe on their mandate to issue water licenses for a term of up to 25 years. I am just wondering if the Government of Canada has any comments or suggestions on how the Commission should resolve this issue and whether the Commission in fact has the authority to limit the term of authorizations issued by other regulatory authorities.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik, Jonathan. Go ahead with your response.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. In the proposal, the Nunavut Water Board still may issue the licenses for up to 25 years. However, if and when the land in question was to become a protected area under the PCA legislation, it would apply and the Nunavut Water Board license would be rendered irrelevant under the Part 11.2C of the *Nunavut Water Surface Rights Tribunal Act*.

Some of these are acronyms, so I have to try and figure out the long form for the answer, but that is currently what we are suggesting right now. Because of that situation, we will be withdrawing that comment.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead, Jonathan.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair, and thank you to the representatives for that helpful clarification. The next topic I wanted to touch on was individual vessel movements. We had a brief exchange about this during the Cambridge Bay public hearing. Again today, the Government of Canada is suggesting that that the Nunavut Land Use Plan not apply to individual vessel movements not associated with a project.

During the presentation, it was even indicated that the Nunavut Impact Review Board could, in fact, apply any additional terms and conditions as may be appropriate. I just wanted to return to that issue and note that under the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, Section 153, it is very clear that individual vessel movements not associated with another project are not to be reviewed by the Nunavut Impact Review Board, but it explicitly does not include such an exemption for the Nunavut Planning Commission's jurisdiction.

So, again, the Commission believes these individual vessel movements not associated with another project are at face subject to the requirements of any of the Nunavut Planning Commission's land use plans. It would be a new exemption to include that in the Land Use Plan that it explicitly would not apply. During previous discussions in this planning process, it has been I believe agreed to that the Land Use Plan should not go above and beyond the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* in terms of what type of activities are actually subject to the Land Use Plan generally.

I am just wondering if representatives here today would provide any additional clarification on this recommendation and its relations to the requirements of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. I will answer some of that, but I will also refer to Anita from Transport Canada to add to the response. On the question of whether Canada views vessel movements as a project, it is the Government of Canada's understanding that the Commission does not apply currently the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan or the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan to vessels travelling through and not stopping in the Nunavut Settlement Area.

To provide certainty to all Plan users, it is important that the final Nunavut Land Use Plan clearly state that it also does not apply to these activities, which the Government of Canada is calling "single vessel movements." Having the final Plan clearly state that the Plan requirement 2.2.5-1 does not apply to single vessel movements, will also allow Canada to more easily meet its international obligations and treaties regarding passage through the waters of the Nunavut Settlement Area. I will ask Anita to provide more clarity, if it is okay with you, Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead. State your name and company.

Anita: Thank you. Anita Gudmunson with Transport Canada. Thank you for the questions, Jonathan. I appreciate that we were perhaps not as clear as we thought we were in our speaking notes, so thank you for the opportunity to clarify. Terry, thank you for that explanation.

I think further to that, in regard to individual vessel movements, as far as ships that transit through the Nunavut Settlement Area but do not stop or undertake activities, the wording that we presently have in our recommendation is meant to be an exception to the Plan requirement and not necessarily an attempt to take the exemption provision that is included in *NuPPAA* and apply it to land use planning, if that makes sense to you.

Just to clarify as well, with respect to the Nunavut Impact Review Board and the comments in the speaking notes, that was to clarify or point out that all other vessels and transits that are considered projects and are subject to the Land Use Plan that would undergo a conformity determination, may also be required to undertake a Nunavut Impact Review Board assessment where additional terms and conditions to address project-specific concerns could be added. I hope that helps to clarify. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan, go ahead.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you for the further clarifications. That is very helpful. The final topic I wanted to discuss today was the status of significant discovery licenses for oil and gas. We are aware that the Government of Canada has, of course, issued a moratorium on oil and gas exploration and development in the Canadian Arctic and that there has been a commitment to a five-year mandatory review of the moratorium.

As a first question, we are just wondering if you can provide an update on the status of that current review. In addition, the moratorium announcement references future discussions with significant discovery license holders regarding potential impacts on their rights. We are wondering in the context of the 2021 Draft Plan and the comments being received from those rights holders as a part of this process, can the Government of Canada comment on the status and nature of those discussions with rights holders at this point? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Thank you for the question. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. With respect to the latest, the Government of Canada is currently working with northern leaders, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and others, including the Inuvialuit in the Inuvik area, Beaufort Sea, to review the moratorium right now, to see about extending the current five-year considering that it is set to expire very soon.

I believe there is more up-to-date information. We just can't access it right now, but as it stands the latest we had at time of writing was that the Arctic offshore oil and gas moratorium is indefinite and therefore continues to be in effect. A Government of Canada prohibition order on all oil and gas activities in the Arctic offshore will also remain in place as long as a moratorium is in effect.

This prohibition order maintains the current terms of the exploration licenses and prevents them from expiring. A five-year science-based review developed in collaboration with Northern partners is important and fundamental to any decision on the future of oil and gas development in Canada's offshore, including the moratorium.

Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada is currently again working with the science-based review committee members in the western and eastern Arctic to develop a process to engage northern coastal communities in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region and in Nunavut on the recently completed reviews. So, more information is to come on that, especially based on the scientifically-based information. The Government of Canada will be reaching out to all the northern leaders and sharing that information and coming up with the next round on the moratorium. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan, go ahead.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair, and thank you again for the helpful responses to the previous question. One additional question: From Canada's perspective, would Limited Use or Conditional Use land use designations in the Nunavut Land Use Plan prevent or preclude future negotiations of Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. You can respond.



Terry:

I will try to respond. Thank you, Mr. Chair and to the person asking the question. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. I will take a sip of water to buy time. As it stands now, areas with existing IIBAs, does the Government of Canada agree with applying Limited Use zoning for conservation areas with existing IIBAs. An example is a national historic site, migratory bird sanctuaries and so on.

Where they have already been established, legislative processes and agreements in place that reflect and prioritize use and conservation of the areas, Environment and Climate Change Canada's overarching interest is to ensure that the zoning respects the existing IIBA for the Nunavut wildlife areas and migratory bird sanctuaries in the Nunavut Settlement Area and the *Nunavut Agreement* and existing legislative provisions. Should the Nunavut Planning Commission determine that land management zoning is required for these areas, the governing system established under the existing national wildlife area, migratory bird sanctuary IIBA Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements could be used to assist in the Commission's conformity check.

Another approach to consider, for consideration of the Inuit Impact Benefits Agreement for national wildlife areas and migratory bird sanctuaries in the Nunavut Settlement Area could be to simply defer all management of these areas to the existing structures and frameworks. The Nunavut Land Use Plan will not apply to national marine conservation areas, national parks, and national historic sites administered by Parks Canada established under legislation.

How will the Government of Canada ensure that the Plan complies with requirements for existing Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements and does not preclude the Government of Canada from meeting its legal obligations contained in the Inuit Impact Benefits Agreement? The Draft Land Use Plan can only be approved if Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated accepts it as set out under the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*.

The Designated Inuit Organizations should highlight through the Nunavut Planning Commission proceedings any aspects of the Draft Plan that they believe is inconsistent with existing Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements. If land management zoning pose conflicts with obligations under existing Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements, Environment and Climate Change Canada will endeavour to work with the Nunavut Planning Commission and the IIBA or Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements governance system to ensure requirements for those existing IIBAs are respected.

The Nunavut Land Use Plan will not apply to national marine conservation areas, national parks, and national historic sites as administered by Parks Canada established under legislation. The *Canada National Marine Conservation Areas Act* and the *Canada National Parks Act*, for the Limited Use zone for the area that will become Tallurutiup Imanga National Marine Conservation Area, the Government of Canada has recommended wording to avoid conflict with the Inuit Impact Benefits Agreement or limiting the responsibilities of the co-management board.

On the question of does the Government of Canada support a plan with Limited Use designations that have the practical effect of establishing conservation areas on Inuit Owned Lands without the negotiation of Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements, in the Government of Canada's view, Limited Use designations in an approved Nunavut Land Use Plan would not be subject to the requirement for an Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements as described in Article 9 of the *Nunavut Agreement*.

However, even though the Government of Canada's view is that an Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements would not be required, it is still open to a non-prejudicial exploration of what a potential Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements could look like for certain areas. The Government of Canada has had productive side table discussions with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, the other DIOs or Designated Inuit Organizations, and the Government of Nunavut on this particular issue to better understand interests and positions, and to consider innovative options to address the issue, which include an Inuit Impact Benefits Agreement. We know the parties will continue these discussions and hope to develop agreed-upon approaches to address this issue. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan, are you done? Okay, anyone from the panel? Don't forget to state your name and organization. Please direct your questions to the statements made. Larry?

Larry: Thank you. Larry Audlauk, Aujittuq Hunters and Trappers Organization, Grise Fjord. More than anything, it is a comment. Just to remind you of your sense of the past, when it comes to wildlife management, from our own experience, the Government of Canada's advice did not work for us. When we were living in where we live, Grise Fjord and Lindstrom Peninsula.

We used to follow the Government of Canada's regulated caribou hunt from Fram Fjord for 10 years. The men were only allowed to harvest bulls only. In 10 years of time, there were no more caribou. The wolves killed off the females because there were no more bulls to protect them. Then we are watching the muskox relocated to Kuujjuaq, almost like taking our place. They were in Kuujjuaq captivity for I don't know how long.

The muskox, we know will explode in populations now and then and die off. Now in Nunavik, Quebec, there are a lot of muskoxen, way, way too much. I don't think there was a proper study before they released them.

The only other issue I want to talk about is when the federal government talks about the transportation costs, especially in the high Arctic being very expensive, you reminded us again. I don't want to hear that anymore. I want you to fix it. You are the regulating government of Canada hired to help us have an easier life. So, I just want to say that. I just have to say that. Transportation cost is expensive in the North, but who can fix it? You, you can fix it. You are the regulators. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead, Terry.

Terry: It was mostly a comment, which is why I put my finger up. I drink so much water, I need a bathroom break.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. We can take a 5- or 10-minute break. We will make it 10 minutes, and we will come back after.

### Break

Chairperson: Alright, let's start again. Before we begin, Terry had a comment.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. I just wanted to clarify one response that Jon had asked about individual vessel movements. If you look at Article 12 of *the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, 12.2, which is Geographic Application, this article shall apply to both land and marine areas within the Nunavut Settlement Areas and to other Outer Land Fast Ice Zone shipping associated with project proposals in the Nunavut Settlement Area shall be subject to this article. However, normal community resupply or individual ship movements not associated with project proposals shall not be subject to parts 4, 5, and 6. That is where it stems from. We didn't just kind of draw it out of the air. We actually are using the *Nunavut Agreement* as the source. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are you done? Go ahead, Jonathan.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair, and thanks, Terry for that clarification. I still think Article 12 that you referenced in relation to the Nunavut Impact Review Board, not the Nunavut Planning Commission, that was the distinction that we were trying to emphasize. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are you done? That is understandable?

Lisa: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Lisa Ninguik, Ajuittuq HTO. Can you hear me okay? I have two questions. In that past, what was used and what is to be expected in the future? I am concerned nowadays. Through letters, I have never seen this in writing, but I have heard about it from employees who used to work for Panarctic Oil Limited. I had heard before that up in the North area where we hunt, they used to dump materials into the ocean. I have only heard this. I have never seen it in writing. I want to know if this is the truth that they had apparently dumped all kinds of materials, huge amounts of materials into the ocean.

The past employees who used to work up there at Panarctic Oils, they have said before that they had dumped a bunch of material into the ocean. In some ways, I am starting to believe it with respect to the wildlife. People have caught seals with some bad fur, some with bad liver conditions. Today, we have no seals at all now. Since spring, summer, the men hunting seals have not had any luck. What is causing that? Do you think it could be the garbage that was dumped into the ocean? I am asking whether you guys know about this. If you know about it, I want to hear that.

The other question I have, I will go ahead. Back in the past when they were doing oil, gas exploration, we had heard there are oil, gas deposits up there. I haven't seen this in writing. I just hear it from other people if that is true or not. If it is the case, if that will go ahead, we community members up there will need to take part in these projects if there is exploration for oil or gas.

What happened in the past, I know it won't happen again now, but you hear these things that there may be exploration in the future. So, the HTO community members will want to be made sure that they are informed about these activities if these will go ahead.

Chairperson: Go ahead, Terry.

Terry: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq, and thank you for the question. First of all, the oil exploration companies in the past were Panarctic. They are looking into their projects, what they were doing. There are 13 that have been looked into. They were on land, but we do want to hear more information regarding marine activities. If they have done these things, we do want to hear about

these things and exactly where we could search for these things. People will go up there. Perhaps in Resolute they wanted to hold a meeting in Resolute Bay regarding this matter. You probably will be invited from Grise Fjord at the meeting.

(*English*): We will be available, and we are available through the internet or email, if I could be given a brief letter. I know you are with QIA team negotiation. If you can provide that information through the main office with the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, and we can work together on getting those sites together. Then we will have that prepped up.

For the oil and gas moratorium, I mentioned earlier that we are working with the northern leaders, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated. I guess in the general sense, we rely on Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and Qikiqtani Inuit Association to ensure community involvement and to ensure that your concerns are being heard.

(*Translated*): If you keep QIA and NTI informed and use them as strength, they will inform the Government of Canada. If the communities need information about this, we will give that to them. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Namen?

Namen: (*Translated*): Thank you, Mr. Chair. Namen Inuarak, HTO Pond Inlet. I have a statement, and I have two questions. It was said that benefits for the community members need to go to the community members, and the government, the Inuit Organizations like QIA work together with the HTO in the communities that will be affected. QIA has their system of running, operating. When they do impact Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements, as said before, they go through CLRCs.

We have a member from the HTO in the CLRC. There is an Elder community member at large. The so-called CLRCs are not an organization at all. They are not recognized by anybody. They are not attached to any law. They have no authority, and they are called an organization. They are a committee. The HTO is an actual organization. We are a Designated Organization and not being resourced.

There have been many issues with the idea that we had to deal with along with the Tallurutiup Imanga Conservation Area that the HTO has not been asked to attend. We have told NTI in the past that these matters that have been dealt with are becoming too numerous. Can we meet with you? They barely come to town, and our statements are never dealt with or discussed. So, I do want to ask the Designated Inuit Organizations, you feel like you need to have someone look at what they are doing, because they are not doing the duties they are supposed to, and they are doing it too slowly. Who can we get to look into these DIOs? That is my first question.

Chairperson: (*Translated*): Perhaps that is more directed to NTI. Do you want to go ahead and respond, Terry?

Terry: (*Translated*): Perhaps a short answer. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq and to the person asking the question. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. We just follow the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, Article 39 with respect to Inuit organizations and who appoints them. It is all explained in there. If the community members have issues, you do have voted representatives to the QIA. That can be your route. You can use that person for your strength and

use that person and keep them well informed. Make them understand what is happening that you would have to do that.

Perhaps this way would be on how to think about the matter, but we with the Government of Canada to the Inuit Organizations, we can't tell you how to run yourselves. You run your own organizations. That is my response. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik, and this is also outside of our mandate. The people in question are here, and perhaps you can talk to them at the break. If you have any other questions, go ahead.

Namen: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Namen Inuarak, HTO. Some of this is the hamlet mandate, but it has been brought up through environmental matters. In the 1970s, Nanisivik started operating. In the '70s, the federal government had created organizations that would be the Designated Organizations. Pond Inlet was to become a hub, and we were able to get jet service. We would become the hub for the high Arctic, but Nanisivik came along, and the airport we were going to get was moved to Nanisivik. In about 30 years, Nanisivik would only operate for 30 years.

For those of us in the high Arctic, it has delayed us 50 years for infrastructure, for example. Yet we did become a hub for infrastructure, so we have been delayed this much by Nanisivik. They use mining to hold us back. I am wondering if the federal government has looked into this matter. Will they bring to fruition what they were going to bring us 50 years ago? How does the situation stand now? Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: And that was also outside of our mandate. We understand the statement. We understand that you need clarification on these things, but it is still outside our mandate. If you have any other questions regarding NPC matters, you feel free to ask questions. This question is geared towards something is outside of our mandate. Are you done? Go ahead and ask your question.

Namen: *(Translated)*: We have been saying these important things that need to be worked on that need to be dealt with. This matter, with respect to gas, there are no answers to how that will be dealt with. When this is over in January, it will take 10 years for you to be able to look at these matters again. For example, the gas issue, perhaps it is now 5 years from now that this moratorium, they wouldn't be able to stop this moratorium. Exploration can start looking, exploring again.

We have no protection in place for these matters that have to be dealt with. For example, NPC is saying it is not our responsibility. We are being told all these things. It is like a waste of time to even ask these questions. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: We are here to listen to statements. We are not here to argue. We are here for a consultation from the community members, government, NTL, and other organizations. We are here for consultation. These matters have been worked on since 2007 in the Nunavut Land Use Plan. It is still in the draft stage. That is why we are here for a consultation. It is very obvious that we hear your statements.

We understand you have questions that are geared towards other things. We understand that, and these people are here. The people you want to talk to are here. You can ask them with questions, but we are here to deal with matters that we need to deal with. I have no choice but to go back to

what we are supposed to be doing. It is obvious that you have serious questions to ask these guys, but this may not necessarily be the venue to do it. As we said before, you can talk to them during breaks, lunch hour, any time, but we are trying to deal with the matters that we need to deal with. We understand what you are saying, where you are coming from.

You have many questions. We understand that, but we are trying to deal with matters that we need to deal with. I have no choice, but I have to say that we are not here to argue. We are here to listen, and we are here to listen to your decisions. We will have to make decisions on our own, so we are here to consult the communities, from the governments, from the people, community members. We are here to listen to things that will help us make our decisions. I keep saying I am sorry, but we are here to deal with NPC matters. I apologize. You do have other avenues than to talk to us. Ask your questions outside of our work. Thank you.

Elijah: *(Translated)*: I am Elijah Panipakoochoo. I am actually Elijah Kujuluk, but that is my traditional name. The government gave me my name, and they turned me into a Panipakoochoo. My father was Panipakoochoo. I am stating myself. I have been elected by the hamlet to attend this meeting as an Elder consultant with respect to the knowledge that we have.

I don't necessarily have a question. I understand the statements you were making, but I do want to show you something regarding the oil exploration or oil thing that they are trying to plan for. I did work for four years with Panarctic or some other oil exploration company and in the community. In 1965 during the summer, fall, around this time of year, the government was late. They had brought in oil that was not in barrels.

There was one big tank in front of the old hamlet garage, and I remember that it was a \$200,000 dollar gallon tank. We were on gallons back then. They were filling it up. It was almost full, but due to the fact that the ice was piling up, the pipeline had broken, and there was an oil spill under the ice before it almost drained all the gas. When they were with us here, it was very hard to know how to clean it up.

We were pretty young back then. We youth, we were on top of the sea ice with buckets and cans filling up barrels with the spill. We filled over 100 barrels. We poked holes in the sea ice and the oil or gas would show up. So, we would scoop it up. That was how we tried to clean it up, with no assistance from southerners. We were all Inuit, and nobody was paying us for this of course. We were trying to protect ourselves.

There is that story. There are all these accidents, not by cause that happen at any time. Someone did a study up there from the oil company. It was at, we called in Tokaya. It has a little cove just before Milne Inlet, on the way to Milne Inlet. We did a mock oil spill. Petrol Canada did a mock oil spill there to see how they could clean up the spill, the crude oil spill, how they could clean up crude oil spills in the Arctic. Today, the oil is still up there at the bottom of the ocean due to the coldness of the ocean. It is still there. It started to get smaller, but it is very slow. This cove is sheltered. There are no winds there. There are no waves there.

That was the case. We know this very well because we did work on those projects. In the past, they had wanted to do oil exploration in Lancaster Sound. That was Northern Petroleum. They had wanted to drill in the area, and we stopped them. We were concerned that the sea ice was always moving up there. It never stops for that reason.

As I related earlier, the spill in the Community of Pond Inlet was gasoline. It was refined oil that went under the sea ice. A year later, the next year, the seals had died off in our area all the way to Bylot Island. They were fat seals. What killed them? We tried to study them, and they would eat on cod and copepod. Under the sea ice it is very rough. They have pack ice because the ice does grind together. The cod flee into the rough ice under the sea ice away from the seals. When the seals start eating them, they were killed by the cod. Many seals died that year, the year after the spill.

This is a good matter to think about if there was to be oil exploration. NPC would have to plan for what cleaning materials they would need for under the sea ice and on the ocean. Of course, the sea ice forms every year. We have all these icebergs. Icebergs could be towed by ships, but we had these two ships try and tow one iceberg, and they could not do it. Apparently, the iceberg was grounded.

All these hardships appear. We always get icebergs from Lancaster Sound every summer annually. They enter through Navy Board Inlet. That goes with wildlife and icebergs and multi-year ice. We call multi-year ice (*inaudible*), those big chunks of 20-foot ice.

These are cautionary tales that I have told of how cleanup can appear. Once they are completely able, once they know, then they would do whatever they want to search for oil. We are not trying to stop exploration, but there are dangers in that. We have seen that here in the Community of Pond Inlet.

Qujannamiik for letting me relate my story. You can take that into consideration for your decision-making by the federal government or whichever agencies, including NTI. They are usually the ones to approve these huge projects, mega-projects. This story needs to be taken into very careful consideration. We have no plans as Inuit. We don't have any cleanup plans in place. That is all. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Terry: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq, and thank you for the statement. Please know that your statements are being recorded. The statements you made will be taken into consideration. Same for you, Namen. I am available anytime, along with my telephone number anytime. In Inuktitut, you can call me at 867-975-4501. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Limeekie wants to make a statement too.

Limeekie: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. If I get off track, feel free to stop me anytime. Thank you. Limeekie Palluq, Hamlet of Clyde River. My statement is not a question. I don't have a question. Back then, our community before Clyde River became the big community that it is now, we still had some people there, but very few.

There were not a lot of southerners. The only southerners there at the time was the store manager and what we call the listeners, MOT. They were the only southerners there, and when the sea ice formed, they did not have any vehicles or transport of any kind. They would hire Inuit to transport their garbage out onto the sea ice. Right up to spring, they would dump their garbage onto the sea ice, even some kind of liquid. Yep, it is obvious there is a spot on land that this liquid had been



spilled. The ground is white now. Perhaps if you could look at it. It would be nice if you could look at it.

The other thing, when we started getting ships up here with the trawlers, we now have fishing trawlers in our community. We have had some members work on the fishing boats. We have stories from those who worked on fishing boats, and they said they would use the trawlers to haul anything, like manmade things. We heard this in our community.

The third thing is across from Clyde River during the spring when we are fishing for turbot, we had a turbot training session. We would catch sharks with turbot hooks, and we would bring them ashore and check to see their stomach contents. They would have wildlife in their stomach contents. One time we caught a shark. I cut open its stomach, and there was a whole bunch of wire in its stomach. We were pretty shocked about that, so I want to express that. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. That is more of a statement. No questions.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. I tend to go off topic, which I probably will. I am thinking that you have no authority at all. There are a lot of things you can't deal with. My question to the federal government, I want to express it. First of all, qujannamiik to the person who was speaking. I believe his name was Terry. You talked about wanting to meet with us. This is great news for us and empowering.

Recently I had to go to Ottawa. I went to Ottawa. It was not delegated. I had too many questions for the federal government. I went there to meet with our senator, paid out of my old age pension. I talked with them in Ottawa. I told them I want to see you guys. We have all these issues that we need to deal with as the HTO. I am Charlie Inuarak from the HTO.

Regarding wildlife, impacted wildlife, even if it is being planned for, we have not really expressed simply, because we don't have anyone to talk to. The route to Milne Inlet, people have cabins up there. Families stay up there. There are several cabins up there. The area has fish char. There are many chars up there. There is a lake up there with char that migrate to the ocean. Those ships pass by very closely, all these ships, all going up there and all going back. They are crossing each other, and they pass close by the shore when you are up there. That inlet is pretty narrow.

For these reasons, the federal government, we definitely need to talk with them for these reasons. The fish was spoken about a little bit. I don't know by who. I believe this was from a hamlet organization, the place with the most char. People can't even catch char anymore. It is close to Milne Inlet. The HTO had not wanted ships and people to go up there, but the char all has disappeared. I don't know where they went to.

In that area, there have been incidents happening. All these sculpins, there are so many dead. We saw them. Close by, we saw so many cod that were dead in front of the community. Someone told us, our researcher named Maria, they were testing halibut and cod and stuff. They bonded halibut and cod, I guess. So, for these reasons, we want to talk with the federal government. Someone needs to deal with this matter seriously and do it right, do the research properly. We definitely need to sit down and talk about this matter.

We have a lot of statements, but once we have a meeting, I will talk about them. I am trying to keep my statements short. We definitely need to deal with this matter. I appreciate that you guys were able to come to the community. We definitely want to see you in the community. I told our senator. I told them you need to come to the community, and apparently, he was coming here in March, but as we were talking, he moved his date to January.

I told our elected official to bring some people from the federal government with some authority. Come to the community. We will meet with you. We will talk with you. We will plan with you. The conservation for Tallurutiup Imanga, we will discuss that too. So, we discussed that. I am very glad that you guys are here. Next time, come back with DFO, next time you come here. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: That was more of a statement. Thank you. Moses?

Moses: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Moses Koonark, Hamlet Councillor from Pond Inlet. The Grise Fjord resident, Lisa Ningiuk had a statement that she thought the company dumped materials into the ocean. When we were exploring for gas and oil in 1973, I too was at a site near Grise Fjord. I think it was called Agquit (*spelled phonetically*). We were just a camp. I don't think we were anywhere near a drilling site. I think the place was called Christopher. I may be wrong.

There was only an airstrip. I did not see anyone throw materials into the ocean. I was there for 20 days close to Grise Fjord. We would fly from Ray Point to that site. As I had been there before, I had not seen anyone throw materials into the ocean. I feel I need to apologize, Mr. Chair, for being there at the time. Perhaps the federal government understands the situation. I, myself, was just there during 1970s when I was working for Panarctic. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. That was more of a statement. I don't have any more names from the panel.

Paul O: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Paul Okalik, World Wildlife Fund. When the government was giving their presentation, they said that organizations are very good organizations. Even some of these matters that are not dealt with, there are other organizations that can deal with them. Looking at these other organizations, it is not very believable in some ways when you are an Inuk. This is the organization that you built. It is your job. If you put it in there, it will become a law, and everybody will have to obey it. That is the strongest part of being in your organization for Inuit.

It was said that the environment can do this and that, but the environmentalists, they just give reports. After they do their study, and especially in Pond Inlet, they give their report to the Minister. The Minister can agree to it. The Minister can say no. The Minister can say whatever he wants to. Then it is up to anybody with respect to Inuit needs.

If we look at the operation during the spring in May regarding Phase 2, the Nunavut Impact Review Board heard all the Inuit's concerns. They said say no, and they gave great reports, great statements. We are still waiting for the Minister. What is he going to say? So, Nunavut Impact Review Board had to deal with the same matters, and Baffinland wanted to increase their ore production. In September 2022 they want the Minister to say yes with respect to what Baffinland wanted. Right after 12 days, the Minister agreed to it right away.

So, as an Inuit, it is hard to believe that our concerns won't go anywhere if we try and use another organization. The government needs to hear that this organization is what will set, and the government organizations need to look at these issues. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Yep, that was more of a statement.

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley with the Friends of Land Use Planning. I have a couple of questions with regard to grandfathering. As I understand, the federal government position is that all rights acquired until the map is finally signed off should be allowed to continue, all rights, mineral rights acquired.

With the free entry system and less lands taken away, rights can be acquired through most of Nunavut at the moment. With online staking, even as we sit here, rights can be acquired, including in calving grounds. I would like to just verify and clarify the federal government's position that mineral rights that would be acquired in calving grounds should also be grandfathered through even if the final Plan has them within Limited Use Areas. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq, and thank you for the question, Paul Crowley. Terry Audla, federal government. The question on the existing rights and accepting mineral projects from Plan requirements, and you used the premise of even those on caribou calving grounds. When it comes to sensitive areas, we do require feedback from all those that may be impacted in that process and procedure to ensure that any sensitive areas are being taken into account, and for those that are provided rights that they be preserved under the Nunavut Land Use Plan, be it by rezoning areas with existing mineral tenure to Mixed Use or accepting that mineral tenure from prohibitions on mineral exploration and development.

To be clear, mineral projects already approved under the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* may continue to operate at the same level after the Plan is approved. What I am speaking about is companies and prospectors that have existing rights to lands and minerals and would want to grow and develop that right, which brings important economic benefits to Nunavut.

In some cases, many of those lands also have important habitat for caribou that need protection, and all of this needs to be balanced in a way that has the least impact on the future wellbeing of Nunavummiut.

There is a robust process in place to handle the regulation and legislation of mineral projects. To reach commercial operation, mining projects must obtain project certificates, water licenses, land use permits or leases, or other regulatory approvals, which together prescribe a set of terms and conditions under which they must operate and that had been tailored to that specific operation.

In going through that process, the concerns of harvesters, of the wildlife boards, will be taken into account and applied accordingly when it comes to providing any measures to ensure that there is little to no impact on any caribou calving grounds. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have another question?

Paul C: Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. So, the short answer is yes, rights acquired in a calving area could continue through. Is that correct?

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. I am trying to kind of reconcile the pre-plan and post-plan if there is no existing Plan, and if there is an existing Plan what the difference may be with respect to designation, Limited Use designations or Mixed Use or whatever designation there may be for caribou calving areas.

We do support the designation of Limited Use, and no one understands that in the case of today's presentation from the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, they suggested that there be increased Limited Use for the purposes of protecting caribou calving grounds. That is one aspect of where caribou calving grounds would be protected. The instances where there are caribou calving grounds in other regions where it would have Limited Use designations that may or may not apply to Inuit Owned Lands, that is another subject matter altogether.

For exemptions on Inuit Owned Lands and existing tenure, again, it is based on the robust aspect of ensuring that all protections are being put in place, and nothing at any point makes it difficult for the communities to be either self-reliant or self-sufficient is a huge factor in decision-making process. If that outweighs the actual benefits of any mineral tenure, that will be a huge factor in that decision as well. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Paul C: Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. Again, the short answer is yes, a project could continue as long as rights have been acquired before this Plan is approved, and we don't yet know when this Plan will be approved. Those rights could continue in a calving ground afterwards, because the federal government in its position is recommending that those areas would no longer be Limited Use but would be Mixed Use and allow for that project or that work to continue. Is this correct?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. Yes, so long as they have been lawfully issued, that would be the case. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have another question?

Paul C: Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. Some interveners in previous hearings of the Commission have also requested that linear infrastructure, roads that allow proponents to get into their project areas, should also be allowed within Limited Use Areas, or the designation should be changed. What is the position of the federal government with regard to linear infrastructure or rights to put in linear infrastructure into projects that may have been acquired, or areas where mineral rights have been acquired before this Plan is signed off on?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq, and thank you for the question. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. That is based on the assumption on whether or not linear infrastructure is in accordance with whatever designations there may be. In some cases, not everything is approved. It has to go through the screening process. It has to go through all the regulatory requirements. When it comes to production, you are looking at an Inuit Impact Benefits Agreement as well.

When you factor all those in, and this is what I mean about being robust is you ensure that if it is going to happen that everyone that is impacted is also being benefitted as well and that there is a balanced approach to this whole process over and above the regulatory requirements.

Just based on the fact that an existing tenure is continued on to production or operation does not necessarily mean or guarantee that they are going to be approved for any and every linear infrastructure that may follow. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have another question?

Paul C: Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. So, areas identified by communities that are important to them for caribou, calving grounds for instance, if I understood correctly, is it the position of the federal government that linear infrastructure, roads, as long as they make it through the regulatory process should also be allowed?

So, if a community identifies an area as a no-go area but rights are acquired as they could be tonight online in that area, it is the position of the federal government that those rights should trump over the identification that Inuit in this hall have made of that area being important and that it should be a no-go area. Is this correct?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq, and thank you for the question. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. No, we are saying that the Plan once it has been established, once the Limited Use designations and other designations have been established, and there is existing tenure and they want to go on to either production and/or increased activity, that people from the communities will be consulted and heard. We would go through the regulatory process and ensure that the co-management aspects within the regulatory process are being adhered to as well.

I can't necessarily say as a representative of the Government of Canada that carte blanche all types of tenure, existing tenure will be approved. It has to be done on a case-by-case analysis. Each case or existing tenure will be different, but with full faith in the existing and post-Plan regulatory process. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have another question?

Paul C: Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. Is the Government of Canada comfortable with this approach considering that one example with the Meadowbank and Whale Tail haul road through which the Nunavut Impact Review Board imposed conditions with regard to when the road should be closed, when activities should be shut down, and those protocols are in the project certificate. They were imposed just over four years ago.

On the public record, the Government of Nunavut and the Nunavut Impact Review Board has now stated that it has been four years where those protocols have not been implemented. They have also noted that helicopter flights that should not have occurred, have occurred regularly. The confidence in the Nunavut Impact Review Board's ability to look at cumulative impacts, to look at being able to regulate a project sufficiently to meet the community's conditions, is this with regards to caribou, something that the federal government is comfortable relying on at this point?

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Terry Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq, and thank you for the question. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. In the hearings recently with respect to that specific project on the Whale Tail deposit and the haul road, we have heard from representatives from the area that specific project has been put on pause for the purposes of protecting the migration of the caribou.

It seems to be ongoing, and for the specifics of what you just mentioned, we can probably discuss this more as to what you have heard, as well as what we have heard, and see where it is that there are issues. We did hear from the Government of Nunavut on some of their issues and what we need to do on our side for enforcement purposes as to firm that up and confirm it all, and then to either look at the records and/or seek further information from the communities as well.

That is something that in my opinion for the purposes of monitoring, enforcement, and regulatory requirements and everything else, again it is a robust system. It does require, again, on a case-by-case case to ensure that all concerns and everything that has been done or put in place for the purposes of protecting the caribou, or whatever conditions have been put in place, are being adequately monitored, are being adequately enforced.

In order to do that, I can't necessarily speak for all existing tenure or future projects, but it is something that I mean, we work with what we have with the best tools available. Then we try and ensure that all protections are being put in place and to ensure that none of the self-reliance and the harvesting exercises of Inuit are being compromised in any way. The more monitoring, the more inspection and everything else. It can be a daunting task. At the same time, we will be working towards achieving the best that we can with what we have. At the same time, it is probably best that we take this offline, and I can get the specifics from Mr. Crowley and get that information so that we can include it into our determination right now. We are currently looking into what the Government of Nunavut has provided as well. I will leave it at that. Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Paul C: Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. The comments are part of the public record at the Nunavut Impact Review Board and available at the public registry. They were made by the Government of Nunavut on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022, with regards to the 2021 Annual Report for Agnico Eagle's mines, Meadowbank and Whale Tail.

I will quote: "The GN disputes the proponent's claim the decision trees were implemented properly in 2021. This is the fourth consecutive annual report covering the project's entire life to date for which there has been failures. The GN has expressed concerns about noncompliance with project

certificates, and failure to implement them fully constitutes a breach of trust and undermines the integrity of the environmental process in Nunavut.”

I bring this up and want them on the public record. Sorry, too fast? I put this on the public record because these are documents that are publicly available. It appears that the Government of Canada’s position relies on other parts of the regulatory system, and the evidence we have to date when it comes to caribou protection is not as robust as either the company has set out, and is not as robust as perhaps the Government of Canada is setting out.

When combined with the possibility of linear infrastructure, roads, grandfathered projects could have a major impact to undermine what communities are seeking when they want no-go zones to protect important caribou areas like calving grounds. Thank you.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq, and thank you for the question. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. As I said earlier, we are currently working with the Government of Nunavut, and we have inspectors that are looking into and gathering facts. We have inspections that will enforce the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* as well.

Then when you look at overlap areas, and this is what we have been recommending from the very beginning as the Government of Canada, that the Commission rezone all areas within existing mineral tenure currently overlapping with the Limited Use designation to Mixed Use Areas with no applicable prohibitions, seasonal restrictions, and setbacks, in order to improve the clarity of intended land use in Nunavut.

Knowing and understanding that there will be areas sensitive such as caribou calving grounds and migratory routes, that is something that we are forever trying to figure out as well, as to what the best option may be. This is what I said earlier about how all the competing aspects of land use planning is somewhat of a, I wouldn’t say hot potato, but it is something that you as the Planning Commission have to take into consideration for the purposes of finalizing the territorial Land Use Plan.

I hear the questioner. We are working with the Government of Nunavut as well as with the proponents involved, and the stakeholders from the region to see and get to the bottom of what breaches there have been, what they have identified as areas of concern for the purposes of the enforcements.

We will guarantee, I mean we will be working to get to the bottom of it to find out from not only the stakeholders but the Government of Nunavut and the proponents themselves to see what went wrong, if anything went wrong, and what can be done to address it and fix it. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have another question?

Paul C: Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. With regard to the requirement for an Inuit Impact Benefits Agreement, my understanding of the *Nunavut Agreement*, Article 9 is that when a conservation area is created through legislation, it requires an Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements. I



also understand that Canada counts the equivalent of Limited Use Areas in at least two other land use plans towards Canada's conservation targets, both nationally and internationally, and would look to count Limited Use Areas for the purpose of conservation, both nationally and internationally.

As these Limited Use Areas are created through the powers given to the Commission through the *Land Claim* and particularly through the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, I would like to ask the federal government which element in particular do they view does not require an IIBA under the *Nunavut Agreement* in this case?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq and thank you for the question. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. For the purposes of legal interpretation, I know Crowley being a lawyer, sometimes it is something that would be a great question to get an answer for but considering that I am not as lawyerly for lack of a better term, it was not the Government of Canada's intention to use the Nunavut Land Use Planning process to achieve Canada's conservation targets.

That said, Canada has agreed to ambitious global targets for conserved and protected areas. There is a possibility to count zoning in land use plans towards conservation targets, but only once those plans have been approved. It is also important to note that this response and work is related to ongoing discussions with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and the other Regional Inuit Associations, and the Government of Nunavut around the interest of negotiating Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik. I think that is all the questioning there is. I think we will conclude tonight. I know there are more questions to be had. We will continue in the morning. The federal government is not yet finished, and we will start with them tomorrow morning. Thank you for your questions and answers. We will start tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m. Thank you.

### End of Day 3

## DAY 4: October 27, 2022

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Sharon will talk about some housekeeping. Sharon?

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Good morning, everyone, and welcome to Day 4 of our Pond Inlet public hearing. Normal housekeeping: Review of the exits is there is one on the right, two on the left. They have not changed. Washrooms are still in the same place. Snacks, food, please help yourself.

We are a little behind in the agenda. We really need to be respectful that everyone gets their time today. We still have the Government of Nunavut. We still have to finish with the Government of Canada, and then the Government of Nunavut. We are going to be moving Baffinland to present after the Government of Nunavut. Then the Nunavut Water Board, the Nunavut Marine Council,

and the World Wildlife Fund. We need to be respectful that we hear from all the organizations today. After that, we will do our closing remarks. With that, Mr. Chair, first up is the Government of Canada finishing. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik, Sharon. We will resume from last night with presenters. Terry, would you like to start?

Terry: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. I am still available for questions, and I will do my best to answer your questions. We will resume from yesterday. We had our last presenter, Paul Crowley. He is a lawyer. He has worked with us over the years with QIA. He was instrumental in dog sled slaughtering some years back. We have assisted with that program. He is a good friend.

At these proceedings, we appear to have disagreements, but that is standard. We are all for Nunavut, and we all have to work together. As a result of dialogues, everything usually works very well. We are trying to find ways to have this process to broker smoothly. You had questions last night.

*(English)*: The Nunavut Land Use Plan is close to final draft form. It is very new. It is Nunavut-wide. It is a daunting and huge undertaking, and I commend the Nunavut Planning Commission for the work done to date. It is going to be historical once it has been finalized and approved. On a global scale, there is nothing like it.

It is proposing significant measures for protection. These measures will have impacts on economic development opportunities for Nunavummiut, but this is okay. The protections are needed to protect caribou and wildlife that the Inuit depend on. This is at the core of everything we have heard from the communities. The Government of Canada supports the protection and has two exceptions.

First is Inuit Owned Lands. We want the Designated Inuit Organizations and Inuit to decide how the Nunavut land use applies to Inuit Owned Lands. We see this as an important step in self-determination, self-reliance. Secondly are the existing rights. We want to see existing mineral tenures not to be restricted by the Nunavut Land Use Plan, recognizing other regulatory requirements that are quite robust will still apply.

Just for context, this represents about 4% of the Limited Use being proposed by the Nunavut Planning Commission. So, it is a relatively small area, but we are aware of some existing rights right now that are going to be in potential protected areas, conservation areas. Boothia Peninsula is a good example, but in those cases, I think everyone around the table knows and understands that once a company comes in for exploration permits and/or staking or whatever, there is a lot of work that needs to happen before anything becomes elevated or bigger. They have to prove if there is any potential. There are many steps along the way to get to that point.

There are no floodgates being opened here. At the same time, we do have necessary regulations and requirements every step of the way to ensure that if there is any need for expropriation of lands for the purposes of protecting the areas, that we will apply those as well, if need be, to ensure conformity with the Nunavut Land Use Plan. At the same time, there are set procedures that need to be followed. *(Translated)*: That summarizes our presentation. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Last night before we stopped for the night, participants were asked for questions. We are starting with registered participants, and they were on the agenda last night.

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. First, before I start with questions, I just would like to say that yesterday, I was reading from a letter dated June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from the Government of Nunavut in the Nunavut Impact Review Board public registry. I could not read my own writing very well, so I just would direct the Commission to that letter to get that exact and specific quotation.

Then I do have some questions. With regard to just what we saw and what we have seen in the letter from the Government of Nunavut with regard to enforcing the conditions that have been imposed for caribou protection, I would like to ask the federal government if they have developed an overall enforcement plan and if they have costed that plan to be able to ensure that conditions that are put in through the regulatory system to protect caribou will actually be implemented. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Just before we go any further, please have your cellphones muted. It is mentioned every day, so we all should be aware to have the cellphones muted. Answers please.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq and thank you for the question. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. Considering that we do enforcement inspections on a yearly basis and considering that we were hit with the pandemic, COVID, in the past two to three years, it has slowed down some of the travelling that is involved.

We have received the concerns and the letter from the Government of Nunavut in respect of that specific project in the Kivalliq. For the purposes of expensing out, for the purposes of caribou protection areas, this is where over and above what we annually budget for, there would be discussions as well with the proponents that are involved, with the added expenses with respect to their project and what is added to our workload as well when it comes to the proper inspections and enforcements aspects to it.

As it stands right now, there is not anything written in the expense aspects of the work plan towards increasing regulatory requirements within our budgeting cycle right now. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have anything else?

Paul C: Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. Qujannamiik. Thank you for your answer, Terry. Is there an expectation to put in a budget proposal to ensure that there will be fulsome enforcement of the regulatory process, both by the Government of Canada and to the fund the Government of Nunavut across the whole territory? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Go ahead when you are ready.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Thank you for the question. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. Once the Plan itself has been approved, that will kick start our process of costing out and looking at increased expenditures for the purposes of our regulatory requirements and enforcement. At that point, we will probably be going through that exercise of building our

business case and ensuring that we are covering all the requirements that stem from an approved Land Use Plan. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have further questions?

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. Can the federal government inform the Commission and the people here today of the success it has had in Nunavut with a method of having the companies do their own enforcement, or essentially paying for their elements of the regulatory process? Again, I would point to four years of noncompliance in one mine.

Chairperson: Go ahead when you are ready.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq and for the question. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. We don't necessarily do a cost recovery on our enforcement aspects of things from the proponent, but there are expectations of the proponent to also self-monitor. Then when it is involving Inuit Owned Lands and Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements, there are elements of that as well within the terms and conditions.

As to the specific one where it is alleged that there were four years of noncompliance, we are currently looking at that and reviewing it to see what happened there. I am not going to make any excuses for that company either, but at the same time for our purposes of inspections and enforcement due to COVID, that could be a factor as well. We will get to the bottom of it and find out more information on that issue of noncompliance that has been identified by the Government of Nunavut. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. I would like to ask a question with regard to caribou now. In 2016, the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada recommended that barren land caribou be given special attention. They noted that they are threatened.

Considering that is now over six years that the federal government has had this recommendation for action, what is the plan of the federal government to support caribou, and how does that plan overlap with this Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq, and for the question. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. Yes, and that lies with Environment and Climate Change Canada. On the recent recommendation by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada to designate all barren ground caribou as threatened as it relates to the Government of Canada's recommendation for the Land Use Plan, yes, the measures we are recommending to protect caribou have considered declines in caribou populations and encourage effective measures to ensure the successful conservation of the species.

As to the status under COSEWIC, the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada, have assessed the barren ground caribou as threatened in 2016. The process is underway for listing

decision under the *Species at Risk Act*. For the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada assessing barren ground caribou, the Government of Canada is following due process for Species at Risk listings in Nunavut. That involves consultation with the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, the Keewatin Wildlife Board, and so on, the Kivalliq Inuit Association, prior to making a decision on listing for barren ground caribou.

The Nunavut Land Use Plan could be one of many tools to manage the decline of barren ground caribou to mitigating and avoiding impacts to the caribou habitat. The *Nunavut Land Claim* process itself relates to the listing of barren ground caribou as threatened following the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board decision-making process. The Nunavut Wildlife Management Board has recently posted its final decision that it approves the listing of barren ground caribou as threatened under the federal *Species at Risk Act* with the condition that recovery planning be undertaken on a herd-by-herd basis.

This Article 5 process in the *Nunavut Agreement* is now completed. Environment and Climate Change Canada will proceed with the next steps regarding a potential listing. Until Governor-in-Council makes a decision, the species is not listed under the federal *Species at Risk Act*. This final step can generally take up to two years or longer. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have any other questions?

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. Thank you, Terry, for that answer. Has the Government of Canada established evidence on how its position on grandfathering could affect the recovery of barren ground caribou?

Chairperson: Go ahead when you're ready.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq and thank you for the question. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. In my opening statement this morning, I did point out the roughly 4% of the area in question with respect to the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan and the Limited Use designation as it relates to caribou habitat protection and the existing tenure. I think right now, I could count on maybe one or two hands the list of companies that may be implicated, but I did list out potential avenues of procedures that we may take with respect to establishing either Limited Use Areas or protected areas.

Those proponents that may be implicated or impacted as it relates to each case-by-case analysis of where they are with respect to their tenure, we would look at the appropriate requirements to ensure that any designation that stems from the Nunavut Land Use Plan is one that will determine steps for each individual proponent that may be implicated. As it stands right now, we are in the process of first taking the inventory of who may be implicated, but we are working towards first finalizing the Plan itself. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Another question?

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. Just so I understand, the Government of Canada is considering what it may do after the Land Use Plan becomes finalized to ensure that Limited Use Areas set aside for conservation would not be undermined by the grandfathering provisions that it is putting forth. is that correct?

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq and for your question. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. We will first have to determine first the number of proponents that may be implicated when these Limited Use designations have been established through finalizing the Nunavut...

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Sorry, just hang on. They can't hear you. *(Pause)*. Okay, Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Terry: Qujannamiik. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. As it stands right now, we would do it on a case-by-case basis. The trigger would be the Nunavut Land Use Plan finalization and looking at the Limited Use designation areas, and then determine from that point which ones are implicated. As it stands right now, those ones that are either of existing tenure, due to the current regulatory process, there is minimal damage for lack of a better term. It is more we do go on a continued basis of monitoring and enforcement.

As the questioner pointed out, that issue on the Kivalliq on the four-year noncompliance, we are looking into that right now. For all other existing projects that are out there that we will look at them on a case-by-case basis as well. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. I am a bit bewildered by this answer. First, I will point out an example of sister community here, Taloyoak, where we heard in Cambridge Bay they have been trying to protect the Boothia Peninsula since 1972. I was a very young man in 1972, so I don't know. I know they have been working actively to protect it in the last few years as well.

Last year with the online system, new mineral rights were acquired within the Boothia Peninsula. That goes against what the community wants. Under the proposal of the federal government to allow all existing rights to be grandfathered, the federal government if I understand correctly, would look at that and then consider what tools may be available to it, including expropriation.

It seems to me that by allowing further rights to be acquired in areas that are areas that have been clearly identified as Limited Use for the purpose of conservation, the federal government is taking a plan to spend a lot of taxpayer money to pay off mining companies and has yet to develop a budget.

As I was saying, by allowing rights to be grandfathered but then considering their expropriation creating uncertainty in terms of mining investment in that fashion by dealing with things on a case-by-case basis and also setting up for an extensive expenditure of public money, while at the same time, they have not yet developed a budget and set aside monies for increased enforcement, if someone at the government table could explain this logic to me, I know I would be appreciative. Perhaps others would as well.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq and for the question. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. The one thing that I want to clear up for the record is that new mineral

tenure was not issued on the Boothia Peninsula. Existing mineral claims were converted to grid-based claims when Nunavut Map Selection launched. In that transitioning, they were shown as being newly issued, but they were preexisting.

In respect of the process of how it will be handled based on community wants and aspirations to establish a protected area, right now they are in the middle of discussions with Environment and Climate Change Canada as well as Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association as to whether an Inuit Impact Benefits Agreement will be applied. Throughout the whole exercise of going through that, we will be looking at any existing tenure and what the appropriate steps would be to work with what the community wants.

Maybe if I can have, with permission from the Chair, Spencer Dewar, add to that response, because it is not necessarily a clear-cut process. Mr. Dewar has worked within the regulatory and enforcement aspect side of things to clarify, I guess some elements of what may happen. Thank you, Chair.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Spencer: Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair. Spencer Dewar, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. Hopefully I can provide some clarity on how the existing mineral tenure would be applied. Mineral tenure is sort of a right. It is just a right to the subsurface minerals. It is administrative in nature, and it does not allow for any activity to occur.

If a proponent is to secure mineral tenure, they would need to come up with a plan or a program or an application to apply to go conduct activities on the land. Now that would have to go before the Planning Commission to see if it conforms. If it did conform, it could go to the Nunavut Impact Review Board, and the Nunavut Impact Review Board would assess the potential impacts. These are public processes.

During these processes, community members would be engaged. Regional Inuit Association would be engaged. The Government of Nunavut would be engaged, and so would many departments within the federal government. I hope that clarifies what mineral tenure is and how it is not necessarily an activity that would have impacts on the land.

I would also like to maybe explain a little bit about the statement regarding financial planning for inspections. As we review the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan, we do look at it through the view of what impacts it would have on our Inspection Field Operations Unit. If it is going to require additional inspection and enforcement capacity, we look to see down the road what that could and would be, but our planning is done on an annual basis. The fact that we are not planning for this year or next year even is not un-normal. We would plan for what we need to do our inspections on a yearly basis. Taima.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. In talking to negotiators of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*, my understanding is that the Land Use Plan has been stated by many including the Government of Canada as kind of a foundation piece of the regulatory system that would allow Inuit to have say and control over what happens on the lands within Nunavut.



Except for the creation of parks, which often takes a very long time - In the case of Tallurutiup Imanga, it was over 30 years, and it still has not come finally to an end – is the Government of Canada aware of any other way for Inuit to create no-go zones on areas that they think need to be protected, for instance for food security like calving grounds or calving areas for whales? To my knowledge, the most effective and efficient way of creating no-go zones is through the Land Use Plan. Does the Government of Canada see this differently?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq and for the question. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. When Inuit don't want anyone, be it cruise ships, be it other land users, exploration companies, or what have you...I will use walrus haul-outs as an example as it relates to say aircraft or aerial setbacks.

We don't have as Government of Canada any issues with that, but we do want to work with the Inuit to truly understand which areas are actual no-go zones. Then we will work with the Inuit, with the Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, with the Regional Inuit Associations to establish those areas of high concern to protect either the walrus haul-outs or marine areas.

I know and understand that Parks Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada, the whole process of trying to establish any conservation area can be a lengthy process, but there are requirements under the *Nunavut Land Claim Agreement* that have to be followed and met, stemming from the *Land Claim Agreement*, establishment of I guess the partnership with the Inuit on negotiating an Inuit Impact Benefits Agreement, as an example, and then ensuring that areas that are considered no-go zones are being respected and are being enforced and are being monitored in some form.

Yes, I agree that sometimes it could be a lengthy process when you look at the Tallurutiup Imanga as an example, but it is slowly but surely. It is something that we hold in high regard as well as the Government of Canada. It is just a matter of how we get there and how we get everyone at the table that do have legitimate concerns and want to bring value to the discussions as well. I will answer it in that manner for now. I can always have side discussions as well with Mr. Crowley as well. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead and ask.

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. So for a community to establish an area, let's say for protection of caribou calving or post-calving, freshwater crossings, migratory corridors, the only way to do so besides creating a park, which is not practical, is through the land use plan zoning.

Relying on the rest of the regulatory system like the Nunavut Impact Review Board, allowing them to look that part...by the time that part of the regulatory system is in place, mineral exploration is possible in that area. The Nunavut Impact Review Board, to my knowledge during my life in Nunavut of almost 30 years now, has only once refused an exploration camp. That was in 2007 in the Kivalliq region where they felt that with a mineral rush, a mineral exploration rush, a tipping point had been reached.

So, the Land Use Plan serves the purpose of allowing Inuit to establish areas where they don't want to see exploration. Unless the Land Use Plan is in place and enforced, it then goes to the next level of the regulatory system, which is the Nunavut Impact Review Board, which can set conditions for work, but only once to my knowledge, has said you cannot do that at all.

So, rights acquired online then move to the requirement to work those rights, which then typically has a camp. That is done without consultation ahead of time with communities. Only after are communities consulted on how that camp or that exploration can occur. It does not stop it from happening.

I would be pleased if the federal government could correct me on this, but that is my understanding of how the regulatory process works. Is there any other way for the communities to be able to ensure that no exploration that can then lead to further development occurs on certain parcels of land beyond creating a park? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead and respond.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq and the questioner. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. As I mentioned when I first started my presentation, there are a bunch of Government of Canada employees that are listening in on the live stream and are providing feedback as we go with respect to the questions. We are looking at a lot of information that is coming my way to respond to Mr. Crowley's questions.

Canada right now is in negotiations for establishing new protected areas, for example, in the Qikiqtani and Sanirajak area. As well, Government of Canada is funding capacity to Inuit to advance their requests in the protected area for the Boothia for Taloyoak and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association; marine protected areas in the Nunavut Land Use Plan and how they relate; and the wildlife areas that are being proposed; the migratory bird sanctuaries; territorial parks.

Under Article 9 when you look at conservation areas, when established under legislation, they may include either a national wildlife area, a migratory bird sanctuary, international biological program, ecological sites, Man and the Biosphere reserves, World Heritage convention, natural and cultural sites, wildlife sanctuaries, critical wildlife areas, national historic sites, national historic parks, wetlands of international importance for waterfowl, Canadian landmarks, Canadian heritage river, historic places, and other areas of particular significance for ecological, cultural, archeological, research, and similar reasons.

So, in going back to my earlier responses, if Inuit wanted to protect an area and have a no-go zone, there are mechanisms in place to ensure that happens, and when we are working towards that, all the T's are crossed and I's dotted to ensure that what is requested by the communities and the Inuit is being carried out and is being carried out in a manner that is fair for all and is open and accountable.

A good example would be the Tuvaijuittuq which was designated in August 2019, and that is a Marine Protected Area on the northern tip of Ellesmere. I will use that one as an example. It is something that needed to happen, and it did happen on a pretty quick pace, but no one understands that this is all happening outside of a Nunavut Land Use Plan.

What the Nunavut Land Use Plan will do once established and finalized, it is going to be an extra tool for us as the Government of Canada to ensure that protected areas are going to happen. I know and understand where Mr. Crowley is coming from with respect to areas of concern that may have existing tenure, but there are mechanisms in place to ensure that everything will be carried out to ensure fairness, and that it is all open and accountable, and that the people who either have invested in the area to see about mineral potential whether they have, all dependent on how much they spend, and where they are with respect to that tenure.

In most cases, if not all, a lot of them are in the administrative aspects of things, because it is very costly to actually step foot on the ground and do some delineation work and some actual exploration with respect to the potential. I will say it here that we do have mechanisms in place currently that ensure that what the Inuit want, as the case is in Taloyoak, that we provide first the funds to that community to start establishing and firming up the actual area that they want protected, in this case the Boothia Peninsula, and to work with the Inuit Organizations that may be impacted. I will respond in that manner for now. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have any other questions?

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I have a final question. I am sure people are looking forward to not hearing my foghorn voice. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. In this administrative process, as it has been described, the mineral staking rights, online staking can happen. Then it goes into the rest of the regulatory process. Is there room for Inuit in that administrative process for rights to be refused right off the bat? As soon as they go into that administrative process, it means that those who have secured them can act on that administrative process. In fact, the law requires them to act on it. Is there room for Inuit to be part of that before it goes to a process that already concludes that company can do the work in some fashion, as per the regulators allow? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead and respond.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq and the questioner. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. As it stands right now, when you look at the *Nunavut Land Claim* in its entirety and to keep things in context, I read the preamble in my opening statement. There were areas that were of high enough value that Inuit opted to retain title to certain areas, hence Inuit Owned Lands. Then the area that were ceded were the current Crown lands. Inuit become titleholders of lands within the Nunavut Settlement Area, but also ceded lands that would remain Crown.

On the question of Crown lands, when it comes to the administrative exercise of stake claims, being that it is administrative, the Inuit are not necessarily involved in that process, but they also have their own process of doing similar exercises on Inuit Owned Lands as well. If it has not been withdrawn, then it is open for staking. In that aspect, it is a free-based system.

Anyone that has access to a laptop can look at the map of Nunavut and see areas that may be potentially open for staking. They can stake it and go through that system that we provide as the Government of Canada. Then, if there are going to be any next steps, then that is where it triggers a bunch of things that stem from the *Nunavut Land Claims*: the Nunavut Impact Review Board, the Nunavut Planning Commission, and all that. We need to kind of keep things in context of what happens throughout that whole process. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik.

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. So, I guess the short answer is no. So, reliance on zoning in the Land Use Plan and the Land Use Plan coming into force is extremely important. As was said by some of this table, including Larry, it needs to happen quickly. There is no other way for Inuit to say no to exploration happening on lands that they believe, Crown lands they believe are important. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I will end it there.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. That was mostly a statement. Our staff questions have been asked already. We don't have any more questions. We have names. Joshua had wanted to speak.

Joshua: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. What we were listening to Paul Crowley's statements. In the past the projects were explained and written down as calving grounds. Joshua Idlout from the Hamlet. I apologize. Some calving areas, we have written down and marked. We want them protected further. We will be drafting them on Friday. The area that is now being mined. This land is near the part of the land that is being mined now. I will ask about it to NPC and federal government. If this land was grandfathered from the past, the lands we are trying to protect, will we have any strength to try and get these lands protected?

Even if we do make the lands as Valued Component as pretty much was said, if the federal government wants to do something else on that land, then they could go ahead and do it, for example, like they did in Baffinland I guess. We would not have much opportunity to protect those lands. So, I am asking if those lands are grandfathered or if they are not grandfathered, do we and the Nunavut Planning Commission still have the opportunity to say no to exploration on these lands and that they need protected? I want clarification on this matter from you guys.

If the community members were told what we just heard, I am sure they would want to be informed about these matters, especially with regard to caribou calving grounds. I seem to understand that if the federal government wants to do a project on land, they can rezone that land. Thank you.

Chairperson: Go ahead and respond.

Terry: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq and the questioner. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. The mining company working at Mary River, how did you call it, grandfathered? This is just an example whether they are going through the system right now. They are not.

(*English*): The grandfathered aspect of the proponent at Mary River has been long past. Now we are going through the actual regulatory process. As an example, Phase 2, that is going through the process that has already been established through the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement*. The project itself, I think everyone around Pond Inlet knows the actual discovery was back in 1950, around then. Then we went through the '60s, '70s, '80s. Then the '90s is when things started to pick up.

When they were negotiating the *Land Claim* at the time, it was considered a grandfathered right at the time. So, what happened then was the company, not this company but the one company before that or two, was asked during negotiations do you want these rights grandfathered in the sense that

Crown or Government of Canada would maintain its regulatory process with respect to its current permits and leases, or do you want that transferred over to the new landowners, in this case Qikiqtani Inuit Association and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated for the subsurface aspect?

That area in question is both covered by Inuit subsurface and Inuit surface, so almost in its entirety, the project is on Inuit Owned Lands. Back then, the grandfathered aspect was at play. Today, it is not necessarily so based on the fact that we have gone beyond that and are now into the actual regulatory process.

Case in point is Phase 2. The Nunavut Impact Review Board has come to the community, gathered all the information and the concerns that were brought forward. At that point, the Minister will be making a decision, and that will not probably be until late November or so. To summarize, the grandfathered aspect is not a factor. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan was going to add to your statement. Jonathan?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. It has been brought to my attention that Joshua's question was in part directed at the Nunavut Planning Commission.

I would just like to overview the current approach in the Draft Plan and how it relates to the preservation of existing rights and the identification of additional areas through the current consultations. As we have indicated, the 2021 Draft Plan proposes a new approach where the Commission has recognized projects with existing rights, according to certain criteria that we outlined on Day 1, and provided special exemptions from any prohibitions in the Draft Plan on these specific areas.

So, within the 2021 Draft Plan, the extent of existing rights associated with the Mary River Project that happened to overlap with proposed Limited Use Areas are identified in Appendix A and on those specific parcels of land, the prohibitions on any mineral exploration and development would not apply. This approach is in the Draft Plan, and the Commission is hearing a lot of feedback on that approach. I note that everything will need to be reconsidered following the close of the record, including any additional Limited Use Areas that may be identified and considered by community participants and others in the planning process.

In addition to reconsidering the appropriateness of existing Limited Use Areas in the current Draft Plan and any new areas that may be proposed, the Commission will also need to reconsider the extent of existing mineral rights, both in terms of overlap with any new areas and an evaluation or consideration of whether to include any additional mineral rights that may have been granted since the spring of 2021 when the current Draft Plan was prepared.

It is our understanding that the Government of Canada is proposing that any additional mineral tenure that may be granted since the spring of 2021 up until the approval of the Land Use Plan also be included with whatever approach is chosen for the treatment of existing rights in the recommended Nunavut Land Use Plan. I am not sure if that completely answers the question, but I will stop there and see there is any follow-up. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have another question, Joshua?

Joshua: Yes. Thank you, Chair. Joshua Idlout, Hamlet. If I understand, we still have the opportunity to deal with these lands under a non-grandfathered situation. Perhaps we would probably inform Jonathan Savoy or meet with him on how we can deal with these matters. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Charlie has a question.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Charlie Inuarak from the HTO of Pond Inlet. We understand the same. It is getting pretty exciting here. I wrote down many things, but I have two main questions, Mr. Chair, for the federal government. I will state this.

Recently, this actual work just began. Although they have been mining for a while now, research was not really being conducted, probably not through the federal government and DFO. The federal government, first of all, we are looking for from human to heaven, and they were looking for minerals in Nunavut. So, when they did find minerals, our great leader delegated the matter to actual research.

So ships began ferrying oil and gas, and they even brought a whole bunch to Toneet *(spelled phonetically)*. They took the gas, oil to the lake. They brought a whole lot of fuel up here. You had brought up a whole lot of fuel up here. They were doing research through helicopter. Nobody told about these. We didn't know about them. All those have been off. Initially, there were many helicopters there.

In the parliament, I have a great friend down there. The research center in Cambridge Bay was slated to have been built in Pond Inlet, but it was relocated to Cambridge Bay. There are some leftovers I guess in the Community of Pond Inlet. So, these researchers or exploration teams, inside Parliament, he said they said that they are all full. All these things, all these requests from companies, organizations, all these applications, there were so many of them. They thought okay let there be a smart lady who understands what is happening with the North. That is what they were talking about, but I don't know if they have gone through with the *(translation ended mid-sentence)*.

I understand there were a lot of budgets being handed out. You are looking at all these applications, so my first question is exploration will keep going, and it is still going on, all these helicopters, and people. Back in the lands, we have not heard about them at all. So, my question is how exactly have these exploration people been dealt with or allowed to come here?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you want to respond?

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq and the questioner. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. If I am not mistaken, the question is in respect of the Canadian High Arctic Research Station and research activities that may be coming and proposed areas of research.

*(Translated)*: Are you asking about researchers and research and when many of them come to Nunavut? Are you asking about research?

Chairperson: The main question was about exploration that had happened from your department I guess. He wants to hear if there have been any results from people going on helicopters, going on land, walking on land, exploring the area. That is how I understood the question.

Terry: *(Translated)*: Okay, I understand. Thank you. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. When there are many different types of exploration or research, some of them are geared toward mineral exploration. I can't say exactly how many people are doing exploration, but I can get back to you with an answer. I can go through the Nunavut Research Institute. They are the organization for research, and there is an office in Cambridge Bay. From the federal government organizations, they call it jewel science, or I am not exactly sure what they are called. It is actually the minerals that can be made to profit from in Nunavut. I could answer your question, but I don't have the information right now. I am not sure what the information is like now too.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are you done? Do you want to ask another question?

Charlie: *(Translated)*: I am glad you guys are in town. Part of my question, I believe you are responsible also for research. They have been mining for five years now at Mary River. They deal with environmental issues too at the same time. They have never explained exactly how much they have impacted the land around Pond Inlet. They are pretty close to Pond Inlet. The mine is pretty close to Pond Inlet.

My question is just recently, it has actually been researched and looked into, and in the past nobody has said anything before. It was only the Pond Inlet HTO hunters. When they tried to explain what was happening, they started showing images. For example, seal breathing holes that were red with dust, and even seals coated with dust. You see all the land being coated with red dust, especially if it has been windy. It has now taken on a characteristic that it did not have before.

The community, Pond Inlet hunters work very hard to get things going. They even went on CBC Radio. All this research is delayed. The research needs to catch up. I'm not sure. A hunter explained during the summer down that they saw a huge land mass floating. There was something dead there. He showed the picture. There was a dead *(inaudible)* and a dead seal. The researchers did not find these at all. It was the hunters that found them. Last year, I killed a seal. The seal, I was going to hunt, but I just performed a coup de gras because it was blind. It had cataracts in his eyes. It would die for shallow dives. I had no choice but to kill it. It was skinny too. I did not even check to see the condition of its body, but I could see that it was blind. It was a young seal.

We have all these issues that need researching. I am glad we are discussing caribou, but we are not discussing marine wildlife at all. In the waters, there used to be a lot of birthing in Eclipse Sound, right in front of the community up to Milne Inlet. The hunters have seen many narwhals giving birth. We call the young narwhals, ookiak *(spelled phonetically)*. This was a major birthing area. If we divided up the narwhal into demographics, they both would be on somewhere else.

The people who are at home, the hunters who have cabins, the huge ships pass right by. They are very close, and they are going to the other side. When this is happening daily, nobody talks about this. Nobody talks about this. The federal government or Qikiqtani Inuit Association don't talk about this. It is only the community members of Pond Inlet that try to talk about this. They are saying that matters should be researched. We don't tell lies about things. We want something done about this now that peoples to this matter be food security. It cost them. It has huge impacts to our food.

So, I delegate this matter that Nunavut Impact Review Board needs to deal with this matter even more. We are not talking about that here. We are not discussing marine wildlife. We did a little bit in the beginning with respect to the birthing area. In the past, we had so many young seals, seal



pups, and a lot of men used to hunt the baby seals. They thought the baby seals were delicious. There are not a lot of these anymore today. They are not doing enough research here. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: That was mostly a statement. We are listening to your statements. We are here for consultation. They are writing down your statements and recording your statements. Your statements will be taken into consideration. That was not so much a question. Nysana has a question.

Nysana: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Nysana Qillaq, Clyde River HTO. If you don't mind, I would like to ask a question to Nunavut Planning Commission.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Nysana: *(Translated)*: We had heard that this planning will end in January 10<sup>th</sup>. Is there a way we can delay the deadline? That is my first question.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. At this time, the Commission has set the close of the record to be January 10<sup>th</sup> of 2023 and has not considered extensions to that deadline. Recognizing the process has been ongoing for 15 years, the Commission is interested in closing the record and revising the Plan as soon as possible. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have a follow-up?

Nysana: *(Translated)*: I will have a question for the federal government, and I will have a short statement. The question I asked about that was some of the communities have just heard this, and we are just starting to work on this. Organizations like QIA, NTI, Environment, DFO, I do have a lot of questions for them now and with NPC, and we don't have a lot of time to meet with you guys. We do feel like we have questions to these organizations. These organizations may be invited to some communities, and there will be another hearing in Iqaluit next month. We community members wish to ask questions, but there is not enough time in two months.

Matters being worked on by the federal government within Nunavut, none of them have been explained to us. We will need them to be explained. For example, mining, gold mining, ore exploration, regardless if it is terrestrial or marine, I don't think the federal government has done any of these, or from the Nunavut government. Some of them are not even in the *Agreement*. We have all these questions, and NPC only has a short deadline. That was why I asked if we could get an extension. My question is when will the next hearing be?

Chairperson: Jonathan, go ahead, or Sharon.

Sharon: Sharon Ehloak, Executive Director, Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you for the question. The next hearing is in two weeks in Iqaluit, and that is the final hearing. With regard to the extension, no, there will be no extension. The closing date is the 10<sup>th</sup> of January. The process has been going on for over 20 years. We have heard very clearly from Nunavummiut they want a land use plan.

The Commission has been committed and remains committed as directed by the Commissioners that a Plan will be put forward in the spring of 2023. It is a first-generation Plan. We all recognize that the Plan can be changed and amended, but it is a living document. The need for getting the Land Use Plan in place is part of an outstanding implementation of the *Nunavut Agreement*. So, the final hearing is in Iqaluit, and you do have until the 10<sup>th</sup> of January for submissions. Thank you.

Nysana: My question was after the Iqaluit hearing, when is the next hearing for communities after that?

Chairperson: Yep, please state your name and organization. Go ahead, Sharon.

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehloak, Executive Director for the Planning Commission. The Iqaluit public hearing is the final of the five public hearings. We have held a hearing in Cambridge Bay for the Kitikmeot region and in Rankin Inlet for the Kivalliq region. We held one in Thompson, Manitoba for the Athabasca Denesųliné, and we are holding the hearing here for this area, the Baffin. South Baffin is the final hearing in two weeks in Iqaluit. That is the last public hearing in the process. I hope that answers your question. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are you good? Go ahead, state your name and organization.

Nysana: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Nysana Qillaq HTO Clyde River. I have not been a committee member for too long. I get very warm, and my mind starts thinking really fast. I get my questions mixed up, and when I say something, it comes out wrong. I will be replaced in my position. I am not very good about land research and such. I have never even read our *Agreement* before.

The reason I asked about that was because these matters will come up. Nunavut is the newest territory in the world, and they will be asking about all these minerals and oil exploration. So, that is the reason I asked about whether we could get an extension, and it does not sound like there will be another hearing after the one in Iqaluit.

The things we have not planned for in our community will be used to benefit our community, some of the benefits will not benefit the communities. We as Inuit we have very limited education. We don't know anything. We don't even know if we have any that went to school for oil exploration. I don't know anybody who can do cleanups other than Coast Guard, and they don't always stay up here. Fuel spills can cause so much damage further away than terrestrial pollution can. It can hurt more wildlife.

Marine wildlife is not really being discussed other than caribou. The wildlife we have is our food. If oil exploration companies want to come up, these negative impacts and issues will keep coming up. You can have icebergs and wind, and that can cause problems. They don't discuss icebergs a lot. We get huge icebergs in our community. One tugboat would not be able to stop an iceberg if it was coming. It would take many tugboats. Nobody seems to bring these matters up. We do get huge icebergs once in a while.

Not just icebergs, the wildlife, like seals, walrus, narwhal, there is other wildlife like bottom dwellers and in between. Nobody discusses those wildlife. There is many wildlife that can be impacted. Some of them are foods and some of them are not necessarily what we eat. And we have very little plants in our communities. I don't think I have much to say. I am starting to shake. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. That was mostly a statement. Do you want to respond to that? Make it short, and to remind everyone, if you have a question, try to make it short. Go ahead, Terry, and make your response short.

Terry: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq and the questioner. Terry Audla, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. Just know that January 10 is sort of a date for closing of receiving record for the purposes of preparing the final Draft, but our work continues. It is not going to stop. We will be visiting communities on an ongoing basis, not only in the context of the Nunavut Land Use Plan.

When it comes out, when it becomes approved, I am not going to speak for the Planning Commission, but I am pretty sure that once it has been approved that there will be a rollout of the document. There will be follow-up to the communities, and the communities will also have opportunity to continue to bring out their concerns. We will be listening. At the same time, we will always be listening, so any community concerns, aspirations are being worked towards and strived for.

*(Translated):* I will make it brief in Inuktitut. We will keep listening to you, and we will keep doing what we are doing. We will always try and go to the communities for consultation and to look at the guides, laws, and how operations can improve. It is obvious that some of the communities don't see all the information from the federal government or researchers, but we ourselves cannot go on by ourselves. We need to hear what is happening in the communities so we can improve things.

For what Charlie had said, please note that we are still trying to plan. We still have ways of looking at how we can include the Pond Inlet HTO. This matter has been planned before, but COVID-19 delayed these matters. It will go ahead if you are still open for communications, meetings. Please note that we will be getting back to you on how we can go ahead on this matter. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Namen is on my list. Namen, make your question short. State your name and organization. Thank you.

Namen: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Namen Inuarak, HTO Pond Inlet. I want to ask the Planning Commission first, and I will have two questions to the federal government organizations if that is okay.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Namen: First of all, it is about whether you would hold another hearing. You said this hearing will be the last one. Once the laws are in place, will the Nunavut Planning Commission be functioning anymore?

Chairperson: Jonathan? Sharon?

Sharon: Sharon Ehloak, Executive Director for the Planning Commission. Thank you for the question. The Nunavut Planning Commission is an Institution of Public Government, which will continue on. The Plan is a living document. As you have heard through the process, once the Plan is approved, the Plan then will be implemented and monitored. That is the task of the Commission, as well as others for monitoring and compliance within the legislation of the Land Use Plan.

Going forward, the Plan is a living document, so the Commission will always be here. The document will be reviewed at a minimum of 7 to 10 years, whatever is decided on, but know the Planning Commission will always be here, and you will always have an opportunity to give data or request amendments once the Plan is approved. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead with your other question.

Namen: Qujannamiik and Thank you, Terry for your statements. They will be very useful to us and for our future. You answered part of the question regarding research, that the HTO will be taking part in the research. I want to ask the recommendations you will give to the Planning Commission. The research, for example, the environmental research, if we were to look at Baffinland, they have their own researchers that work for Baffinland. They only report to Baffinland. They don't show us their reports and independent Baffinland, non-Baffinland contractors if they could have researchers, it would be good. The truth would come out.

There may be openings in the future for mining companies. The Inuit who will be impacted will have a harder time. They will just be shoved aside, and people won't be able to pay attention to them. Can independent monitoring be a part of it that you can delegate to the Planning Commission?

The other item is exploration or minerals or other money-making products. The NIRB, the hunters too here in Nunavut and Baffin Island, can you include them in your recommendations to the Planning Commission? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead and respond, Terry.

Terry: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq and the questioner. If the research needed changing, if it needed changing as per NPC's plans, how we can work on that will be looked on later on. As I said earlier, we have begun planning, the federal government's researchers to include them with the HTO or employees how they could be included in the research. Other environmental groups that have the Nunavut Impact Review Board, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association also how they can get the research properly. Yep, the mining companies do their own research. Thank you.

*(English)*: Sometimes they say...

Chairperson: We do have translators.

Terry: Yep, I was just going on to self-check, self-monitoring aspect of things. Thank you, Mr. Chair, for the reminder. It is different from what I was saying in Inuktitut. As for the English aspect of things, there are requirements for the company to monitor and to be able to provide the information when they do their self-monitoring, which feeds into the overall monitoring that is required of the project. That is part of my response.

With respect to the actual process and regulatory aspects, that is not necessarily going to be in the Plan itself or in our submission, but it is something that we will be working with, not only amongst ourselves but with the stakeholders, Qikiqtani Inuit Association, Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Organization to see what we can do to make the monitoring more meaningful and better. We will be reaching out to you guys as well, just so you are aware. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Another question?

Namen: Qujannamiik for your response, Terry, and Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: I don't have any more names on our list. Thank you to this group.

*(Applause)*

The Government of Nunavut will begin. We will take a 5-minute break.

### **Break**

## **Presentation by the Government of Nunavut**

**Henry Coman, Assistant Deputy Minister for the Department of Environment**  
**Daniel Haney, Manager Land Use and Environment for Department of Environment**  
**Diane Lapierre, Manager of Environment Assessment and Regulation**  
**Michele LeBlanc-Havard, Director of Environment**  
**John Ringrose, Wildlife Biologist for the Baffin Region, Department of Environment**  
**Eamonn Carroll, Legal Counsel**

Henry: Hello. My name is Henry Coman, Assistant Deputy Minister for the Department of the Environment. Today it is my privilege to speak for the entire Government of Nunavut. Thank you to the Nunavut Planning Commission for the opportunity to present today, as well as the opportunity to listen to the thoughts of Nunavummiut and others regarding the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan.

I would like to start by acknowledging the hard work done by the Commission and their staff for reaching the hearings for the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. We would also like to thank the community delegates, Hunters and Trappers Organizations, and other planning partners for their ongoing participation in the planning process. Lastly, this would not be possible without the support of the interpreters, caterers, and information technology support, and we thank you for your hard work supporting these meetings.

Today, I am joined by Daniel Haney, Manager of Land Use Environmental Assessment for the Department of Environment. Michele LaBlanc-Havard, Director of Environmental Protection, Department of Environment; Eamonn Carroll, Legal Counsel, Department of Justice; Diane Lapierre, Manager of Environment Assessment and Regulation for Economic Development and Transportation; and John Ringrose, Wildlife Biologist for the Baffin Region, Department of Environment.

There are many Government of Nunavut experts and support staff from across departments who have contributed to the technical review of the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan, many of whom are here today or are following the proceedings online. This review is the outcome of the collective

work of all Government of Nunavut departments. We are going to provide an overview of the Government of Nunavut's technical review regarding the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan.

In the presentation, I will talk about the Government of Nunavut's role in this process, as well as the mandate that guides our participation. Following this, I will present the Government of Nunavut's technical review of the 2021 Plan. Finally, I will conclude the presentation, and we will be happy to answer any questions.

The successful completion of the Nunavut Land Use Plan is an obligation under the *Nunavut Agreement*, Article 11 and the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, Section 53 and is a priority for the Government of Nunavut. Once approved, the Nunavut Land Use Plan will guide and direct the territory's long-term vision for development and conservation. This is a monumental task for the Commission, requiring a balanced approach that is reflective of a range of views.

No issue exemplifies the competing values of responsible economic development and environmental protection more than the Draft Plan's proposed designations for caribou habitat. This will, therefore, be a primary focus of the technical review portion of our presentation today.

Katujjiluat is the vision and overarching policy goal that will guide the Government of Nunavut's final review of the 2021 Draft Plan once it is submitted by the Commission. As a territory, the Government of Nunavut wants more communities to benefit from fishing, harvesting, and tourism, as well as increased Inuit employment in mining and mining-related sectors. The Nunavut Land Use Plan should balance responsible economic development as well as ensuring the development of critical infrastructure such as roads.

Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and its eight principles are integral to the Government of Nunavut, and we believe that Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is essential to the Commission and the Nunavut Land Use Plan. The Plan and its vision should create the condition for traditional activities that have sustained Inuit for thousands of years but also account for the responsible development of Nunavut's natural resources and diverse economic opportunities through increased employment and other investments.

The Government of Nunavut employs a "whole-of-government" approach in our participation in land use planning. All departments in the Government of Nunavut contribute to the technical review and make recommendations to senior management. The Government of Nunavut's submissions to the Commission represent a unified voice.

This slide brings us to the Government of Nunavut's technical review of the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. This map represents the important issues that drive Nunavut Planning Commission to put zoning in place. It shows where land access restrictions have been proposed by the Commission and why.

This slide shows the main priorities in which the Government of Nunavut has identified in relation to the Draft Land Use Plan. The Government of Nunavut recommends that there be a balance in the Plan between conservation and responsible economic development. This includes both environmental stewardship as well as current and future economic opportunities. This is the first-generation Nunavut Land Use Plan, and it will change in the future.

The Plan must therefore be appropriately scoped and avoid using extensive land use prohibitions. Lastly, municipal views require more explicit inclusion in the implementation of the Plan to ensure that it is compatible with municipal plans.

The Government of Nunavut's main comment is that the Plan does not adequately balance environmental and economic goals. We understand that everyone may have a different understanding of what a balanced Plan is. The Government of Nunavut sees a balanced Plan as one where there is enough wildlife, such as caribou, to meet the dietary and cultural needs of Inuit regarding food sovereignty, and where there are diverse economic opportunities for Nunavummiut and the development of Nunavut infrastructure such as roads.

This graph is a summary of land use designations proposed in the 2021 Draft Land Use Plan for the Nunavut Settlement Area organized by region. All Limited Use designations prohibit development activities including quarrying, mining, oil, and gas exploration. Limited Use Areas are 22% of the Nunavut Settlement Area as proposed in 2021. This is an increase from 16% proposed in the 2016 Draft. This is broken down:

- 22% in the Kivalliq region
- 36% in the Kitikmeot region
- 17% in the Qikiqtani region

Limited Use Areas may affect some communities, such as those with closer proximity to known resource potential or those with greater transportation and infrastructure potential. The 2021 Plan states that an effective Land Use Plan needs to achieve a balance between environmental, social, and economic needs and potential. One of the Government of Nunavut's primary assessment is this balance has not yet been achieved. However, we do think there is a path forward.

To further explain the Government of Nunavut's position, this slide shows the mainland caribou herds and our understanding of their population trends. Caribou are important to Nunavummiut for many reasons. They are culturally significant, provide a good local source of food regarding food sovereignty, and support the economy. Sustainably managing caribou can guarantee that they will be a part of Nunavut into the future. Many herds are in decline, and there is uncertainty of the causes. Communities have expressed their concern that something needs to be done, and the Commission has heard them. In the 2021 Plan, the Commission has designated caribou calving and post-calving grounds, key access corridors, and freshwater crossings as Limited Use Areas. This comes with year-round prohibitions.

In the Government of Nunavut's assessment, an increase in Limited Use supports conservation but does not support economic development adequately. We must consider the socioeconomic implications of those protections. The Government of Nunavut generally supports the protection of critical caribou habitat through land use designations and has faith in the robust regulatory system in Nunavut to address impacts.

In the Government of Nunavut's assessment, excessive Limited Use designations limit economic opportunity, such as access to resources, infrastructure development, and community development goals and priorities. The Government of Nunavut therefore recommends that Conditional Use zoning with seasonal restrictions can better achieve a balance between those priorities.



This slide shows the ranges in Baffin, Southampton, Mansel, and Coats Island caribou and has been developed by the Department of Environment in collaboration with co-management partners. The Department of Environment works closely with Hunters and Trappers Organizations, communities, and co-management partners to collect scientific data and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit to monitor the health of caribou herds. Although there is a degree of uncertainty associated with caribou data, the Government of Nunavut is confident that its delineations are accurate and is committed to continuously monitoring the accuracy of these areas.

Lack of long-term telemetry data on Baffin Island caribou has made precise delineation of their calving grounds difficult. Where the Government of Nunavut does not have sufficient scientific data to delineate caribou habitat, we rely on Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. This slide helps to demonstrate the need for a balance to be struck.

The population of Nunavut is growing. In the next 10 years, 10,000 young Nunavummiut will become adults who will need jobs. These youth will represent one-fifth of all Nunavummiut. This is shown on the graph on the right. Additionally, Nunavut has the highest unemployment rate in the country. A solution needs to be found to ensure that jobs are available for these young adults.

The mining sector represents the largest private sector opportunity for employment in Nunavut and is a key part of making Nunavummiut self-sufficient. The Government of Nunavut is also promoting other sectors related to fisheries and the traditional economy.

The Government of Nunavut's technical assessment has determined that the 2021 Plan is too restrictive. The current Plan prohibits mineral exploration in approximately 21% of the planning region. This map shows how mineral exploration activities in gray, interact with land use planning designations. Large areas of Nunavut remain un-surveyed. As such, the mineral resource potential is unknown and holds considerable value. The Limited Use designation prohibits exploration work that is needed to properly understand the resource potential to make informed decisions on the acceptability of development.

Few exploration projects develop into a full productive mine. That is about 1 in 1,000 in Nunavut. A plan that unduly limits exploration can therefore reduce the chance that a viable deposit is found. Nunavut is already considered a difficult area to develop. The Government of Nunavut does not want to create additional barriers to potential opportunities. Exploration activity can be low impact and have flexible schedules. The exploration industry also makes significant investment contributions. There is a lack of infrastructure in Nunavut. However, the mining industry is a source of infrastructure development that can benefit the territory. For successful exploration projects, the Government of Nunavut is an active participant in the territory's robust Environmental Assessment process led by the Nunavut Impact Review Board.

As mentioned, Nunavut's unemployment rate is high and employment opportunities may be limited. The economic implications of the current Draft Plan are significant. Opportunities for Nunavut and its residents may be limited by prohibiting exploration and unduly restricting transportation or hydro, such as the Manitoba-Kivalliq connections for both development and communities.

Nunavut is home to an abundance of minerals and metals, including critical minerals for green technologies, as well as potential for significant oil and gas development. Post-devolution, the

Government of Nunavut will rely partly on revenue and royalties driven by economic opportunities, such as from resource development to provide services to the territory. A restrictive Plan limits the economic potential available.

More consideration needs to be given to the socioeconomic impacts of prohibitive land use designations. The territory's population and socioeconomic needs are increasing. The Nunavut Land Use Plan should support development in a way to address both conservation and responsible development factors.

The Government of Nunavut's current assessment is that Conditional Use designation with seasonal restrictions for caribou calving and post-calving grounds, key access corridors, and freshwater crossings is appropriate to balance environmental and economic goals. This would create formalized protection during the most sensitive periods of the caribou life cycle while allowing for a flexible case-by-case approach during the Nunavut Impact Review Board assessment. Further, the Government of Nunavut supports seasonal restrictions, up to and including the seasonal phased shutdowns in these areas, and we have provided the critical timing windows for when caribou are present.

The Government of Nunavut does not consider large Limited Use Areas to be desirable in this first-generation Plan. As a first-generation territory-wide Plan, the Government of Nunavut recommends an incremental approach to land access restrictions. The Government of Nunavut acknowledges that over time, more information and regional decisions may lead to amendments to make some areas more restrictive. The Government of Nunavut recommends a red-flag approach to identify areas of interest, concern, significance, and where competing interests exist and require greater scrutiny. As more information is known, the Plan can be updated through periodic reviews and Plan amendments.

The Government of Nunavut has identified that the Nunavut Land Use Plan is not compatible with community plans. In this slide, we can see examples of how Limited Use Areas overlap with municipal boundaries. As per the *Nunavut Agreement*, the Nunavut Planning Commission must consider municipal views when developing land use plans. In addition to consulting the municipalities directly, their views are also found within community plans. For example, some communities have Limited Use zoning within them that conflicts with community plans, such as the prohibition on quarries in Kugluktuk. Future projects before they reach the Commission may conform to these plans and have community support. To address this, the Government of Nunavut recommends that a mechanism to recognize community views and priorities is included in the Nunavut Land Use Plan.

The Nunavut Land Use Plan needs to account for the community plans within municipal boundaries. Community planning is central to the Commission's goal of building healthy communities and should therefore be reflected in Chapter 4 of the Plan. To address these concerns, the Government of Nunavut recommends that the scope of minor variances be broadened so that projects that conform with community plans may be referred to the Review Board for screening, or a general exemption should be built into the Plan if the project is in conformity with the community plan, or areas within municipal boundaries are zoned as Mixed Use.

Another point to consider is the Grays Bay Port and Road corridor, which is zoned as a Valued Component and overlaps with Limited Use Areas that prohibit linear infrastructure. The

Government of Nunavut is a supporter in principle of this project. Since other priority transportation corridors are supported by the Plan, the Government of Nunavut recommends that the Grays Bay Port and Road corridor as a project of interest, should also be supported by the Plan and zoned appropriately.

The Government of Nunavut recommends that all existing rights should be protected and able to reasonably develop without a Plan amendment. Some of Nunavut's existing rights are not protected in the current Draft Plan. Stranded assets are existing rights surrounded by Limited Use Areas needing a Plan amendment to access them. The surrounding Limited Use restrictions in these areas also impact the value of those existing rights. The Government of Nunavut recommends that the issue of stranded assets be addressed in the Plan.

Having access to clean drinking water is important and recognized by the Commission. Recently, several communities have had to draw water from their secondary sources. The Government of Nunavut has identified two secondary water sources outside municipal boundaries and has supplied them to the Commission. It is important that the identification of secondary drinking water sources does not unduly restrict other municipal goals such as transportation and quarrying for aggregate resources. To balance drinking water with other municipal goals, the Government of Nunavut recommends that secondary drinking water sources beyond municipal boundaries be designated Valued Components.

As part of its dual mandate in the Nunavut Land Use Plan, the Government of Nunavut has been asked by the Nunavut Planning Commission to confer with its co-signatories on certain issues. These meetings between the three signatories, the Government of Nunavut, the Government of Canada, and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated are ongoing. As well as direct signatory meetings, all three signatories are also part of other ongoing negotiations. As part of devolution, some of what are currently federal lands will become Government of Nunavut lands. Additionally, all three signatories of the Nunavut Land Use Plan are part of the ongoing treaty negotiations related to the Dene overlap area. All this work will continue for the Government of Nunavut throughout this process.

The Government of Nunavut continually works with local hamlets on municipal land management. The Government of Nunavut wildlife officers and biologists work with Hunters and Trappers Organizations to continually incorporate Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and gather scientific data. The Government of Nunavut also listens to both large project proponents and local entrepreneur on development concerns. This work will all continue throughout the life of this first-generation Nunavut Land Use Plan.

The Government of Nunavut appreciates this opportunity to discuss our technical review and recommendations and provide additional perspective for our fellow planning partners' considerations. Development in the North can be particularly challenging, and we owe it to Nunavummiut to collect all the necessary information and input before making land access decisions. We must emphasize the importance of integrated resource management systems and the work carried out, not just by the Nunavut Planning Commission, but also the Nunavut Impact Review Board, the Nunavut Water Board, and the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board. Together, these institutions safeguard the eco-systemic and socioeconomic integrity of Nunavut and ensures the responsible development of our natural resources.

At this point, the Government of Nunavut would like to emphasize that there have been improvements to the Plan. The Government of Nunavut found that the *Options and Recommendations Document* has been greatly improved and helped facilitate our review of the Plan. The Government of Nunavut would like to see the Commission's rationale expanded so there is better understanding of the tradeoffs that were made in the decision-making process for the different land use designations.

Going forward, the Government of Nunavut is hopeful that a balance can be struck between Conditional Use with seasonal restrictions that supports responsible development, and economic growth. The Government of Nunavut has faith in the Nunavut Planning Commission process and in Nunavummiut. The Government of Nunavut has listened and heard what all participants in the process have brought forward. The views of the communities, Hunters and Trappers Organizations, and other planning partners are important. The Government of Nunavut is looking forward to receiving a revised Draft Plan from the Commission after the record is closed. We will now be happy to answer any questions you may have for the Government of Nunavut. Thank you.

Chairperson: Thank you. We will follow our procedure starting with the Nunavut Planning Commission staff. Jonathan?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thanks to the Government of Nunavut representatives for being here today and providing your presentation. A first question is just a point of clarification on your recommended approach for existing rights.

Similar to the Government of Canada, you indicated that all existing mineral rights be included in the Draft Plan's approach to the preservation of existing rights. Could you specifically clarify whether that extends to projects or rights that may be issued up until the approval of the Land Use Plan or some other date? Thank you.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Henry: Henry Coman, Government of Nunavut. Just give us a moment to confer with my colleagues here.

(Pause)

Michele: Hi. Michele LaBlanc-Havard, Director of Environmental Protection, Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment. Thank you, Jonathan, for the question. Can you clarify...sorry, is that better? Jonathan, could you just clarify the question? Are you asking for whether we are putting forward a date or a timeline? Could you just clarify for us, please?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. The 2021 Draft Plan includes a proposal to provide exemptions from prohibitions for existing rights as of nominally the spring of 2021. When the Government of Nunavut recommends that all existing rights be provided with perhaps a similar treatment, are you recommending that that approach be extended to any mineral claims or mineral rights that have been granted since the spring of 2021, up to and including

today, for example, and up to and including any that may be granted before the approval of the Land Use Plan? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Michele: Michele LeBlanc-Havard, Director of Environment Protection, Department of Environment. Yes. Thank you for the question.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have another question?

Jonathan S: Yes. Thank you very much, Mr. Chair, and thank you for the clarification. The Commission understands the GN's recommendation that the Land Use Plan as currently drafted does not strike an appropriate balance between economic opportunities and conservation. You have clearly indicated your preference for Conditional Use Areas and seasonal restrictions as an example of a more flexible approach that would allow many types of economic opportunities to proceed.

I am curious if the Government of Nunavut could summarize any aspects of the Draft Plan where it does support prohibitions being included in the Draft Plan, if any. I am thinking not in all cases would seasonal restrictions be appropriate. You have indicated things of a seasonal nature like caribou habitat could be addressed through seasonal restrictions, but we are thinking of other areas, for example, Community Areas of Interest or community drinking water supply where a seasonal approach may not achieve the objectives that have been identified for those particular values. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead when you are ready.

Henry: Thank you. Henry Coman, Government of Nunavut. So, the Limited Use Areas supported by the Government of Nunavut, in the 2016 Nunavut submission, the Government of Nunavut supported the following Community Areas of Interest for land use and then protected areas. Sorry, I am going to get Daniel to read his own writing. Thank you.

Daniel: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Daniel Haney, Government of Nunavut. Yes, so in the 2016 GN submission, we supported the Limited Use designation. At the time, they were called protected areas for the Huikitak River, Duke of York Bay, Foxe Basin, Moffet Inlet, Nettling Lake, and Walrus Island. In the current 2021 Plan, the GN may consider supporting Limited Use designations in other Community Areas of Interest such as Sanirajak, the essential char fishing river; Diana River; and the Boothia Peninsula. Thank you.

Chairperson: Jonathan?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. I appreciate the clarification provided. During the community presentations and follow-up comments and questions heard this week, there were a large number of concerns expressed regarding the activities of cruise ships and other vessels. The Nunavut Planning Commission has attempted to outline our mandate in regard to the management of these vessels. I am wondering for the benefit of community participants and Commissioners here today if the Government of Nunavut could outline its mandate and responsibilities regarding the authorization of cruise ships and other vessels. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead when you are ready.

Diane: Diane Lapierre, Government of Nunavut. The Government of Nunavut does have some regulatory oversight. There is the *Nunavut Tourism Act*, which contains regulations, which cruise operators need to follow. This includes the responsibility of their passengers and crew and their conduct. Itineraries must be submitted to the Chief Tourism Officer within the Department of Economic Development and Transportation. All required permits must be obtained before visiting such places, such as on Inuit Owned Lands, national parks, and archeological and paleontological sites.

If cruise ship operators are observing or researching wildlife, they would require either a wildlife observation permit or a wildlife research permit. These are reviewed and issued by the Department of Environment. There are measures and methods outlined within the permit that need to be followed. Within the *Nunavut Tourism Act* contains the Nunavut Marine Tourism Regulations. Schedules A and B also identify specific activities that are not permitted, and behavior and conduct as I mentioned. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Jonathan?

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you for the helpful clarifications. One final question: Are there any thresholds on when these regulations apply? I am thinking in particular on the smaller scale between yachts and things of that nature that community participants have identified as a concern. Is there any sort of lower threshold at which these measures begin to apply? Thank you.

Diane: Diane Lapierre, Government of Nunavut. Within the Marine Tourism Regulations that I mentioned, they refer to a pleasure craft carrying 12 passengers or more, and a commercial passenger vessel carrying 12 passengers or more.

Chairperson: Sharon?

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehloak, Executive Director for the Planning Commission. Thank you for coming to the hearing and thank you for your presentation. I have a couple of supplementary questions from Jonathan. The first one is regard to existing rights. The GN, you stated that you are supporting the existing rights for the claims up until and including the Plan being approved.

So, if someone staked in the core calving grounds today, my understanding is that you are saying it would be an existing rights. I ask the GN, does the Government of Nunavut support exploration and development in the caribou calving grounds, post-calving grounds, important areas, and water crossings? That is my first question. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Daniel: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Daniel Haney, Government of Nunavut. Please bear with me. This response is quite lengthy. As we know, the location of a potential mine is unknown. Similarly, the mineral potential in Nunavut is largely unknown. There is insufficient geological information to determine where mining will occur in the future, which is why exploration takes place in different locations.

As we mentioned in the presentation, less than 1 exploration project in 1,000 shows economic potential and becomes a mine. Exploration for minerals is an information gathering process, which can have a low impact on the land. Depending on the activity, it also has the potential to result in significant negative impacts to wildlife and wildlife habitat.

For this reason, projects must operate within an understanding that impacts will occur and that any proposed mitigations must address those impacts directly and effectively. Activities must be flexible and responsive to changing conditions. Exploration work like mining operations is only allowed to proceed after conforming to a Land Use Plan, and impact assessment is conducted with public input, and activities are approved through the regulatory system.

Nunavut has a robust impact assessment process, which is intended to ensure that projects will not be recommended for approval by the Nunavut Impact Review Board where negative impacts outweigh positive outcomes. An approved project comes with terms and conditions intended to reduce impacts and increase benefits to the social and ecological environment. These terms and conditions must be enforced by the relevant authorizing agency.

However, there are known gaps in the enforcement model that need to be addressed in order to ensure that terms and conditions are enforced and effective. The Government of Nunavut is committed to working with regulatory authorities to bridge these gaps and ensure that impacts to environment are quickly identified and appropriately mitigated using proven methods.

Once exploration begins, it is often assumed that development will be allowed to proceed. Project proponents should be aware that as a project expands, wildlife conservation becomes an increasing concern and may lead to the rejection of the project regardless of the funds invested. Investment in mineral exploration in sensitive habitats can therefore be risky to both the proponent and the environment.

Development in a sensitive habitat, such as calving or post-calving grounds, may not be supported or justified by local communities, Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, and western science due to the scale of impacts it may have on wildlife. Allowing development in sensitive areas may have long-term detrimental effects on wildlife habitat and consequently Inuit harvesting rights protected under the *Nunavut Agreement*.

Potential negative impacts on wildlife may also have significant economic and cultural impacts. Wildlife is widely consumed across Nunavut and neighboring jurisdictions, the value of which is estimated in the tens of millions of dollars annually directly to the people. These practices also form a significant part of cultural identity.

On the other hand, the mineral resource sector can provide employment to local Inuit, opportunities for local businesses, and make significant contributions to the Nunavut economy, including revenues which support services that the government provides. This highlights the need to achieve a balance between economic development and environmental protection.

Land use designations must therefore be balanced between conservation and a growing need for a diverse and thriving wage economy. Conditional Use designations in the Land Use Plan can allow for some economic activity to occur where and when deemed appropriate, in other words, where positive outcomes outweigh negative impacts.



The Government of Nunavut is concerned that the broad use of Limited Use designations in the current Draft Plan is too restrictive when considering the economic impact on Nunavummiut and the Nunavut economy.

Finally, the Government of Nunavut is here to listen to communities, Hunters and Trappers Organizations, planning partners, and Nunavummiut to inform our final submission to the Commission. What we hear will also factor into our review of the recommended Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan submitted by the Commission after the close of record and these proceedings. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are there any more questions before the lunch break? *(Pause)*

We will take a lunch break. Be back at 1:15. Qujannamiik.

### **Lunch Break**

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: We will resume our meeting this afternoon. Have a seat please. Before we proceed, Sharon has some housekeeping items.

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehaloak, Executive Director with the Planning Commission. Welcome back for the final afternoon of our last day of our public hearing. Just a couple of announcements: We really need to make sure that the rest of the registered participants that are going to present have time. We are going to stop the Government of Nunavut at 2:00, and then Baffinland will be presenting after that. With your questions, if you could please, we do want to hear from everyone, but keep your questions as a brief as possible so everybody has an opportunity to ask the questions. With that, Baffinland is not here yet, but I am sure they will be here momentarily. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. We will continue. Henry?

Henry: Thank you, Mr. Chair. With your permission, I would like to add a little bit more to what Daniel had said in regard to the last question before we broke for lunch.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Henry: I would just like to state that this is in regard to exploration and the timing of the Nunavut Land Use Plan. Exploration work is exploration work. Building a mine is building a mine. The two are definitely connected. However, just because exploration work is approved to proceed, that does not mean that building the mine is approved at the same time.

I just don't want to leave the impression that there is a whole army of prospectors and whatnot doing a mad dash to do exploration work before the close of the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan is completed. Essentially, the greater the impact on the environment, the greater the scrutiny that will happen. That is just what I wanted to say. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Sharon?

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Henry, thank you for the explanation, and Daniel the answer. Sharon Ehaloak, Executive Director for the Planning Commission. In essence, the GN is supportive of mining claims being staked in the caribou calving grounds if the staking occurs before the Plan is adopted. Is that correct?

Chairperson: When you are ready, go ahead.

Diane: Diane Lepierre, Government of Nunavut. I just wanted to simply say, the Government of Nunavut supports the lawfully acquired claims. So, if they are following the permitting process as under the current legislation, then we continue to be supportive of that legislation.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehaloak, Executive Director with the Nunavut Planning Commission. So, overwhelmingly, you have heard from all of the public hearings that we have had, the community members saying their priorities for the protection of the caribou, the caribou calving ground habitats, and related areas. That leaves the Commission in the position with competing interests with the GN and others supporting development or exploration in the calving grounds.

I am wondering if the GN can give us some guidance or solutions of how to resolve the competing interests when we are hearing from communities overwhelmingly that they want the caribou calving ground habitat protected. When exploration claims are being staked, as we know and we heard in the last public hearing, there is a stake in one of the core calving grounds. So, can you tell us, provide the Commissioners guidance and others of how to resolve the competing interest? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Michele: Thank you, Sharon. Michele Havard, Director of Environmental Protection, Department of Environment. Thank you for the question. If I understand correctly, you are asking what the position the Government of Nunavut is with regard to rights or staking of claims in Limited Use Areas. Is that correct?

Chairperson: Sharon?

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehaloak, Executive Director with the Planning Commission. I am asking for guidance from the Government of Nunavut with your position supporting this staking to continue and the exploration in the calving grounds. What guidance can you provide to the Commission when we have heard the communities say, you have heard the communities overwhelmingly say they don't want the development. They don't want exploration.

Recognizing that yes, exploration does not always lead to a mine, but if you are granting exploration, you are granting the potential of future development on the caribou habitat. What guidance can you provide the Commission with these two issues that are competing against each other? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead when you are ready.

Michele: Thank you, Sharon. Michele Havard, Director of Environmental Protection, Department of Environment. I think you bring up some good key points. The process that we are all taking in here is very important. These are hearings, and we are here to hear and to listen. We have presented our review of the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. We are also collecting information by participating in these hearings and listening to the communities.

All this information will be considered and reviewed before we make our final submission before the record closes. We are engaging and contributing and participating in this process. We feel it is important to hear and take messages back. Thank you.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Michele. Sharon Ehloak, Executive Director, Nunavut Planning Commission. I just want to be clear for the record that if the staking continues in the calving grounds up until the Plan is approved, that is the position of the GN that you will support that, just for clarity on the record. I think that is a yes or a no.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Daniel: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Daniel Haney, Government of Nunavut. We can't say that we would support or not. These things are on a case-by-case basis. As we mentioned, as I mentioned in my long answer before lunch, we acknowledge that development in those sensitive areas could be very detrimental, and we are not recommending it take place. If a claim is legally obtained, we can't stop that from happening. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Other questions, Sharon? Are there any other questions? Sakiasee, you are first. You may proceed with your questions. Try to keep your questions short. We would like you to stick to the guidelines of this proceeding, please.

Sakiasee: *(Translated)*: Sakiasee Qaunaq, Arctic Bay Hamlet. During your presentation, young people in our community are having a hard time finding work. They are trying to go into tourism ventures. During the ice spring season, there are a lot of tourists who use their own equipment to supply tourists who sometimes are heavy laden with gear and everything. When tourists come up, they are very cheap at times. They want to be taken out, but they don't want to pay for wear and tear of the equipment or the supplies.

For those who are in the tourism industry back home, their transportation and their gear is very expensive. Some of their gear is very heavy. What sort of assistance will the Government of Nunavut Tourism assist for those who want to be in tourism business but lack funds to establish a good company? Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. It is not related to our proceedings. I have mentioned this time and time again. I think we all understand now that we do not want to discuss outside proceeding guidelines. Elijah?

Elijah: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Elijah Panipakoochoo, Mittimatalik Elder, Hamlet appointed. Your presentation, Government of Nunavut, if I understand correctly, although I won't talk long on

the subject, in a previous day, NTI spoke of the environment. There was a discussion on IQ. I don't think it is a priority with anybody.

For those who are coming into Nunavut to find jobs and for those who are coming up for pleasure and for tourism, I think the government has information on Travel Nunavut for tourists coming up to Nunavut. I would like to know if there is information on how to tour responsibly, mainly on being sensitive to the wildlife and their wellbeing. Many species of animals are not used to humans approaching them.

Mainly during summer, our tours are coming into the community, and many come in the summer to work. Your responsibility as a government in tourism industry and in Nunavut in general, I don't think only to southerners but to perhaps anywhere from the world coming up here, they should be oriented properly on our species and lifestyle up here.

When they come up, they don't follow any rules or anything. Sometimes they touch sensitive areas. They are careless, and they have been told many times when they up here doing their tourism and work. They do not adhere to any lectures or to the people who are guiding them. As we travel south or anywhere in the world, there are signs everywhere do this, don't do that. We lack all of these warning signs of "Do Not Disturb" or signs like that. Government of Nunavut should take responsibility to have these signs printed, distributed to the communities. You as a government should know. You are in the tourism industry, and you would know what signs to put up. Could you put up these signs? People coming up should know how to act.

Some of our areas are very sensitive. We have a water reservoir. People come in and just start swimming in our water reservoirs. That is how careless some of these people coming up here are. There are hardly any rules that they follow. Photographers are a nuisance. They go after animals, not only animals but mammals as well.

As Inuit, we are obedient people. We don't have any confrontation within us, so we just let everything go. For those who are responsible for giving information to Nunavut at these proceedings who are invited to give our opinions, if you were to do your job, it would be a lot simpler for people coming up and enjoying themselves rather than confronting.

The Nunavut area, it freezes, and snow comes in. When spring thaws, all that snow and rivers flowing into the ocean are cleaning up the area creating a mess by careless people. We are very much aware of our lifestyle. Look at the snow outside. When the snow comes and winter comes, it is not just snow. It will save your life. You can create shelter, but when it thaws, it is dirty and dirty water is flowing into the oceans from the hills. We need it to be clean.

We need to keep our environment pristine. There is char out there. There is fish out there. When they start maturing, our mammals sometimes travel as far as Newfoundland through the coast. So, we have to be aware of our environment. This is all we have, our environment and our lifestyle. It could be a lot better. To the Elders who know our lifestyle, our way of life, you ask an Elder, it is a good starting point to learn. There should be groups involved towards this pristine environment we have up here. Thank you for allowing me to speak.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. It is not related to our proceedings. Larry?

Larry: Larry Audlauk. I am from the far north, Grise Fjord HTO member. The section when you talk about overlap, when we are doing tourism or sports hunting, guiding, we would try to keep, to go to a place where polar bears would be. We are careful not to go where there is private hunting or regular harvesting of polar bears, but it happens. It is not intentionally, and it is very uncomfortable when you are guiding a sports hunter, and there are regular harvesters in the same area. Would that be considered overlap, if it is? It is important. You were talking about overlap in your report.

Also, same thing when we are harvesting going on our spring fishing trip, we have encountered signs. Helicopters come to the lake we are fishing at. They dig a hole and take out whatever samples they are looking for. Then they claim they did not know we were there. Is that another overlap? If so, make sure that is noted.

One other question is that everybody knows this should have gone to the Government of Canada, but I think they are still here. This question includes asking the Commission, is the scientific community Polar Shelf based out of Resolute Bay was ever approached to go in front of the Nunavut Planning Commission to make presentation? There are some of us who have lived with them for years since 1955. I don't think we are very close. We have never really been close. We have no access to whatever scientific findings that they have accumulated all these years, everything from little bugs to glaciers to you name it.

We have seen them come and study. We have nothing against them, but we are like neighbors living next to each other. We see each other every day, but we don't know who they are. So, do you have any information coming from Polar Shelf, and will we ever be able to see what they have done? Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Part of your question is not relevant to the Nunavut Planning Commission proceedings.

Daniel: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Daniel Haney, Government of Nunavut. Thank you, Larry, for your questions. Just to clarify, the overlap that we were referring to in our presentation was with Limited Use designation and municipal plans, and municipal boundaries specifically. That is what we were referring when we meant overlap, not the situations that you described.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Larry: So, that means my question is nothing? No good? My question has gone nowhere?

*(Translated)*: My question is not answered. Thank you. Larry Audlauk, HTO.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Eamonn: Thank you, Chair. No, Larry. I'm Eamonn Carroll, legal counsel for the Government of Nunavut. No, Larry, it is a good question. Guiding and regular hunting are allowed under all three of the land use designations, so harvesting would be allowed under all three of the designations. What we are referring to when we say overlap, it refers to for example, when there is a wildlife protected area inside a hamlet. So, if we go back in the slides, you can see that the homes of residents in Kugluktuk are inside a Limited Use Area.

So, if they were to go to say, quarrying or other development activities, there is a conflict there within their community. That is what we mean by overlap. In terms of hunting and guiding, that is kind of outside of the scope, but we do have in the room members of Environment staff who can answer questions. It is just kind of outside the scope of the hearing.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Just a reminder that the presenters have until 2:00 due to time constraints. Please be direct and proceed with the guidelines.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Charlie Inuarak, HTO Pond Inlet. I would like to ask the panel and Nunavut Planning Commission either body, Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit should be a priority. We have been told time and time again that it is a priority, and it is a useful tool. I know that people are trying their best to follow the guidelines, perhaps Justice more so than any other department.

I would like the Nunavut Planning Commission to get serious and entrench IQ as one of the organizational policies. We need lawyers. We need a lawyer you can concentrate full-time to know and study what IQ is so it can be fully utilized rather than to be just used as a discussion point. We would like to see someone full-time in that department related to IQ only. The Justice Department should have that. That was in short form.

One of my questions is in relation to national parks. We have been told that this file will close January 10<sup>th</sup>. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans did not give us a proper presentation to see what the federal government is up to in this area for national parks. So, I don't fully understand what we would be allowed to do, especially from DFO. Their policies related to our concerns, related to mammals, we use them up, and some of them have very small, very fine food chain. Any disturbance would create a situation for bigger mammals. I need to hear from DFO.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: As you have heard over the days, the Planning Commission has no jurisdiction over national parks. We have no authority on fully established parks, but yes, while they are at the stages when one is to become one. Once the national proposed park becomes a park, we have no jurisdiction. It is out of our hands, and it is automatically averted to the federal government responsibility. Prior to becoming a full-fledged park, we have a say. We can work on the file. Once it is complete, it is off our hands.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I understand. We still must have a way to be part of it. For instance, we have been looking at this for some time. Before a park becomes a park, and one of your staff has mentioned that the Planning Commission has responsibility before it becomes a full-fledged park. That is what I am trying to get at. Say policies related to parks are responsibility of the federal government, but there must be a way. It would be time consuming. Sometimes we are never consulted during the process of this becoming a park.

Thirdly, perhaps my question would be more to the government panel, Tourism Department and the licensing issued related to the outfitters. We are not aware. We do not know how to apply for these parks or tourism. We need to be full participants. It is urgent because your file closes January 10<sup>th</sup>. Would you be able to authorize such a procedure?

Many of us are not aware that a lot of things are going on in our Nunavut area: helicopters, aircraft, and perhaps others that we are not aware of. Some helicopters and aircraft are flying so low. Although these things are ongoing, hunters and trappers are never consulted or participants.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: I think your concern will be answered also, although it is outside our guidelines of what this hearing is all about. Talk to any department who you think is concerned, but I will request an answer for this one this time.

Diane: Thank you. Diane Lapierre with the Government of Nunavut. I understood the questions and some concerns about how to access outfitter permits or tourism. I guess briefly, I can say that the Department of Economic Development and Transportation provides a process for overseeing those activities. There are some support and funding available as well with the department. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. The last part of the question was could you also include the appropriate...when you guys are giving out permits for the tourism, cruise ships, if you can inform them? That is how I understood his question in Inuktitut.

Diane: Diane Lapierre, the Government of Nunavut. Thank you for that clarification. I am sorry I didn't quite understand it initially. Yes, I can take some of that back and confirm that communication with the HTOs regarding visitors and tourist operators.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. You good?

Charlie: Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Lisa?

Lisa: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Lisa Ningiuk, Ajuittuq HTO. Your presentation, I was not very pleased with the presentation. I don't think I would be the only one who was not pleased. You mentioned vessels, smaller sized who have perhaps 12 or less crew. How did you come to that conclusion with the number of people on the vessels. We call them naboutalik (*spelled phonetically*). They are the ones that do most damage or go in anywhere they wish to go. Is there no proper regulations? Many of them are coming in from outside of Canada.

There was an arrival one time coming in, a small boat coming into our community with one individual. We don't know where that person came from. It could be dangerous. It could have been a danger looking back. This person arrived from international waters coming in from perhaps Greenland. There should be more effort to control our Canadian borders, our waterways. I am urging that these things be looked after. Your department, government, I don't know how to say this, but someone should be more diligent. If there is a vessel of 12 or less people, sometimes these are the most nuisance.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you want to respond?

Diane: Diane Lapierre, Government of Nunavut. Thank you for your question. The Government of Nunavut's *Tourism Act* does apply to visitors who disembark when they get off onto the land. There is also a complaints process. If there are complaints with respect to wildlife permits, as I mentioned earlier, it can go to the Department of Environment.

If anyone witnesses inappropriate activity, they can come to the Department of Economic Development and Transportation with the Government of Nunavut. The Chief Tourism Officer is in



that department, and they can make sure that complaint goes to the right person so that they can follow-up. I will pass it over to our legal to follow-up on that.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Eamonn: Eamonn Carroll. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Eamonn Carroll, Department of Justice. I believe you asked about the 12-person and how it arrived at that number. I can't tell you exactly how the Cabinet Ministers of Nunavut arrived at that number, but to explain what the regulation is about, it is about, as my colleague said, when people get off the boats. That regulation is about visiting communities.

If you get off the boat into a community, 12 people was identified as the amount that would be a lot of people coming to a community, and there are requirements around that many people visiting a community at once. Also, if they got off somewhere else outside of the community, then that comes down to the other regulations around outfitters and outfitter regulations for outside of communities.

With respect to vessels coming in from outside of Canada and vessels in the water, that is the Government of Canada. Really, it is about when they get off the vessels. That is why they identified 12 and visit the community. Thank you.

Chairperson: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik. Do you have another question? Go ahead and ask your question. These guys will have until 2:00 p.m. I apologize. They are not done yet, so if you could stay there. We still have names of people who have questions. Lisa has another question. We had said that Baffinland will begin at 2:00. They will begin shortly. I want everyone to know that you will be able to ask questions and the registered participants. We have not reached the registered participants yet. If Baffinland will make their way to the podium. Thank you.

## **Presentation by Baffinland**

**Megan Lord-Hoyle, Vice President of Sustainable Development**  
**Lou Kamermans, Senior Director of Sustainable Development**  
**Mike Settingington, Wildlife Biologist with Environmental Dynamics Inc.**

Sharon: There are hard copies of the Baffinland presentation at the back table if anybody wants a paper copy. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Baffinland is ready. Whenever you are ready, go ahead.

Megan: Unusakut. Thank you to the Nunavut Planning Commission for allowing us to present today and to all of the participants. My name is Megan Lord-Hoyle. I am the Vice President of Sustainable Development with Baffinland. With me today is Lou Kamermans, Senior Director of Sustainable Development, and Mike Settingington, our Registered Professional Wildlife Biologist with Environmental Dynamics Incorporated.

Baffinland has previously filed written submissions in this process, and we thank you for considering them. Instead of repeating that submission today, we are focusing this presentation to provide the Commissioners with information on protection measures that we have developed with community members, the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, and territorial regulators through the Nunavut Impact Review Board process and our ongoing operations.

As this slide says, Baffinland is focused on our project in the North Baffin region. We are committed to developing the Mary River Project in a way that demonstrates environmental stewardship and respect for all. We are incredibly thankful to all of the North Baffin communities, and especially the Mary River Project Inuit employees for all of the input and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit that has been shared with us to develop and improve our project.

I would like to recognize the efforts of the independent Inuit-led Dust Audit Committee who have been reviewing and developing advice for us over the last year. We will implement their recommendations, and they will guide us in reducing dust from the project. I would also like to recognize and thank the work of the Hamlet of Pond Inlet and the Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Organization in helping us develop the protection measures in place at the project.

Strong project requirements like our 9-knot vessel speed limit, the lowest shipping speed limit in Canada, as well as restriction zones along the shipping route and other management practices like setbacks or limits on the number of vessels in certain areas of the shipping route, came directly out of those discussions. We look forward to continued collaboration on these protection measures. Itsivautaq, Lou Kamermans will continue to lead the rest of the presentation. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Lou: Thank you, Megan. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Lou Kamermans, Baffinland. As the Commission has heard from many participants in this process, we agree that the topic of existing rights should be revisited in the final version of the Plan. We are asking the Commissioners to recognize the significant investment in Nunavut that Baffinland has made to date. For example, over \$3 billion dollars has been invested in expenditures that have flowed through Nunavut, and over \$100 million dollars in wages have been provided to Inuit employees alone.

We ask that the systems be implemented in the Plan that can realize the full potential of the Mary River group of deposits. We support a land use plan approach that would maintain our current rights to all improved infrastructure and activities. Existing rights should also allow us to make applications to the Nunavut Impact Review Board for modified or new activities relating to the development of or access to our existing mineral claims without the need for amendments to the Land Use Plan in the future.

For clarity, the decision about whether an individual activity would proceed would always remain with the Nunavut Impact Review Board and any other subsequent processes that are required. For mining and exploration projects, we are asking the Commission to take the Option 4 approach that was developed by your staff in the *Options and Recommendations Document*. This Option 4 land use planning requirement would help ensure that our applications are complete and meaningfully address the issues that Inuit have identified to the Commission.

In this slide, we can see the northern end of the Mary River Milne Inlet infrastructure corridor. We have asked that the Commissioners define the corridor approximately, and that minor adjustments to infrastructure alignments not require future Land Use Plan amendments. Baffinland has also suggested a Valued Socioeconomic Component designation rather than a Limited Use designation. This would avoid unnecessary Plan amendments for necessarily incidental or compatible future uses.

Baffinland also identified that ice bridging requirements over on-ice travel routes may not be feasible in a number of cases, and that a more site-specific approach is needed. Baffinland has proposed that in instances where shipping through ice overlaps known on-ice travel routes, the proponent be required to work with local communities to develop a safe travel plan. This plan can take unique features of the proposed activities, the local and seasonal ice conditions, as well as the local community priorities into consideration to develop solutions that are safe, effective, and achievable.

The remainder of this presentation will focus on caribou protection at Mary River. The reason for providing this information is that it can stand an example of the types of mitigations that can be achieved through the processes administered after a project meets conformity with the Land Use Plan. This is the same system that Baffinland recommends continue under the first-generation of the Nunavut Land Use Plan where sensitive caribou areas are identified for additional scrutiny in the Impact Assessment Phase, that the areas are refined with additional studies by both traditional and scientific means, and that the effectiveness of mobile protection measures be given due consideration.

As you have heard from other presenters, we are currently at a low point in the 70-year population cycle in the North Baffin. According to the Traditional Knowledge shared with us, we understand that the caribou will be back and that we need to build and manage our project in a way that protects every caribou that interacts with our site.

The measures that we have in place are based on Traditional Knowledge and the best available western science and were developed in collaboration with Inuit and our Terrestrial Environment Working Group. Mike Settingington will now speak more about our understanding of North Baffin caribou and our approach to caribou protection.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Mike: Hello, Mr. Chair. I am Mike Settingington, a biologist working on the Mary River Project since 2007 and on previous Draft Nunavut Land Use Plans since 2000. Slide 9, the next slide, summarizes some of the opportunities we have had to work directly with Traditional Knowledge holders, to learn about areas important to caribou, and the relevance of those areas to the mine site, the mine site activities, and broader areas that may be affected by the Mary River Project.

This Traditional Knowledge engagement work included engagement on plants and habitat in 2007; an Environmental Issues Working Group in 2008; caribou-focused working groups in 2008 and again in 2015; and more on the land work with Knowledge Holders in 2019 as Baffinland sought to get more information on caribou habitat use near our proposed railway route.

Also, as part of the recent Nunavut Impact Review Board Assessment, Baffinland committed to partially fund the Qikiqtani Inuit Association's Baffin Island-wide Caribou Traditional Knowledge Survey. That additional Traditional Knowledge information can provide a broader perspective on how abundance and habitat use will change as caribou return in large numbers as part of their natural population cycle.

Baffinland also supports the Government of Nunavut in its studies of caribou abundance. Baffinland is also committed to Inuit-led project effects monitoring. A mix of Traditional Knowledge, scientific study, Inuit involvement, and experience from other Nunavut projects is essential to the development of caribou protection measures at the Mary River Project.

I will now speak briefly on the Traditional Knowledge baseline information that was shared with us. Starting in 2006 during the early years of the project, we recognized that we were working in an area deficient in scientific understanding but rich in Traditional Knowledge of caribou behaviour and distribution. We knew we had to go to local Elders and Knowledge Holders, who are the caribou experts, to help us understand the caribou.

Baffinland recognized the important need and large responsibility to work with Knowledge Holders to document the Traditional Knowledge relevant to the project area to ensure that Baffinland was informed and could manage risk effectively and operate a mine. Inuit generously shared knowledge on where caribou have been known to calve, their seasonal movements, their 70-year population cycle, and signs of where the caribou would return in large numbers.

This Slide 10 illustrates some of the caribou information that was shared and used in the impact assessment and mitigation plans. Slide 11 on the screen shows some information about caribou calving near the Mary River site. The Elders who had experienced the last high in caribou abundance and used this land area, helped Baffinland understand the importance and behaviour of North Baffin Island calving caribou.

We learned that the calving behaviour of Baffin Island caribou is very different from the behaviour of herds on mainland Nunavut. While caribou have been known to calve in areas identified by some participants in the red outlined areas on Slide 11, the caribou don't necessarily group together when calving. They tend to be distributed individually in often barren, higher elevation areas. Knowledge Holders have shared with us that it is likely that Baffin caribou will go hide to avoid predation by wolves.

Understanding caribou behaviour on North Baffin Island is much richer than simply identifying areas on maps. While caribou can be found in many areas, it is important to understand that when calving, they are up high, sparsely distributed, and not always in the same area for years on end. In recognition of this distinction from calving behaviour on the mainland, if calving areas are designated in the final Land Use Plan, the Baffin areas where caribou have been known to calve should be clearly distinguished and treated differently from the calving grounds identified on mainland Nunavut.

Slide 12 illustrates some of the information on how caribou movement as shared by Knowledge Holders is integrated in project design and mitigation. Again, the information comes to us from the local land users and harvesters through interviews, mapping, and discussions. Our work with the

local Knowledge Holders also included discussions about risk and consequence so that Baffinland could focus mitigation efforts appropriately.

Prohibitions and exclusions are not always the correct answer. Every project proponent needs to understand the area they are working in and develop mitigations that respond to the unique features of each project and each landscape. This understanding requires careful planning and collaboration, evaluation of risk, and development of mitigations to reduce potential adverse effects. With a commitment by involved stakeholders, the result can be a project that coexists with caribou. At that same time, hunters can still have a consistent sustainable harvest.

Slide 13 and 14 in Inuktitut illustrates an example from one of Baffinland's Environmental Management Plans. The project certificate requires that the plan include measures to protect caribou and to be revisited regularly so that the most up-to-date information, including Inuit feedback, is addressed. This example on screen illustrates how Baffinland protects caribou along the Tote Road. When caribou are near the Tote Road, trucks stop to ensure the caribou can move freely. Caribou have the right-of-way.

These measures are a part of the approved project. They have been in place for many years and will continue to be used on the project and improved as necessary. So, Mr. Chair, the environmental protection measures implemented at the Mary River Project exceed the standards in any other Canadian jurisdiction where I have worked, particularly for the protection of land and caribou, the plans for future research and monitoring when the caribou return, and the constant vigilance and engagement of the authorities and Inuit in follow-up monitoring.

In my opinion, the protection measures implemented at this and other Nunavut mining projects show Nunavut's leadership in environmental protection and resource development. The Nunavut Planning Commission should acknowledge these existing approaches within the context of the Nunavut Land Use Plan. Mr. Chair, Lou Kamermans will complete the presentation.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Lou: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Mike. Lou Kamermans, Baffinland. In 2014, Baffinland and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association developed and submitted the Mary River Caribou Protection Measures to the Nunavut Planning Commission. The protection measures draw from the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan and incorporate refinements to address project-specific application.

Broadly, these protection measures acknowledge the need to complete the Caribou Protection Map identified in the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan, that the areas identified in this map and through project monitoring may become project-specific protection zones, and that additional mitigation measures may be applied in these areas. The protection measures are detailed but also flexible, which gives parties the ability to modify our approach over time, as monitoring and other information determine it is needed.

In 2022, Baffinland and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association agreed to advance key sections of the Caribou Protection Measures. Both in 2014 and 2022, the protection measures continue to respect the principle that mitigations should take the presence of caribou into consideration before they are implemented, consistent with the approach outlined in the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan.

Through the protection measures, it is possible for parties to gain a greater understanding of North Baffin caribou and enhance their protection over time, aided by the ongoing inputs provided through project monitoring and local Inuit experience. Baffinland conducts a variety of monitoring programs every year, and each year, Baffinland submits its reports to the Nunavut Impact Review Board, which are then circulated to all parties on the public distribution list. The board then administers a transparent review process, which concludes with the issuance of any recommendations the board feel are necessary.

To maximize community participation and awareness, Baffinland also translates summaries of the annual report and provides printed copies of the full report to all five North Baffin hamlets and Hunters and Trappers Organizations. On this slide, we have several examples of some of the past terrestrial monitoring reports with highlights of some of the focus areas of each of those reports, and changes that we have made to reflect feedback from these reviews.

Inuit involvement is integral to the success and longevity of Baffinland-led monitoring programs. Over time, we have seen the composition of our monitoring programs evolve with some reporting over 50% local Inuit participation. We have also seen the same people return year over year and take on leadership roles.

In addition to our own monitoring, we also consider information collected from outside our own programs, including those carried out at a regional scale by bodies like the Government of Nunavut, as well as the results of community-based programs. Baffinland has made an industry leading agreement to fund the development of independent Inuit-led monitoring specific to the Mary River Project to be administered by the Qikiqtani Inuit Association but driven by Inuit from the five North Baffin communities.

Through the long life of this project, Baffinland expects that Inuit will lead both the monitoring and operation of the project over time. This vision fits within the broad goals of the Nunavut Land Use Plan. As my colleague Mike said, we believe that mining and caribou can coexist.

In closing, we respect the Commission's advice that the focus of the discussion be on land use planning and not project-specific topics. However, if anyone here has specific questions about the project, Megan and I are regularly here and available to discuss the project with you outside of this hearing. Thank you. Qujannamiik. Mr. Chair, this completes our presentation, and we are ready for your land use planning questions. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you to the representatives of Baffinland for joining us today. I just have one question on clarification on Slide 6 of your presentation covering on-ice travel routes. We do appreciate the clear recommendations that Baffinland has provided in its submissions. I would just like to clarify though, the final bullet on reconsidering seasonal references. I would just like to clarify if that refers to the specific calendar dates that the Commission has included in Table 3 of the Draft Plan itself, or if you are referring to some other reconsideration. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

- Lou: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thanks, Jonathan for letting me clarify. I believe that point talks about the need to reconcile the table in the Plan with the table we provided in the back of our written submission, which provides Canadian Ice Service data of different ice conditions. We think just the limits may require a reevaluation.
- Chairperson: Thank you. There are no more questions from NPC. Does anyone want to ask any questions regarding their statements?
- Namen: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Namen Inuarak, HTO. You Baffinland people said that monitoring, environmental monitoring is not properly set up or fixed. We know that your monitoring is not set up properly. The things you point out, the monitors where the subcommittees that you talk about, environmental monitors work for you guys. They only do work for you, not for the Inuit who are impacted. They only report what you want to hear and show the reports to others.
- Can you amend your report and then submit it to NPC with environmental people adding to your report with respect to environmental monitoring? The people you talk about, the subcommittee, what you call the working group and the Elders that you called experts, I will say two other names: Elijah Nashook and Caleb Samayah. They are employees for you. They are Knowledge Keepers.
- Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Namen, it would be better if you asked your questions geared toward the Nunavut Land Use Plan. We understand what you are saying, what you are trying to say. I keep saying we are dealing with the NPC stuff here. We are not dealing with stuff outside of NPC. You were also stating names. We don't state names. If you have a question of their report with respect to NPC's duties, we don't necessarily want to hear your statements or concerns toward Baffinland. That is not what we are here to do. Go ahead if you have a question further or statements. Qujannamiik.
- Namen: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Namen Invarak. Can you include independent auditors? The working group has no power, and you use them. So, can you add that in respect to the Nunavut Planning Commission that the HTO environmental be used? Instead there are already organizations. They are already environmentalists. These powerless unrecognized people, you stop using them and add that to the Nunavut Planning Commission. That is what I want you to do myself. Thank you.
- Chairperson: You can respond to him if you want. Go ahead.
- Megan: Megan Lord-Hoyle, Baffinland. Qujannamiik. Recognizing that I don't think that was a land use planning-specific question, I will be very brief in my answer. Respectfully, we disagree and think that our environmental reporting is set up very well. We use professionals in the industry and Inuit to conduct the monitoring and report on the results as they are found. Those are publicly available. We also believe that the terms and conditions of the project certificate are monitored efficiently throughout the Nunavut Impact Review Board processes.
- Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. I don't have any other names. Are there any other questions from...Olayuk? Please ask questions based on their report, and make them short, please.
- Olayuk: *(Translated)*: Olayuk Naqitarvik, Arctic Bay Hamlet. This will probably come up later on, but what we are looking at and the statements name from the report, is this the end or will this come up with respect to water? Is dealing with water not Baffinland's responsibility? Whose responsibility is that?



Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Are you asking us a question regarding water?

Olayuk: *(Translated)*: Olayuk Naqitarvik, Hamlet of Arctic Bay. My question is, these reports, your application to NPC, we get ships going to Milne Inlet, and they are transporting ore. Is that not under Baffinland's jurisdiction, or are you doing research on the ocean too?

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Is that your question to NPC? Olayuk, is that your question to NPC? Yes? Sorry, please restate your question. We did not really understand that in English.

Olayuk: *(Translated)*: Olayuk Naqitarvik. I understand that this is not the responsibility other than land, although people are working on the ocean. If I have any other questions, I will tend to say something. That is not your report.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: I am sorry we did not understand your statement made in English.

Olayuk: *(Translated)*: Olayuk Naqitarvik from Arctic Bay HTO. This is my question geared to Baffinland. When this comes into effect, the maps, you will need to work on the maps. You had said you had some fixed. When this is done, will you follow the document?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Megan: Megan Lord-Hoyle, Baffinland. In short, when the Plan is finalized, yes, Baffinland will be required to conform and any future modifications to the project. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Is that it?

Olayuk: *(Translated)*: Yes, thank you.

Adrian: *(Translated)*: Adrian Arnauyumaq, HTO. Thank you. We will be doing a lot of work before January 10<sup>th</sup>. That is all.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Charlie has a statement or question. Make your question short and with respect to what they were reporting on.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Charlie Inuarak, HTO. Welcome Baffinland, to the community. You support with jobs to our youth. First of all, I thank you for that. Mr. Chair, the question I have, there looks like there will be a route on the sea ice. Does it say anything about if something happened, they would only put that into effect? I don't really understand that. Are you trying to say that you want to be able to go on the sea ice in your submission to NPC?

Chairperson: Go ahead and respond.

Lou: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thanks, Charlie for the question. This comment we developed about the southern transportation corridor, so the shipping route would go through Hudson Strait, Foxe Basin, and into Steensby. There is an on-ice travel route that the Commission has marked that is about 50 kilometers south of Steensby Port. The recommendation is that an ice-bridging plan be implemented there. That may be possible, but it may not. So, we have asked that instead of being

just given that one option that instead we be responsible for developing a crossing plan with the closest communities that works for them and for us and for that area. That is what this comment is in relation to. It is just where we may break ice along that one travel route. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I understood the question. I understand now that this submission tells of a part that they may or may not use on the Steensby side. Yep, the Steensby project has been completely approved by the federal government, and they would ship year-round in winter and summer. They would ship all year. So, the reason I asked about why you want to go through the sea ice, I know you had wanted to go through the sea ice. What I thought you were saying was that you would want to travel on Eclipse Sound during winter. He had thought that Baffinland's application would be submitted to NPC.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. That is more of a statement. Registered participants, do you have any questions? Paul?

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. I am wondering what the results of the methodology that Baffinland has used over the last few years in terms of seeing caribou at the site and along their project, and how that compares to Traditional Knowledge of the people or the actual knowledge of the people who also travel through the area and also may be going there to hunt. I am just wondering how effective the protocols have demonstrated themselves to be. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead and respond.

Mike: Mr. Chair, Mike Setterington, biologist for Baffinland. In regard to Paul's question about the effectiveness of our monitoring versus what the local land users are seeing, our monitoring is right now limited to the footprint of the project in what we call Height of Land Surveys where we can see roughly out a 5-kilometre radius focused on the calving season to determine if we have caribou calving near the project site.

Our results are very different from what the land users would see, the hunters that are out on a much broader area looking for caribou specifically, not specifically near the project site itself, but in a much broader area. So, there are very different ways of looking for caribou for very different purposes. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have a question?

Paul C: Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. Thank you for that response. The 5-kilometre area from the mine site, how was it determined that that is the correct distance or influence that the project would have on caribou? For instance, if the project influences caribou within a larger area further away from the project, say 6 or 7 kilometers, they would not be spotted at the 5-kilometre radius that you are looking at. How was that 5-kilometre radius determined and on what knowledge? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead with your response.

Mike: Mr. Chair, it is Mike Settingerton for Baffinland. Thanks for the question, Paul. That kind of question is discussed in detail in our monitoring plans, and certainly it has been a topic of discussion within our Terrestrial Environment Working Group. The Environmental Assessment for this project acknowledges that what we call the zone of influence or the influence that this project could have on animal distribution could extend as far as 14 kilometers, which we have seen at some other diamond mines.

Mr. Chair, I would like to point out that we do have designs in place for monitoring caribou when we have greater numbers to monitor. The density of caribou is simply too low right now to have detailed studies, so we focus right now on caribou interacting specifically with the project. Mr. Chair, I would just like to emphasize that on these Height of Land Surveys, we also had Elder participation to make sure that we are looking in the right areas for caribou near the project.

The question that Mr. Crowley is asking goes beyond the purpose of a monitoring program, and we have longer-term plans in place, including aerial surveys and support of Government of Nunavut collaring studies that we can use the data to analyze the question that he is asking. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Let me ask if there are any other questions from somebody else?

Richard: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Richard Paton, Qikiqtani Inuit Association. The Qikiqtani Inuit Association agrees that significant work led to a joint submission to the Nunavut Planning Commission in 2014 that helped develop caribou protection measures for the Mary River Project that included information obtained from key Knowledge Holders in the North Baffin.

However, as I have previously stated, the Mary River Iron Ore Project has not taken into consideration inclusion of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, including project interaction with caribou. Inuit in the surrounding communities of this project, and in particular those community members here in Pond Inlet, have clearly stated that caribou are avoiding the area at much greater distances than the project monitoring currently considers.

I have two questions. Can you explain how mobile protection measures being discussed could help protect caribou being impacted by the Mary River Project, and do you see a role for conditional protection measures near the project, thereby ensuring caribou can still use this area in ways envisioned by Inuit in the region and discussed by caribou experts leading up to the 2014 Nunavut Planning Commission submission? Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead and respond.

Lou: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Lou Kamermans, Baffinland. Before I respond to the two questions provided, I would just like to respectfully disagree with the premise, the statement provided before the two questions. I believe Mike, my colleague, adequately explained during our presentation how Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit has influenced our understanding of caribou in the North Baffin and has influenced the development of mitigation measures that are already in place today. It is unfortunate that that statement was made. Perhaps we can talk about that bilaterally after.

As for the two questions, the first one is rather project-specific and could produce a long response. In short, I believe there are mechanisms to trigger mobile protection, even with caribou at a distance from the project. This is an area where Baffinland is looking to provide support to the Government

of Nunavut as they carry out regional monitoring program, and specifically radio collar telemetry programs.

As for the implementation of conditional protection measures around the project area, that is something we are not advocating for at this point, at least from a land use planning perspective. Our response to that question is the same for our general submission to the Planning Commission, which is we are not asking that any proposal in these areas be approved without any further review. We are simply asking for the ability to get past the Land Use Plan and to be able to investigate, discuss, and work with regulators and local communities on a specific project to see if it is feasible, and through that process to determine what mitigations are necessary for the protection of caribou.

It is through those processes that could involve the Nunavut Impact Review Board that could occur through the negotiation of commercial leases on Inuit Owned Lands where you could end up with a similar result to a Conditional Use. It is just about how you get there and not stopping us before we start. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. *(Audio very distant. The Chair mentioned submissions in writing before January 10<sup>th</sup>).* Are there any other questions from the registered participants? *(Pause)*

John: I am John Ringrose, the Regional Wildlife Biologist for the GN for the Baffin region. In Baffinland's October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 letter to the NPC or the Nunavut Planning Commission, they state mobile protection measures are already applied at Mary River. Mobile protection measures are being discussed in these hearings as an alternative to Conditional or Limited Use. This is in reference to seasonal exploration activities.

It is my understanding that these were a concept for exploration projects in areas with migratory caribou herds. In my experience, I have not heard of these measures being used for static infrastructure, such as Mary River or for island herds such as Baffin caribou. Can Baffinland please elaborate on what they are referring to when they say these mobile protection measures are being applied at Mary River? What seasonality or mobile infrastructure are they referring to? I understand you may need to respond in writing. Thanks.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Lou: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Lou Kamermans, Baffinland. Thank you, John, for that question and ability to respond. I think it is just a matter of semantics, and we can discuss some more standardized terminology than this. When we say mobile protection, we are talking about applying protections to caribou when caribou are present. That is the simplest form that I can relay that in. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are there any other questions from the registered participants? Paul?

Paul O: *(Translated):* Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Paul Okalik, World Wildlife Fund. They had in a report with the road. I remember at a meeting with Nunavut Impact Review Board, Baffinland was asked if the roads had ever been crossed by caribou. They were not able to answer that at that time. What is the situation now with that? Have caribou now crossed any roads yet? Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Mike: Mr. Chair, I am Mike Settingington, Wildlife Biologist for Baffinland. Thank you, Mr. Okalik for the question. So, any caribou encounters a project has, they are documented in our annual reports, examples of which we had up on screen earlier. We have had very few caribou encounters, as you have heard. We did have a caribou encounter on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020, and that was a crossing of the road several times by an individual caribou. That was documented very well, and it is included in annual reports that are on public record with the Nunavut Impact Review Board. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you want to ask further questions?

Paul O: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Thank you for your response. You said you had the only one caribou that crossed. Have you looked into why the caribou are not using the road so much? Is it because there is too much traffic on there? Have you looked into why the caribou see the road as a blockade? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Mike: Mr. Chair, I am Mike Settingington for Baffinland. This is a very project-specific question, perhaps getting beyond the NPC's mandate. The question is about why is it only caribou? Do they see the road as a barrier? That is a distinct focus of our monitoring work. We can go into discussions about the North Baffin Island caribou ecology, how little they move. As the regional biologist that was at the microphone earlier, they are not migratory caribou. We do not expect these caribou to be crossing the road very often.

The collaring data that we had earlier in the years of the project show that these caribou move very little. It is very different from the mainland caribou, such as the examples that you have heard at this hearing as well too, for Meadowbank and Meliadine projects. They are very different caribou, very different movement patterns. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Looking at the clock, I believe we will take a break. After the break, the GN will come back. We still have questions for them. A round of applause for Baffinland. Let's take 15 minutes.

*(Applause)*

**Break**

## **Government of Nunavut Questions & Answers Continued**

Chairperson: I will ask any registered participants if they have questions for the GN on the presentation. Go ahead.

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. Understanding the Government of Nunavut's position that there should be very few full-year Limited Use protections, I would like to understand if information developed by the Department of Environment, in particular biologists

within the Department of Environment also support this position, and if we can have access to all of the documents that they have prepared, including documents prepared as far back as 2016 that look to analyzing the methods that the government now looks to be relying on. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. You may respond. Thank you.

Henry: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Henry Coman, Government of Nunavut. We are just discussing with our colleagues here for the answer.

Daniel: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Daniel Haney, Government of Nunavut. I just want to clarify that preamble to your question. We are not recommending very few Limited Areas. We didn't make that distinction. We just think there is an extensive use of Limited Use in the Plan as presented.

As for the information that fed into our position, what specifically are you asking for? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. You may respond.

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. I would be asking for the Government of Nunavut to provide to the Commission and to the public documents from the Department of Environment, particularly the biologists in the Department of Environment. That could include emails. It could include reports that look at this whole-of-government approach.

As a citizen of Nunavut, I would like to understand what the expertise that is within my government is developing, both on the environment side and on the labour force and economic development side. With regard to caribou, the Government of Nunavut has some of the most experienced caribou experts in the world. Yet, we do not have any of their information in front of us or in front of the Commission.

Very specifically, beyond that general request, there was a report that was drafted in 2016. That report deals with in my understanding, measures that could be taken other than protecting habitat year-round. My understanding is that report does not support the position that the Government of Nunavut is currently taking.

I think it is important that we as the public understand how that decision to bring this position forward now has been taken and what you are relying on to take it. If expertise in your own government is contrary, it would be good public practice to show us that information and then explain why you are taking a different position than what is being put forward by the advice of your expert biologists. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. You may respond.

Henry: Henry Coman, Government of Nunavut. We have a whole-of-government approach when it comes to the Government of Nunavut's position as it pertains to the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. So, there is a lot of different information that is taken into account when an entity such as the Government of Nunavut that is comprised of many different departments and agencies have to come to a recommendation or a position such as the position that the Government of Nunavut has taken. That does include some of the information provided by our biologists. I am now going to pass the microphone onto legal counsel. Thank you.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Eamonn: Eamonn Carroll, Legal Counsel, Government of Nunavut. I would just add, in terms of all documents, emails, and such, these are all available through accessed information requests. We don't file them with the NPC because they are not necessarily all relevant. They are not all pertinent, and they would be overwhelming, the amount of documents that a government can produce in a week, let alone since 2016.

We do have them. We do have strict archival regulations. We do keep them. We do allow any resident, any Nunavummiut to access them through an accessed information request. There are relatively few exceptions, and these exceptions are overseen by the Information and Privacy Commissioner. In regard to the specific 2016 document that was referenced, I will hand it to my colleague, Michele.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead with your response.

Michele: Thank you. Thank you for the question. I need a little bit more clarification with respect to the 2016 report. I know Mr. Crowley that you made reference to positions or information that wildlife biologists had put forward and recommendations. I am thinking of a couple of documents in particular. I am wondering if you could just be a little bit more specific so we can help you access that information best.

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Paul C: Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. I will take both documents then. I don't know. I haven't seen it. I have only heard tell of it. It is not me who needs it. I mean, I would love to see it, but I think it is the Commission and all of us who are taking part in these hearings that need this information. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Daniel: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Daniel Haney, Government of Nunavut. I believe the report that you are referring to was produced by Stephen Atkinson in a reference to mobile protection measures and their efficacy. Yes, that paper is publicly available, and we can provide it to the Commission and public. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are there any other questions from the registered participants? Go ahead.

Paul C: Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Understanding the position of the Government of Nunavut is that while at the moment the Draft Land Use Plan has an area equivalent to the size of Spain, France, and Germany that is open to potential mining, areas that are important caribou areas, they are suggesting it is worth the risk to open them up because of potential economic development.

Can the Government of Nunavut point to its labour force predictions that enable it to say that by taking this risk and opening up these areas for potential development, sufficient amount of jobs will



be created, and that those jobs will be matched to the labour force in Nunavut and likely to be filled by Inuit? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead. You can respond.

Henry: Thank you for the question. Henry Coman, Government of Nunavut. I believe the best way to state that is that we are not asking the Nunavut Planning Commission to open it up. It is open now. We are just asking them not to close it. I think that is the best way to state it. Hold on a second, and I will add to it. Sorry, we are asking to close it seasonally. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. Are there labour force analyses that you can provide to the Commission and to us in the public that demonstrate that the risk of not closing these areas is worth it because it is going to create jobs that will be well matched to the Nunavut work force, and likely to be filled by Inuit? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. You can respond.

Diane: Diane Lapierre, Government of Nunavut. We do have some information on the amount of Inuit that are currently employed within the mining sector. It is considered the largest private employer of Nunavummiut and currently employs more than 1,000 Inuit across the three major projects. Looking ahead to the next decade, as we mentioned in our presentation, as many as 10,000 youth will enter the labour market.

So, we see the opportunity of employment within the mining sector. In addition to that, there are offshoot sectors and employment opportunities, business dev opportunities and other investments that would contribute to the economic benefit.

More broadly, mining generates revenue that benefits governments as well as the Regional Inuit Associations, Nunavut Tunngavik. For the Government of Nunavut, revenues from mining include the Nunavut Payroll Tax, the Nunavut Petroleum Tax, and the Nunavut Property Tax. In 2019, this was approximately \$15.4 million dollars from the three largest mineral developers in Nunavut.

Some of the opportunity cannot be measured. We mentioned critical minerals in our presentation, which is a group of minerals and metals that are essential for renewable and green energy technologies. Green technology is exploding globally due to the climate crisis, and the economic importance could be significant to Nunavut.

So, these are some of the economic benefits and employment figures. Again, we recognize that these benefits do need to be balanced with our responsibility for environmental stewardship and wildlife management. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are there any other questions from registered participants? Go ahead. Ask your question.

Paul O: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Paul Okalik, World Wildlife Fund about the report made with Inuit Traditional Knowledge. I was raised by my parents. When we would go caribou hunting, I was

not allowed to cry. I was told not to tease the caribou. This is Inuit Traditional Knowledge. I was in the land with the caribou, so I don't have to tease them, because they are skittish. I was told not to leave any kind of garbage or dirt onto their land.

You as the government are asking us to follow this, and we are looking at where they give birth. You don't mind if their lands are polluted. You don't mind if they are mined on. How is that using Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit? Is that how you are going to use Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit? That is my first question.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. You may respond.

Henry: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Henry Coman, Government of Nunavut. Could we just have a minute to confer? Thank you.

*(Pause)*

Thank you. Henry Coman, Government of Nunavut. Mining does disturb the environment and the ground. We just have to concede that it does not conform to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, because you are taking stuff away from the ground. There are improvements to the mining industry where there is less impact, and there is remediation afterwards that brings the land back to the way it was before, or as close to it. So, mining has greatly increased over the last few decades, but generally, we concede that yes, it really does not follow IQ, Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead with your other question.

Paul O: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Paul Okalik, World Wildlife Fund. Here in Baffin Island, we were born, and we were not allowed to hunt caribou. We had to follow the law, and some of us did not mind because we wanted the caribou to increase in numbers. But as caribou, they need to eat, and they eat from the land. So, the government, what they propose using will take up more caribou food. If there is mining there, they will use up more food on the land.

Why is it that the mining companies are not made to pay bonds, while we the Inuit who live there are made to pay through food insecurity? The government should try and treat everyone equally and halt production on caribou lands, especially on their birthing grounds. Can you try and think of other ways of what you want to use? You need to fix the process you want to use. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Henry: Thank you. Henry Coman, Government of Nunavut. I believe that was more of a statement, and we will be taking that back to our offices for that. Thank you.

Chairperson: Are there any other questions from registered participants? Go ahead.

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley Friends of Land Use Planning. I have questions in a couple of directions I would like to ask the Government of Nunavut. First is with regard to grandfathering and also allowing for linear infrastructure to access grandfathered areas. I would like to know what the Government of Nunavut research indicates in terms of the impacts of roads and linear infrastructure

on caribou and caribou herds, and if this was taken into account when this position to not only allow grandfathering but linear infrastructure associated with grandfathering, like railroads or roads, be also included. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. You may respond.

Daniel: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Daniel Haney, Government of Nunavut. Yes, we acknowledge that linear infrastructure can pose, can cause disturbance to caribou, and yes, that information fed into our current position. Overall, we need to find a balance between conservation and economic development, and currently, that is the Government of Nunavut's position.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead if you have another question.

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. With regard to seasonal closures, would these be automatic, happening at the same time every year in certain areas, or would they rely on caribou appearing at the area and then action being taken when caribou appear? Depending on your answer, I will have a follow-up. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. You may respond.

Daniel: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Daniel Haney, Government of Nunavut. Those seasonal restrictions are being recommended on a case-by-case basis. They will depend on the location, on the herd, on the particular project. In general, yes, it would be a complete shutdown. A seasonal shutdown would be a complete shutdown of the mine or of the development project. That would typically happen at the same time if you were dealing with one project in particular. So, yes, it would be happening at the same time. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Follow-up question?

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. We heard in the Kivalliq regional hearings from Agnico Eagle that closures are very expensive. In order to have certainty, has the Government of Nunavut been able to establish these seasons and when projects would be shut down?

I understand that you have said that it would be on a case-by-case basis, perhaps reliant on the Nunavut Impact Review Board conditions, but so far, the evidence is that those conditions have not worked with one mine where these have been in place. So, are you suggesting a different approach, such as automatic closures that would happen, and would mines and those in the mining industry understand this right off the bat before they invest in an area for exploration? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Daniel: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Daniel Haney, Government of Nunavut. Yes, we have provided the Commission with the seasonal windows where caribou are present in certain areas. Those would be provided to the proponents before there be an investment. Generally speaking, again, it would be on a case-by-case basis. I apologize. I think I forgot the second part of your question. Could you repeat it, please?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. I am just trying to understand this, and hopefully it is helpful to the rest of the room. You provided the dates and seasons. Does that mean there would be automatic closures during those dates and seasons?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Daniel: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Daniel Haney, Government of Nunavut. Yes, typically we would recommend that those be automatic closures. Again, it is on a case-by-case basis. It depends on the changing conditions. It depends on the particular situation and the project itself. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have another question?

Paul C: Thank you. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. So, such conditions could be included in a Conditional Use zoning, for instance?

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Daniel: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Daniel Haney, Government of Nunavut. That is correct.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead and ask another question.

Paul C: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Paul Crowley, Friends of Land Use Planning. Such information is reliant on up-to-date collaring information. This collaring information is very expensive to obtain. My understanding through the years of being in Nunavut is that this is something that has been very difficult for the Government of Nunavut to keep up with on a regular basis. Does the Government of Nunavut have a new plan for collaring, and does it have the budget to implement that plan?

Baffin Island being an of course, very interesting case where collaring is only recently been occurring, will there be a robust well-funded program for collaring caribou going forward throughout all of Nunavut? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. You may respond.

Daniel: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Daniel Haney, Government of Nunavut. I think I am going to pass this to our Regional Wildlife Biologist, John Ringrose to answer. Thank you.

John: John Ringrose, Regional Wildlife Biologist for the Government of Nunavut. For the last couple of years, we have been working with HTOs and co-management partners to develop a collaring program for Baffin Island, caribou collaring that is. We managed to place a few collars out in North Baffin in 2020. We were unable to place any collars out last year due to some concerns with COVID, so we decided to cancel that program.

Our goal is to continue to work with HTOs and co-management partners. We are ambitious that we will be able to place collars out on Baffin Island in the near future. We are working on funding arrangements with the federal government, as well as other industry partners.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have any more questions? Any other questions from registered participants? Jonathan, go ahead, before I go to Charlie. I know Charlie has a question too, then Sharon. Go ahead, Jonathan.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. This is Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. I just wanted to follow-up to provide a little bit of certainty on the exchange that just occurred regarding the seasonal closures that the Government of Nunavut is proposing.

Our current understanding of your recommendation is that on caribou seasonal habitats, rather than including year-round prohibitions to include seasonal Plan requirements based on the table of dates that you provided in previous submissions, our understanding is that those would effectively result in automatic stoppages of activities during those specified dates.

Just in your responses, you indicated in some context that would be applied on a case-by-case basis. That has just caused a little bit of confusion over here. So, I am wondering if you can clarify specifically whether those seasonal dates that were provided by the Government of Nunavut would result in work stoppages for all activities, and then separately, if that is the case, how the GN would imagine that applying to operating mines as an example. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead with your response.

Daniel: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Daniel Haney, Government of Nunavut. Yes, Jonathan, I can see the confusion. I apologize. The case-by-case basis I was referring to was at the Nunavut Impact Review Board stage after it receives positive conformity determination. Yes, we do recommend that those seasonal shutdowns are automatic as part of the Plan, and then additional mitigation measures can be applied in the Impact Review phase. I apologize. I forgot the second question. Sorry.

Chairperson: Go ahead, Jonathan.

Jonathan S: Thank you very much. Jonathan Savoy with the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you, Daniel for the clarification. That is very helpful. We were just further curious about how those intended automatic closures would apply to an operating mine given the difficulties and costs involved of those, rather than to activities like exploration camps, which presumably more easily could have automatically scheduled work stoppages. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Daniel: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Daniel Haney, Government of Nunavut. As mentioned, those restrictions would be in the Plan, so a project proponent would be aware of them prior to their project being approved. So, they would have to build that into their project. They would have to evaluate whether that is feasible for them and make the decision whether it is worth pursuing. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are you done? Good? Sharon?

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair, and I thank the GN team. We know that they are pressed for time. I just wanted to circle back to Eamonn. You had a comment about the information being available through ATIP and what not. We are all working together here for the common goal of an informed Land Use Plan. I am wondering if the GN has studies and opinions taking a position on the caribou

protection, in particular any reports from the GN caribou experts that could help guide the Commission and others to understand the GN's position on this important topic.

If you could, please provide those reports so they are on records so all parties could see them. I think following good IQ principles of working together and openness and transparency, that is what this Commission and others foster. We would encourage you to provide us with those reports if possible. Thank you and thank you for your presentation.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead. You may respond.

Eamonn: Thank you, Chair. Eamonn Carroll, Department of Justice. Yes, I believe we committed to providing those reports at an earlier hearing. They are readily available, and we are happy to share them. My response is more about in the context of the question, you mentioned emails between biologists and such, and all documentation. In terms of reports, we are happy to share them. Finished products, we are happy to share them.

In terms of all of the documentation that the government has, it is available through, as you referred to the acronym for the Information and Privacy requests. That is readily available, but when we provide materials to the Commission, we identify them based on materiality and the fact that they are finished. I believe we already committed to providing these reports, if I am not mistaken at the Rankin Inlet hearing.

I was more addressing all documentation: emails and such. Those are readily available to anyone who requests them through the Information and Privacy process and Freedom of Information process, but we are not going to use a term-of-art, document dump the Commission with everything that the wildlife biologists have produced in 22 years of working.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are you done? Charlie had a question. Go ahead.

Charlie: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I will backtrack a little bit to a statement I was going to make for you when Baffinland was here. They were saying that they have a 5-kilometre boundary where they would not do anything in those kilometers. I don't know the exact details about the 5-kilometers, but they have looked at the land. It is all Inuit Owned Land. There are many Inuksuk up there. There are other manmade things up there.

There is a place called Pinguarjuit where people from the Community of Pond Inlet, Igloolik, perhaps Arctic Bay, and Clyde River would meet there. Sometimes they would meet their spouses up there. They will be going through that place. It is kind of a hill. This is a major caribou site for Inuit. Even an Elder who was about to die told me that when there are no caribou in the area, when you can't see any caribou in the area, go to that area, and you will see caribou.

That hill is located on the route of the miners. So, I believe that 5-kilometers need to be changed to make it further away. In the future, there will be other mines operating in the area. So, we would want this kilometer distance applied to others. I want you to support me on this.

I am trying to rush, Mr. Chair. I will tell this, perhaps really short. We have lots of stories, and we are not able to get to say what we want to say. If you did not know who I am, I am Charlie Inuarak from HTO. I do wish to request money. We don't have an opportunity here. The high Arctic people,

we have the same ocean with them. We have the same sea ice. Before the close on January 10<sup>th</sup>, either from NTI or from the federal government, or GN, I want monies given to us, given to the HTOs. I want them to have their own meetings and then we would have more documents that we could give to you.

We need to look at the documents that we will give to you in closer detail. We know that this meeting will not be enough for all of our statements with respect to water and lands. I am requesting that you guys give me money for us to be able to hold meetings with the HTOs of the communities surrounding us.

All our narwhals are usually in this area, and the federal government, DFO does studies. They start the narwhals at Arctic Bay, and they had moved to Naujaat, the narwhal populations. We want to explain these matters, Mr. Chair. Thank you. I will end my statement right here.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Yep, you were talking about Inuit Traditional Knowledge, and we are recording your statements. We will add those to our things to think about. Thank you. GN needs to leave. I am sorry. Namen has his hand up. I apologize, but GN needs to leave. They need to be at the airport. Thank you. We were glad you were able to go back to the table. Thank you for your responses. We are not leaving until tomorrow. You had your schedule set up for today. Thank you. A round of applause for GN.

*(Applause)*

The Nunavut Water Board is next. We will have to come back this evening after the Water Board's presentation. We will delay their questioning to this evening. We have a person from the Nunavut Water Board. You may start at any time.

### **Presentation by the Nunavut Water Board**

**Assol Kubeisinova – Technical Advisor**

**Jesse O'Brien - Consultant**

Assol: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My name is Assol Kubeisinova, and I am a Technical Advisor with the Nunavut Water Board. The Nunavut Water Board would like to present its comments and recommendations on the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. I will start with an overview of the Water Board's mandate, explain the reasons why the board is a participant in this process, provide the summary of the board's review of this Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan, and list the ways anyone can contact the board in regard to the review of this Draft Land Use Plan. Then, I will be able to take your questions and record your comments.

The Nunavut Water Board is an Institution of Public Government established under Article 13 under the *Nunavut Agreement*. The Board has responsibilities and powers over the regulatory authorization, use, and management of fresh water in the Nunavut Settlement Area. The objects of the Board are to provide for the conservation and utilization of waters in Nunavut except in a national park, in a manner that will provide optimum benefit for those waters for Nunavut's residents in particular, and Canadians in general.



As I mentioned, the Board has responsibilities and powers over the regulations, use, and management of fresh water or inland waters within Nunavut. The Board's primary function is to license uses of water and deposits of waste. The *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut's Surface Rights Tribunal Act* states subject to Subsection 2, no person shall use or permit the use of waters in Nunavut except in accordance with the conditions of a license. The exceptions to those uses are the uses unlicensed by regulations, domestic uses, uses in cases of emergency, and uses in a national park.

So, why is the Nunavut Water Board participating in this review process of the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan? That is because the *Nunavut Agreement* directs the Board to do so. The *Nunavut Agreement* states: The Nunavut Water Board shall contribute fully to the development of land use plans as they relate to water in the Nunavut Settlement Area by providing its recommendations to the Nunavut Planning Commission.

In support of our obligations under the *Nunavut Agreement*, the Nunavut Water Board is working jointly with the steering committee, which includes that the Nunavut Planning Commission, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Regional Inuit Associations, the Government of Nunavut, and Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs to develop a Nunavut Water Management Strategy.

The Strategy will create a unified vision for water management in Nunavut, ensure that policies and regulatory activities support sustainable water management and consider cumulative effects; uphold the principles of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit or Inuit Traditional Knowledge; play a role in transboundary watershed agreements; and consider a devolution process.

During the public hearings, the Board will be listening to the discussions and has been listening to these discussions of water management issues and priorities to help inform the further development of the Strategy. Here are the results of the review of the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan as performed by the Board.

The first issue is buffers around caribou crossings. The Board requested clarification from the Commission about whether a 10-kilometer buffers around freshwater crossings that limit activities designated as incompatible uses would operate to limit activities for 10-kilometres along a water course where there is a crossing. In discussions with the Commission staff, this issue has been resolved.

In regard to caribou freshwater crossings, there is another comment that the board provided. The Nunavut Water Board asked how freshwater caribou crossings currently identified in the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan would be updated by the Commission. The Board also identified that if during water licensing, the Nunavut Water Board receives information regarding changes to the existing crossings, the Board will continue to consider this information in its licensing process in its licensing decisions.

The next issue concerns the activities in proposed territorial parks. The Board identified that the Draft Land Use Plan limits uses of water in territorial parks to a term of 5 years or less. This limit may be inconsistent with the discretion of the board, which authorizes the board to authorize the use of water for a term of up to 25 years, or the duration of the undertaking using the water. The

Board requested clarification from the Commission as to how the 5-year limit on water use would be applied. Yesterday during the Government of Canada's presentation, we heard that the Government of Canada has withdrawn that recommendation.

The Nunavut Water Board noted that there may be some confusion about terminology in the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan and used by the Water Board and recommended that a description or a definition of the term "community water supply watershed" be added to the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan to clearly define these areas and to clarify that the term "community water supply watershed" is not intended to overlap or replace "water management areas" as defined in the Nunavut Water Regulations.

The Board noted the Commission's commitment to consider during its review of the Draft Plan the emergence of relevant policy initiatives from planning partners. The Board identified that the steering committee's work to develop the Nunavut Water Management Strategy is highly relevant to water management aspects of the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. The Strategy will reflect watershed, regional and territorial issues, and priorities around fresh waters.

The Board thanks the Commission for the opportunity to attend these public hearings and would also like to thank all those who have been willing to share their knowledge, comments, and views about water management issues and priorities throughout this process. We would also like to thank the Community of Pond Inlet for welcoming us. Here you can see the contact information of the Board staff that you can contact to discuss the Board's comments and recommendations for this Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. We will be back this evening. Let's go for supper now, and we will reconvene at 6:00 p.m. Thank you.

### **Supper Break**

Chairperson: We have Nunavut Water Board at the table. We are now going to question the presenter. We don't have any questions from NPC employees. The communities at the table?

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Charlie Inuarak, HTO Pond Inlet. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I have a short question. I think it is just a comment. Thank you, Water Board for your presentation. Your presentation was well put together. The Nunavut fresh water, it appears that your organization is doing very well. The water is a very sensitive issue. It is everywhere.

The top layer is moved by the wind, as a whale would create as it travels. Sometimes the whales when they travel, they are sometimes blown aside. If they were bigger whales, the wind will have no power over larger mammals. It is common knowledge that most mammals travel upwind. It is always their direction. The waves are created, and mammals travel much better in deeper waters.

We are now seeing mammals that are not traditional inhabitants of the Arctic Ocean. Now we are seeing new species. One in particular, killer whales, the orcas are starting to arrive in numbers. Many of us are concerned of these species coming in. The *Land Claims Agreement* signed by NTI also has a big task to take care of dealing with all forms of governments. In general, the mammals,

different species, the new species coming in, some of the mammals up here, they do migrate. There are very few year-round up here, for instance seals.

Everything is changing, and we don't know what else will change. We will have to be careful looking after these species, the mammals. Having said that, I have a question now to Nunavut Water Board. You are diligent. You need to state your case before January 10<sup>th</sup> before this file is closed. How are you in partnership with this Land Use Plan?

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: This group is not dealing in saltwater. I just want to clarify. Go ahead.

Assol: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair. If I understood you correctly, you were relaying a concern about marine wildlife. The Nunavut Water Board's mandate does not extend to marine areas. The Board's mandate is in regard to fresh water and inland waters. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I have concerns after hearing Larry. The icecaps in their community, their areas are melting out. A cargo ship, a Chinese cargo ship travelled through Lancaster Sound. It was a big deal then. It was a big deal because this particular company cut their travel time by two weeks from China to European port. So, if that is good to the shipping companies, we are going to have an awful lot of traffic.

Larry, who is with the HTO in Grise Fjord, mentioned that traffic alone was not very comfortable, and it is only going to get worse with travel time being cut by two weeks. I don't think we have any proper policies to deal with heavier traffic that will start coming in through Lancaster Sound, which is teeming with orcas, seals, walrus, and other species that are living in that area coming in and out throughout that sound to either side of the oceans.

Lancaster Sound is also full of ptarmigan. Arctic Bay, when I was living there, we used to travel by boat to that area. As youngsters, we experienced an abundance of ptarmigan. They are still there today. I don't think it would be a problem if something was to occur in the waters. I would like to know if you ever meet about to see what troubles could occur in that area and suggest to NPC how they should proceed in their land use planning. The federal government appears to be letting traffic come and go as the vessels please. Suppose some regulations were to come into effect.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: This is the Nunavut Water Board. They just mentioned that they do not deal with saltwater. Although your comments are recorded. I just wanted to let you know that this organization does not deal in sea and sea mammals. They deal in fresh water, but your concerns are noted. They are recorded. It has nothing to do with the Nunavut Water Board. Marty?

Marty: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Marty Kuluguqtuk, Hamlet of Grise Fjord. As you may be aware, we have had water issues over the last couple of years, not so much but mechanical. But having said that, we consume, the community consumes approximately 6 million liters of water each year. We are in kind of in a little bit different situation compared to other communities in that we don't have a reservoir. Instead, we have water tanks similar to those in other communities of their fuel tanks. Instead of fuel, they are filled with water.

Our water source is primarily if not 100% from glacier melt and snow melt, not so much of rainwater, although we do get some of it as supplement. Our question or comment is in your submission to the Planning Commission, are there any provisions about glacier melt? We realize and understand that we are not going to run out of water immediately, but we all know that glaciers are receding, and that automatically means our water source.

We have realized and learned that different rivers and streams have different turbidity for example. We have learned that smaller creeks have less turbidity than the larger rivers. Therefore, we try to avoid if it at all possible, the larger rivers as a water source. My question, our question is any plans or anything about the glacial melt? Can you comment on that, please?

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Assol: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yes, thank you for that question. In our submission to the Nunavut Planning Commission, as well as this presentation this evening, we mentioned that the Board is part of the steering committee for the development of the Nunavut Water Management Strategy. That is the strategy for how fresh water is going to be managed all over the territory.

Right now, there is no strategy like that in place. So, in what we have heard from the communities so far is that there is quite a bit of concern over the availability of drinking water, so this is something that when the steering committee is going to be doing its consultations for the strategy that we talked a little bit during the breaks, this is definitely something that we want to hear from the communities.

Another side of this issue is the fact that the Government of Nunavut's Community and Government Services manages the way municipalities access their drinking water for every hamlet in Nunavut, except for the City of Iqaluit. The Government of Nunavut applies for water licenses, for water license amendments on behalf of the hamlets.

Adding or replacing a water source is very much a subject of a water license application. If you would like a bit of a more short-term solution, exploring it with the Community and Government Services is the first step. However, on the bigger scale, the steering committee for the Nunavut Water Management Strategy would like to hear about that and understand what the concerns are and what the possible solutions are in this case. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have further questions?

Marty: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Marty Kiluguqtuk, Hamlet of Grise Fjord. Yes, thank you very much. We are in constant working mode with the government, and specifically the Community and Government Services Department. We have been very grateful for their assistance and other assistance and knowledge sharing with other various agencies and departments. That is not an issue really, but yes, we were just looking for a bigger scope, a long-term scope, a plan or submission that might be had for our purpose. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Assol: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yes, this is a concern on the bigger scale and is definitely something that the steering committee for the Strategy would like to hear from you. Through all these hearings, we

have been listening to a lot of concern from the communities on the effects of climate change, especially on drinking water. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. State your name and organization. Larry?

Larry: Larry Audlauk, Aujittuq HTO, land of walrus. I want to mention and ask a question on the issue of ballast water that is taken out every time when the jet goes back south empty. Where is that water going? Are you going to have a report as part of your Nunavut Planning Commission report? Would I be able to look at it sometime when it is done, or after or before January 10<sup>th</sup>?

I think as Canadians, we take water for granted, especially in the North. We grew up with glaciers, water everywhere, but we all know around the world that water is gold. Are we prepared for the future if somebody found a way to extract ice and water from Nunavut and we find ourselves suddenly not have enough? I just want to close that with that question. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Atigo.

Assol: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Assol Kubeisinova, Nunavut Water Board. I would also like to introduce my colleague. This is Jesse O'Brien, consultant to the Board. Thank you for the question. There are two parts to it as I understand. First, that is the ballast water. I believe you are concerned about the ballast water from the ships. This is a marine issue.

Larry: *(Said something inaudible, not on mic)*

Assol: Oh, okay. I see. In this case, it would be dealt on a case-by-case basis. The Board reviews licenses and license applications on a project-by-project basis, so we would need to see where exactly that waste is going to in a given area and what the concerns are. Part of our licensing process is public review, so the public is able to give feedback on where a project would deposit its waste, such as ballast water.

On your second point on the future of fresh water in Nunavut, this is again something that the Nunavut Water Management Strategy would address. Thank you very much for expressing that concern. We are reporting all the concerns, and we will be bringing that to the steering committee. This will be looked at and addressed during the consultation stage for the Strategy. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik for the questions. Are there any other questions?

Nysana *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Nysana Qillaq, Clyde River HTO. Near our community, have you looked at our fresh water system in our community? I just wanted to know what situation we are in.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Assol: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Assol Kubeisinova, Nunavut Water Board. We do have a water license for the Hamlet of Clyde River. I am not personally familiar with that, so I can take your questions to our technical team. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Please state your name and community.

Nysana: Nysana Qillaq, Clyde River HTO. Have you tested something in our water, fresh water near Clyde River or Clyde River?

Chairperson: Go ahead.

Assol: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Assol Kubeisinova, Nunavut Water Board. Under the conditions of the water license, the hamlet is testing its facilities, waste deposited from those facilities. As for drinking water, the Board does not regulate drinking water in Nunavut. That is something that is done by the Government of Nunavut's Department of Health. However, there are some required testing that is done to see what the possible impacts of releasing waste, municipal waste into the environment, what the impacts on the fresh water are for a given municipality or a given project. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have another question?

Nysana: *(Translated)*: I have one more question. Nysana Qillaq, Kangiqtugaapik HTO. We are aware that it is coming in from the Baffinland Mine. It is flowing very wildly, and it is quite close to our community. This dust is starting to come into our water sources.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. I think this is just a comment. It is not a question. Do you have a question?

Nysana: *(Translated)*: Nysana Qillaq, Kangiqtugaapik HTO. I just wanted to know. It is sort of a question, the dust coming into our community and our lakes. Has it arrived, and we are concerned about that. What does the Water Board know?

Assol: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Assol Kubeisinova, Nunavut Water Board. I will take your question to our technical team, because I am not quite familiar with the hamlet's license and the results of the testing. If I could, maybe during the break I could get your contact information. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik.

Nysana: Nysana Quillaq, Kangiqtugaapik HTO. Thank you.

Chairperson: Do you have any questions?

Kantise: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I am Kantise Idlout, member for HTO. I wish to ask this question. The lakes near Resolute Bay I think became polluted. I am not sure what caused that. It had landlocked fish in there, and people were saying they had mercury. So, I want clarification I guess on where the mercury comes from. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: That is also outside of the scope of our jurisdiction. As I told Nysana, you can get a response during a break. They will be sure to talk to you at the break. Thank you. I don't have any other names. I will ask if there are any questions from the registered participants for the Nunavut Water Board. *(Pause)*

I don't see any hands. Are there any community members from Pond Inlet have any questions with respect to the Water Board's report? *(Pause)*

We have none. Thank you. Charlie, go ahead and ask.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Statements made, I think there were three regarding outside of the hamlet. Pond Inlet's reservoir is said to be outside municipal limits, and we need lots of water. That reservoir is pretty small. The hamlet will have to think about getting a bigger reservoir. I am wondering what NPC is doing to plan for our water sources. What else do we need to do? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Assol: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Assol Kubeisinova, Nunavut Water Board. In regards the sizing of your water storage reservoir, that is something that the Government of Nunavut's Community and Government Services, that would be within their mandate. The municipal infrastructure that is looked after, sorry I will rephrase that. Hamlet municipal infrastructure is usually being licensed with the help of the Government of Nunavut's Community and Government Services. Because the technical support for the hamlet's financial support, engineering support comes from the Community and Government Services, then that is something that we would advise for the hamlet to discuss with the GN.

Once that is worked out between the hamlet and the GN, then the Government of Nunavut would be applying either for a license modification or a license amendment. This is where the Water Board's process starts, with a public review and then the Board's decision on whether to issue that and grant that modification or amendment of the license.

This would be the same path as a hamlet would be advised to take in regard to adding another drinking water source. So, again, the initial stage would be a discussion with the Government of Nunavut. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. That was understandable? Are you done? I don't have any more names. Give a round of applause for the Nunavut Water Board.

*(Applause)*

It will now be the Nunavut Marine Council, and it will be the same presenter, and she is ready. Thank you. Go ahead. You may begin, Nunavut Marine Council.



## **Presentation by the Nunavut Marine Council**

### **Assol Kubeisinova**

Assol: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you very much for the opportunity to present here today. My name is Assol Kubeisinova. I am a Technical Advisor with the Nunavut Water Board. I am going to be providing an overview presentation of what the Nunavut Marine Council is and how the Council fits into the land use planning process.

I would like to thank the Nunavut Marine Council Policy Advisor, Colleen Parker, for preparing this presentation and the Nunavut Marine Council working group members for their input. Unfortunately, Colleen was unable to be here today to present.

The Nunavut Marine Council is defined in the *Nunavut Agreement* under Article 15, and it is further defined in the *Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act*, and the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*. The Nunavut Impact Review Board, the NWB, the NPC, and the NWMB made jointly together as the Nunavut Marine Council, or individually by themselves, advise and make recommendations to government agencies regarding the marine areas in the Nunavut Settlement Area. Government must consider this advice and recommendations when making decisions which affect marine areas.

Rather than create a standalone organization for marine management, like another Institution of Public Government, the *Nunavut Agreement* provides a mechanism allowing the four organizations to use their collective experience and coordinate to provide advice on issues affecting the marine areas of the Nunavut Settlement Area.

The function of the Nunavut Marine Council extends each of the Institutions of Public Government's day-to-day responsibilities and provides an additional role with regard to marine management and avoids duplication. The geographic scope of that mandate is defined under 1.1.1 of the *Nunavut Agreement*.

"Marine areas" means that part of Canada's internal waters or territorial sea, whether open or ice covered, lying within the Nunavut Settlement Area, but does not include inland waters. For greater certainty, the reference to internal waters or territorial sea includes the seabed and subsoil below those internal waters or territorial sea.

The key organizational milestones have included the establishment of the Nunavut Marine Policy Advisory Council, which included working together on a council discussion paper, a draft Terms of Reference, a draft Memorandum of Understanding, and the publication of a *Nunavut Marine Issues Action Plan*, the formal establishment of the Nunavut Marine Council in December 1998, the reaffirmation by the Nunavut Marine Council members to the Marine Council, and updated Terms of Reference in 2008.

Further organizational milestones have included the development of the Council's Memorandum of Understanding; a workshop to develop a business case and creation of a business case; the launch of the Council's website; a publication of the Nunavut Marine Council: An Important Voice for

Nunavut's Marine Areas by Heather Rasmussen in the Journal of Ocean Technology in 2016; and Colleen Parker began as the Nunavut Marine Council Policy Advisor in October 2019 in order to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

Building on the language in the *Nunavut Agreement*, the business case developed by the Council in 2012 and the 2017 Strategic Planning Workshop, the Nunavut Marine Council adopts the following vision for itself over the 2018 to 2023 period: To be an active, effective, and respected voice on marine issues for Nunavummiut. The Nunavut Marine Council will achieve its vision by performing three key functions as part of its mission: by raising awareness, providing advice, and undertaking advocacy to ensure the ongoing protection and wise use of the marine areas of the Nunavut Settlement Area for the long-term benefit of Inuit, the people of Nunavut, and the people of Canada in a manner consistent with the principles of Qaujimajatuqangit and Article 15 of the Nunavut Agreement.

The Strategic Plan outlines three key functions as part of this mission in a manner consistent with the principles of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit and Article 15 of the *Nunavut Agreement*, as I have mentioned. That is raising awareness, providing advice, and undertaking advocacy.

The Nunavut Marine Council is composed of the Chairperson, a Nunavut Marine Council representative from each of the Nunavut Planning Commission, the Nunavut Impact Review Board, the Nunavut Water Board, and the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board. Each Institution of Public Government is responsible for nominating their Council representative. The Chairperson and the Council representative from each of the four Institutions of Public Governments represent the interests of their respective boards or commission during twice yearly Nunavut Marine Council meetings.

A staff-level working group has been established with the executive directors and senior staff representing each member's Institution of Public Government along with the Nunavut Marine Council Policy Advisor. This working group is responsible for implementing the Nunavut Marine Council's Strategic Plan. The Council and the working group operate by working together and through consensus decisions-making.

Under the Nunavut Marine Council Strategic Plan, there are two main goals. The first is to establish the Council as a key voice on marine shipping. The second is to establish the Council as a key voice on marine conservation. Under these two main goal areas, the Council will achieve its vision by performing the three key functions I introduced earlier as part of its mission: awareness, advice, and advocacy.

The Council undertakes awareness work through public engagement, which includes public education and engagement activities. It involves increased awareness of what the Council is, and its mandate and activities for the public and government agencies, as well as increasing the awareness of issues of importance to Nunavummiut within the marine areas of Nunavut for the Nunavut Marine Council.

Some of awareness activities have included developing a new website; establishing a social media presence; conducting a logo contest; and participating in regional and federal level marine meetings that included the Nunavut Marine Conservation Target Steering Committee, the Canadian Marine Advisory Council, Arctic Shipping Forum, and Coastal Zone Canada Conference.

Advice and advocacy work has focused on providing recommendations to the Government of Canada. Some recommendations have been produced in the form of a response to ban on heavy fuel oil in May 2020; comments on Ocean Noise Strategy in 2021; comments on a Blue Economy Strategy in June 2021; and comments on the National Marine Conservation Area Policy in March 2022.

The Nunavut Land Use Plan applies to all projects and project proposals within the Nunavut Settlement Area and Other Land Fast Ice Zones. The Nunavut Marine Council is acting as an observer in Nunavut Land Use Plan process in order to inform recommendations and advice to government agencies about non-project shipping, which is outside the scope of the Land Use Plan. The Nunavut Marine Council's potential recommendations and advice are very broad relating to the marine environment in Nunavut and are informed by the information shared in the individual Institutions of Public Government's processes, including these public hearings.

The Nunavut Marine Council is aware that in the past, participants in the land use planning process have suggested that the Council be involved in the process as an outlet for marine issues. The hope with this presentation is that there is a greater understanding of the role of the Nunavut Marine Council and the process.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to present on behalf of the Nunavut Marine Council as an organization made up of the Nunavut Planning Commission, the Nunavut Impact Review Board, the Nunavut Water Board, and the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board with a mandate to provide advice and recommendations on marine areas to government. I am very happy to take comments and answer questions. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. We have no questions from the staff with respect to her report. Are there any questions from the community members? Charlie?

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. I will probably talk about something outside of NPC's mandate. I tend to talk about the marine, ocean. We don't see these organizations very much. We probably do, but we don't know who they are. While COVID halted a whole bunch of things, now it is much easier to meet.

We do need to deal with these waters and the Canadian government needs to be ready for the organisms that were found on the sea bottom. If there was a lot of dead wildlife in front of us, that would not be good, or if only a few had died off, or what killed them off. We need to go so we can fix that to protect the other wildlife. Is this the document that you are going to present to NPC? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead. You can respond.

Assol: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Assol Kubeisnova here for the Nunavut Marine Council. The Nunavut Marine Council is attending these hearings to listen to the community feedback on what their concerns are over marine shipping and marine conservation, what those concerns are. These concerns will be brought to the Council.

In addition to that, as you mentioned, you have not heard much from the Council. The Council is currently planning a symposium. That will bring together representatives from communities and Regional Organizations and co-management bodies, and also representatives from territorial and federal departments who have a mandate related to the Arctic Marine Conservation and Shipping. So, you will be hearing from the Council. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have another question?

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I got a friendly response. We discussed this in the area behind Resolute and Grise Fjord. We are using Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit. The young seals go up there. Some problems start when they are abandoned by their mothers. There is a huge current there, so they are driven up there. In the fall, they come back nice and fat. They will become our seal in the area as the current is going year-round. I believe we need to protect the high Arctic. It is where we get our seals from. After they are born here, they grow up there and return. All this is inside Nunavut's boundaries, all these currents and wildlife.

Maybe we can deal with this in a rushed manner if necessary, as stated by the Grise Fjord and Resolute Bay people. There was exploration up there, and there is probably hazardous waste. The barrels will still rust. I know there is a lot of gas up there. They have driven around up there. There are lots of barrels up there. Some of them are probably eroded by rust, and there would be others spilling out onto the ground.

I had heard someone say that someone needs to deal with them in a timely manner and with protecting our wildlife in a vast area with multiple wildlife. Has the Nunavut Marine Council ever taken this into consideration? Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. We are writing down your statements. We are recording your statements, and we will add this to what to think about. We can hear your statements. We are adding these items to our thoughts. Thank you. Elijah wanted to speak.

Elijah: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. What we heard, it looks like this Council is there to protect the oceans. If I understood correctly from the statements made, it is not so much about the communities as there have been settlements for a long time. Transportation like ships, aircraft, whatever causes pollution from their motors and engines, and for people who want to mine because they use lots of water, are you looking for ways to protect either their environment or the ocean? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Assol: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Assol Kubeisinova here today for the Nunavut Marine Council. Yes, marine shipping and marine conservation is what the Council is focused on. Something of note that I would like to say is that the Council does not work on project-related activities or project proposals. That is something that is within the jurisdiction of the Nunavut Planning Commission and the Nunavut Impact Review Board.

However, the Council has been participating in reviews of various initiatives and programs. The Council has contributed to the review of the ban for heavy fuel oil, the Federal Ocean Noise Strategy, and provided comments on the National Marine Conservation Area Policy. Especially, we have

heard a lot of concern over shipping traffic. That is something that the Council was in discussions about during discussions on Transport Canada's initiative for the low-impact shipping corridors. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Adrian has a question.

Adrian: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Adrian Arnauyumaq, HTO. It seems like it is time for me to repeat what I have been saying all along. The habits of our wildlife have completely changed with respect to ships, from Baffinland ships. It seems like we need to get the wildlife further away from the ships. They will affect our wildlife in our marine waters. Thank you. I believe you are the one that I should be talking to, and I do want something done about this. I would want Baffinland ships to move them further away from their current route. Thank you.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: That is mostly a statement. Larry? Larry has a statement.

Larry: Larry Audlauk, Ajuittuq Grise Fjord. I want to ask if I were to tell the concern on the Board of Land Claim Area and the international area. We are worried about European Space Agency dropping some of their fuel tanks when they go to space. It happens every now and then. Would you have any say on it as a Council?

The other issue, who deals with it, maybe it is DFO. When the ships come to Canada from Europe to the North, sometimes they carry something underneath them or some clams. They go to the great lakes of Canada and introduce alien creatures underwater. It is a concern for some like me, and how do I join the Council? Do I have to apply or hopefully get appointed? Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Assol: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Assol Kubeisinova for the Nunavut Marine Council. As I have mentioned, the Council is present at these hearings to hear what the concerns are. We are recording those concerns, and especially with the symposium coming up, the symposium where the communities will have their say on what their worries are, what their recommendations are. This is especially important. Thank you for that. I have recorded your concerns. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead, Larry. Oh, he is done. Charlie had another question.

Charlie: *(Translated)*: I do have two questions. What was recommended by the federal government that the huge ships are said to use cheap something when we were holding meetings. Cheap fuel, and they said that fuel causes very dangerous pollution, like battery acid being dumped into the ocean. The federal government said they had explained something, but they were not going to start using it right away. They were going to find better fuel. They told them to use better fuel in the ocean, and that is my first question. This matter needs to be dealt with for sure. What has been done about that? That is my question.

Chairperson: Atigo. Go ahead.

Assol: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Assol Kubeisinova for the Nunavut Marine Council. I believe you are talking about the ban on the usage of heavy fuel oil. The Nunavut Marine Council submitted a letter to the

Ministers of Transport Canada and Fisheries Oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard on May 6, 2020 regarding the decision to ban heavy fuel oil.

We talked about the Council's mandate; acknowledged the benefits on the ban on the use and carriage of heavy fuel oil as fueled by ships operating in the Arctic waters; and recommended that the 10-year timeline for the application of the ban be considered. In the letter, the Council recognized the potential adverse economic implications of the ban for Arctic communities and local development and requested that measures be developed to offset the adverse economic implications of the heavy fuel oil ban. We recommended that spill response capacity be reviewed considering the change in types of fuel used in the Canadian Arctic and that associated capacity improvements be made.

In June 2020, the Council received the response from then Minister of Transport, Marc Garneau that highlighted the work done by the Government of Canada regarding its impact assessment, on the environmental and socioeconomic considerations related to the ban, and domestically with regard to spill response. The letter from the Minister further outlined the government's spill response system through the Oceans Protection Plan and stated that the Government of Canada is "ready and able to respond quickly to potential oil spills throughout Canadian waters including in the Arctic."

While the letter did not specifically address the recommendation put forward by the Council that the timeline for implementation by 2029 be reconsidered, the Minister noted that Transport Canada would be continuing to engage with key partners, including the Institutions of Public Government as part of its ongoing assessment of the potential impacts of the ban proposal through domestic implementation in Canada. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik.

Charlie: (*Translated*): Thank you for your great answer. I still have one last question. The little marine wildlife, something started up here when they go into the animals. It beats it and kills it, and then infects another one. So, they can kill lots of fish and apparently they had found one of these worms or organisms. They had started something moving or starting. Baffinland had said how many ships would be checked or tested. We asked if all ships were checked. They said no. They only check some of the ship's ballast water. I am wondering if these marine organisms with their names I don't know, if they go to seals, they start eating the seal. Those types of parasites, have you done anything about that? That is my last question. Thank you.

Chairperson: (*Translated*): That is also outside of the scope of our mandate, but you can get a response to this after. Thank you. Larry had another statement to make.

Larry: Larry Audlauk, Grise Fjord, Aujuittuq HTO member. I just wanted to ask, and you can tell me after the meeting when we are on a break. You seem to have some stuff that is very heavy duty if you are talking to the Minister, Marc Garneau. I was just encouraged, because we have had to deal with European Space Agency when they launch a satellite. Their empty fuel tank is not really empty. It comes down to the water between Greenland and Ellesmere Island. That is a very, very small corridor. Who knows what is going to happen in the future. So, if there is an issue with that and you are aware or not, maybe I could talk to you more about it in detail.

Also, I asked a question of how do I join the Nunavut Marine Council. Do I have to apply or be appointed? Qujannamiik. That is all.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Assol: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Assol Kubeisinoova for the Nunavut Marine Council. The Council consists of, and I will show you the schematic. I hope you can see it well. The Council is composed of the board members and Commissioners. If you are appointed to a board or to the Commission, that is how you can become a part of the Council. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Namen has a question.

Namen: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Namen Inuarak, Pond Inlet. Your report was pretty good that the Canadian government has prepared for these ships, the gas spills, that they are ready for oil spills. I do wish to ask for example about miners. If Baffinland goes through Steensby and they ship 18 million tonnes per year, the ships would probably be bigger than your average cargo ships. That area has reefs and multi-year ice. If a ship had grounded or hit multi-year ice and the Canadian government does not have a lot of icebreakers, has this scenario been looked at? That is my question.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead and respond.

Assol: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Assol Kubeisinoova for the Nunavut Marine Council. As I mentioned, the Council does not really deal with matters on a project-by-project basis. The Council looks at the policies as a whole. The scenario that you have mentioned, I believe that would be within the mandate of the Planning Commission and the Nunavut Impact Review Board. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Do you have another question?

Namen: (*Translated*): Yes, Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Namen Inuarak, HTO Pond Inlet. It seems like she turned the question to NPC and Nunavut Impact Review Board, so I am asking you the same question. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Sharon, go ahead.

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehaloak, Executive Director for the Planning Commission. The Commission is not the organization or the agency that is mandated for the response if there were oil spills or disasters. That would be the federal or territorial government. I hope that is answering your question. It is probably not the answer you want, but it is not within our mandate or authority. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Another question?

Assol: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Assol Kubeisinoova, Nunavut Marine Council. Yes, I apologize if it seemed that I redirected the question. I only indicated that the Council does not deal with projects, but rather with a broad policy. The project is something that organizations such as the Commission and the Impact Review Board look at. Thank you.



Chairperson: Qujannamiik. I don't have any other names. Are there other questions? Elijah had his hand up.

Elijah: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I won't have too many questions. I just want to show you something. We do deal with these matters too as Inuit, as hunters. The ocean can send noise a very long way. It does not have the same characteristics as the atmosphere. So, we asked questions about this, why the narwhal had been frozen in. What was the reason?

Apparently off the coast of Greenland, there was an oil exploration company that was blasting underwater. Apparently, they were causing narwhal to stay in the area, and they were frozen in. We had to kill over 600 narwhals. They were scared to go back out. I believe this matter needs to be taken into consideration with respect to how far noise travels, especially with oil companies that do blasting underwater. I just wanted to relate that. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Are there questions from the registered participants? *(Pause)*.

We don't have any names. Any community members? *(Pause)*.

I don't see any hands. Qujannamiik and a round of applause.

*(Applause)*

We will take a 15-minute break to get a last coffee and come back.

#### Break

### Presentation by the World Wildlife Fund

Paul Okalik, Lead Specialist, Arctic

Jason Harasimo – Arctic Species Conservation Fund, Iqaluit

Chairperson: Please state your name and your organization, whenever you are ready.

Paul O: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq, Commissioners, and community delegates. Thank you for being with us. I have seen many of you over the years. You are always welcoming. That makes our proceedings on any cause that much easier. I work for World Wildlife Fund. My name is Paul Okalik. We have an office in Iqaluit. We work with various groups, especially northern organizations. Thank you, Adrian, for doing the graphics on the screen.

First of all, thank you. I have a hard time with live props sometimes. We do various things with various organizations and communities, for those who need assistance. We have come to the communities over the years. We are concerned about vessels and their disturbances to mammals. We are very much concerned about that. We are concerned about ships that use heavy oil. Different communities, we have worked with them in many aspects, especially in wildlife. We will continue to do so.

Our organization has worked with environmental groups. We have worked with the Nunavut Planning Commission as well for a number of years. We have travelled to their proceedings. We have seen maps, and many of them are related to our cause and concern. We come into communities to assist for those who ask, mainly HTOs in Nunavut. We have worked with them in many communities on various projects.

The Draft Land Use Plan, we know how valuable and how much help it can be. The Nunavut Planning Commission has been working tirelessly for this cause, and we are very glad that it is in progress. It will be of great help to many people and many communities, because your environment is very important to you. The companies throughout Nunavut should be aware what our priorities are and concerns are.

It appears that they are less concerned at times, especially towards wildlife. On the other hand, we worked hard dealing with mineral and mining companies. They will not stop anymore, and their strength is gaining momentum. They have ways to get their way done. So, we are concerned about the environment, and most times people in these organizations who are concerned about the environment have not much support. Federal government appears to side with established companies most of the time.

Planning will progress. It says we have to plan, and it also states that whatever is entrenched, it is amendable within 7 years. That is a very good aspect of this Plan. The Minister of federal government has at times been told. Even when they say there will be a moratorium, this is just a saying now.

There is a huge concern about caribou and its habitat. You have voiced your concerns many times to these species: calving grounds, post-calving grounds, their young, caribou crossings, their habitat, their food sources. You have identified these areas very well. They are well documented. If we can assist in any way to strengthen these concerns, we are here. People are concerned about these species, their food sources. We are willing to assist in any way we can.

The Plan you did in 2016 as you worked on the Draft, the caribou everywhere has been a concern. Today, they are more endangered than ever before everywhere. As people say in North Baffin, we are now under a quota system. This is very stressful to many Inuit. We need to rectify this situation, and it appears we are paying a price for something that we did not create. Yet, at the same time, the mining companies appear to have their way even at the calving grounds. This is affecting our food sources.

We need to plan something that has substance and look at what people are coming in to use our lands. They should be curbed in such a way to stabilize. The Plan you are working on should be very strong, concentrating on what is of most concern to the people, which is caribou, our food source. The Plan you are working on will eventually become a policy. This will be of great help, say to caribou and other wildlife species for us and for our future.

The other concern is the mining companies saying we have our own measures related to wildlife, to caribou. This is not how it really should be. It is not a protection to the caribou. It is more geared so they can operate in such a way without losing too much time. Our food source is very important. So, their operations need a lot of improvement. We are aware that they are very strong to work

with. The best way to really get a handle of this issue is the Nunavut Planning Commission and Nunavut public can at least have a say.

We have worked on and indicated that travel through various times of year, say in the Western Arctic they go through a lot of ice crossings. That is very important to that region, because they do travel from the mainland to the islands. Their routes should be protected, especially in the Kitikmeot region and high Arctic.

These species travel island to island through ice routes. We support your concerns about icebreaking ships that would travel through sea ice, disturbing caribou ice crossings. We really should be concerned. If they intend to travel, there should be an advance to travel through, but regardless, there should be no icebreaking on ice for caribou crossings.

The other problem appears for Nunavut Planning Commission. In the plans you have been working on, we fully support that, bird sanctuaries and such. No disturbance should be there by people, even for the tourism industry. We should continue to strive how and when people are travelling through nesting sites. We are concerned about that.

We know that calving grounds, even if they are abandoned for a while, they will be used again. We all agree as different organizations that we are battling something monumental. We will beat it and ease the calving grounds, nesting sites, bird sanctuaries, and so forth, abandoned but always coming back to the site.

Perhaps it is not a main part in your planning sessions what you want to put into the Plan. We have to worry about harvesters, especially communities where there is a mine nearby. We have heard that your river system has been damaged. Spawning times have been interrupted. There should be a way to protect these areas, so plan wisely. Look at the marine species, especially the fish. They are a food source for many people. We should be aware that the environment fishing areas are protected and not damaged. We know we can protect these areas everywhere. They are our major food source as well.

I know the planning process will be of great help to the people of Nunavut. It will guide us what can be used as economy, what economic ventures could appear in each community. We are continuing, and if you have any concerns, talk to the Nunavut Planning Commission. Be aware of their deadline for submissions. We thank you. You the community members, you have voiced your concerns well. You wanted to see certain things come to pass, and you did that well. At this point, I just will say thank you now for letting us make this presentation to you. Qujannamiik.

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. We will follow the procedure. Larry?

Larry: *(Translated)*: Larry Audlauk, Aujittuq HTO. Qujannamiik, Paul. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq, that Paul is able to make a presentation. For instance, walrus haul-outs, we all have concerns about walruses. We want no one to bother walrus haul-outs, and we should make this very clear in the planning procedure. These sites, even to Inuit, would not be able to go into that area, say a complete ban.

There used to be a lot of walruses around Grise Fjord, and for some reason, they disappeared from our area. We were quite sad. We miss the species. Cruise ships and other vessels, for instance National Geographic documentaries, they like to do these documentaries disturbing, even if they

think it is a serene document. They disturb these sites. I just wanted to make an example using walrus sites. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Paul, go ahead.

Paul: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Paul Okalik, World Wildlife Fund. Your comments are good to hear. Protection of wildlife and whatever species they may be, World Wildlife Fund and Nunavut Planning Commission are working well together. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. I have no more further names for questions. Are there any questions from the registered participants? *(Pause)*

I don't see any hands. Are there any questions from the public, Pond Inlet, community members? *(Pause)*. State your name.

Joavee: *(Translation barely audible. The question related to research on animals, and those being sacrificed for research purposes are not good to eat)*

Chairperson: That was just a comment. It appears there are no questions. Thank you for your presentation, Paul.  
*(Applause)*

Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Caleb: *(Translated)*: Caleb Sangoya, Pond Inlet resident. One of the Elders here now, while my father was still alive, he told me you are in the next in line to be the Elder. I thanked him beforehand. I thank you, NPC. You are fellow human beings. I will talk about three Elders and Traditional Knowledge so they will become your base.

Through Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, if wildlife is caribou, goose, narwhal, there is terminology. When they first arrive, caribou, narwhal, geese, the first ones you are not to hunt. I think community members all know that. Regardless if it is from Kivalliq, high Arctic, or the Kitikmeot, that is the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. As Inuit, we are to follow that rule. It is getting harder to hunt.

For sites for where land is planned for like parks, we have a park on Bylot Island on this site, and we have a mine, and we have hunters. We have ships: naval ships, mining ships, and cruise ships. Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, the first ones when they arrive are not supposed to be disturbed. I want to give that to you, to the community members, and to the governments. You guys need to follow these rules too, along with the scientific and biological studies. When wildlife first come into the area, you are not to disturb them.

As Inuit, we have been scolded. We were told if you hunt the next ones, the wildlife won't leave the area. So, the allocation committee will give to you from the government from the Wildlife Board. When they are giving you, if Inuit Knowledge is not part of it, I think you would make Inuit Knowledge part of it, so I am giving it to you.

The other thing is that Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, if it is caribou, bird, marine, wildlife, nobody is to just leave them behind. These researchers and those using leasing lands and the hunters, none of

them should leave game behind. It can be a cause for the wildlife to leave, especially with char. There is a walrus haul-out near Hall Beach. Somebody had left a dead walrus there, and walrus don't go there.

The same situation is here, and apparently it is the same situation in Clyde River. They had left a dead walrus there, and the walrus did not come back. You can't just leave wildlife behind. You can't just leave char behind in a lake. Narwhal should not be discarded. They should not just take the tusk. Inuit Traditional Knowledge, you are the keepers of the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is included in the *Agreement*. It should not just be a rubber stamp. It should be followed religiously.

The third item, there should be no conflict between humans over wildlife. For example, by fishers, miners, hunters, they should not be saying negative things. This is part of the Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. Those who abuse wildlife, the community members would get to be there to discuss them. I had a grandfather who was the youngest son. His father had told them to hold meetings if somebody had broken their rules. We need to bring this back.

Through Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, we say was have no more narwhals. The world heard that, so they cut off sales of narwhal products. I want you to keep that in your head for those HTO members. I say that sometimes once in a while that we were told not to leave game behind. There are pictures with narwhal with just their heads cut off. This is breaking the law of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit.

You are the Planning Committee. You have the most authority. We are Inuit. If we are not here, there would be no *Agreement*. If we were not Inuit, there would be no Planning Committee. This is inside the *Nunavut Land Claim*. It needs to stop being a rubber stamp, but you need to be sure that Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is followed. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Absolutely. That is why we are here to listen to your statements. We are still recording your statements. We will add this to our information to think about. Thank you for your time. Caleb was the last one to speak. As we are closing up, we will have three minutes. Sharon will say what is happening next.

## CLOSING REMARKS

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Sharon Ehaloak, Executive Director with the Planning Commission. We have been pretty lenient with the time with the whole public hearing, but we are sticking to the timeline outlined in the agenda for the closing remarks. For the signatory parties, they have 15 minutes. We will be timing the closing remarks for each community. You have three minutes collective, so whoever is going to say your closing remarks, you have three minutes. I will be holding up our signs when you are down to 1 minute so we finish up in a timely manner.

Everybody will get an opportunity, as outlined in the agenda, for the closing remarks. We are going to start the closing remarks. We will follow the order of the agenda for closing remarks. We will go back to Day 1, and the first closing remarks will be the Hamlet and Hunters and Trappers of Grise

Fjord. Then it will be Resolute, Arctic Bay, Pond, Clyde. Then the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, Government of Canada, Government of Nunavut, Water Board, NTL...apologies NTL. You are at the bottom of the page, and it is late. Sorry. Water Board, Marine Council, World Wildlife Fund. Alright, so we will proceed. I will be starting the watch. Give me one second, and I will turn it back over to you, Mr. Chair. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik, Sharon. I understand your statements, and we will follow with the communities. Grise Fjord, either one of you can go ahead. Marty can go ahead with closing remarks.

Sharon: Sorry, I just want to clarify that you have three minutes for the HTO and three minutes for the hamlet, so a total of 6 minutes for each community.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik for the clarification. Marty, you can go ahead. Lisa will go next. Okay.

Marty: *(Translated)*: Thank you. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I am Marty Kuluguqtuk, Hamlet of Grise Fjord. First, I would like to thank our fellow panel along with the invited guests. We understand a lot better how we can forward our works. We want to assist with NPC's procedures to complete their project successfully. We had wanted to hear what other community member concerns were, for example, ecotourism and whether they had any concerns regarding ships and the duties we need to deal with respect to sailboats.

We appreciate that we were given something to think about. Yep, we have some tasks to deal with from here, and we will be beginning to plan. We will use the government and others for assistance with respect to tourism, shipping, or even dealing with waters - the helicopters and those who come up here in ships that bring submersibles and drones, and other types of transportation used by ships. We live in our communities. We will begin to deal with these, and we are grateful for that. We will try to make our projects succeed in writing. We will try to make ammunition with respect to tourism. Thank you. Good night.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Lisa?

Lisa: *(Translated)*: Lisa Ninguiuk, Aujuittuq HTO. I wish to thank the NPC especially for being visible. Your stuff is great, and I know that the members from the other communities will be able to provide strong support. This is great to see. I am very grateful that we have been given many tools to work with. We will have good expectations for the future, and we will have a solid base now. We will know what other options we have to work at things. We have seen other departments who are able to do other things, and we understand. We can go to other places.

I really appreciate all this. I am very proud of you all. You elected officials have done lots of work, and you have huge mandates. As Caleb said, with respect to Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, it should really be used as a base. They are still useful. We lived them in the past, and today we are not necessarily using it as much. That is how it is going to be. We won't be able to hold back progress. That was how it was going to be, and we believe that. But we can support the wildlife. We will try to work together to support them. If that doesn't work, it won't work. I really appreciate. My time is being too long now. I want to stop. Thank you. Bye.

Chairperson: Thank you, Grise Fjord Hamlet and HTO. Resolute Bay Hamlet?

Mark: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I am Mark Aamarualik from Resolute, Mayor. Thank you for inviting us here to the community. They were welcoming. Qujannamiik. Our community... I will switch to English.

*(English)*: We have a better idea of what the hamlet has to work on for Resolute for the Land Use Plan for fishing areas, caribou habitat, and all of it, and the marine area, along with the municipal boundaries and what we might need to see and do to help Nunavummiut with water shortages maybe. We do have something like 10 to 14 lakes on our municipal grounds. We don't have a shortage of water in Resolute for our community, but somewhere along maybe we could help out some communities, maybe somewhere in the future.

With the traffic in the Northwest Passage being more looked at, we as the community members of this North Baffin region have to look at working together and finding more possible solutions to help Nunavummiut and our wildlife so we can have a sustainable future for our grandchildren and their grandchildren and so on. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. A member from the HTO?

Phillip: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. Can you hear me?

Chairperson: The microphone is not working.

Phillip: I killed the other one. I apologize. Phillip Manik from Resolute HTO. I wish to thank the Planning Commission and their staff, and my coworkers. They helped me. Thank you. The community members are very welcoming, and the people we met with, I appreciate all of it. I have learned a lot from here. I understand what hardships you are facing, and I now know that on top of the world, I believe we need to be working closer together to be stronger together.

I thank the people who were here to give presentations, the governments, federal government, and all the other organizations, NTI, QIA, all of you. I may miss someone. I apologize. We are not done with the planning process yet. I understand better what we need to do when we get home. We will be working on our plan before January 10<sup>th</sup> and over past January 10<sup>th</sup>, as the Plan may change once in a while as new things will keep emerging. So, I believe the Plan will change in some aspects. We will start working on the Plan. I am just saying thank you. This is not just for us. We are planning for our children too. I appreciate and thank you all for the work you are doing. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Arctic Bay Hamlet?

Olayuk: *(Translated)*: Olayuk Naqitarvik, Hamlet of Arctic Bay. I will say something that I want noticed. Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit has not been very visible lately. Which organizations will let use Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit? I believe it was QIA had wrote to people, organizations about using Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit. These were places when they needed to use Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit. They don't feel like the exact Inuit Traditional Knowledge when they are trying to use it in the workplace. Who will be able to lend out the Inuit Traditional Knowledge?

I am explaining this to NPC how we can bring Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit to the forefront by writing it down. I thank you very much. I had an attended an NPC meeting a long time ago. I believe you guys were not on the Board, or even the Chair was not on the Board. During this last round of



consultations, are you hearing Inuit statements? I just want to bring that up. I am very grateful according to what I heard here. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. HTO? Sakiasee had wanted to speak? Go ahead.

Sakiasee: (*Translated*): I am Sakiasee Qaunaq from Arctic Bay. Yep, Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit I have statement about. I seem to know that all the males here, I believe I am the oldest. I believe I saw a woman who was older than me yesterday. Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit I don't think is used by our governments. I don't think it has any authority. They do say that Baffinland that they use Inuit Traditional Knowledge. They say there will be an Elder there who speaks of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. I don't know how that situation is, but Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit always need to be there.

For example, Caleb was talking a little bit about Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, and it was like he was talking to children. Inuit Traditional Knowledge. We were told not to use something that you had only heard to try it that way. You need to actually see what is there and then try it. If you had heard something about it, it won't get you anywhere. You need to actually see it, take part in it. That is what we need to do.

Wildlife, they said. We can't count dead animals as waste. They don't stay as waste. Dead wildlife, when they die, they become like garbage. When they deteriorate, they fertilize the earth. It is the same as when you see narwhal bones. It is not garbage. It can be used to fertilize the earth. What had been a living thing is not garbage. It can fertilize the soil. It is these things that are garbage.

Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit was in place before then. We could be fearful of someone. We can be taught. We are not using Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit anymore, and nobody is scared of anybody else now. Using Inuit Traditional Knowledge, if we say no, Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is about needing to work together. That's it. I could say a lot of things about Inuit Traditional Knowledge, but we don't have a lot of time. Someone else's turn.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. We are going to follow our procedures. Please stick to three minutes as you speak.

Susan: Susan Barnabus, HTO and Hamlet Council. I appreciate the Nunavut Planning Commission for the invitation for us to participate in this process as delegates from the communities. We are going back home with something to discuss. We know we are going to enjoy solving what we have learned and how we can resolve things before January 10<sup>th</sup>. Thank you, Pond Inlet.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Hamlet of Pond Inlet?

Moses: (*Translated*): Qujannamiik from the Hamlet of Pond Inlet. Thank you for coming into the community. We thank you, Nunavut Planning Commission, and I would advise to come to the community. The community population would greatly appreciate your presence. The billets are being assisted by your presence. Thank you for being billeted to the community population. The speakers and presenters, thank you all. You have been a great source of help in relation to Nunavut planning.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Joshua?

Joshua: *(Translated)*: Joshua Idlout, Hamlet of Pond Inlet. Thank you all. Thank you for representing your community, your organization. Thank you for coming into the community. I know at times it was a little stressful, but let's clap and enjoy.

*(Applause)*

Elijah: *(Translated)*: Elijah Panipakoochoo. I appreciate all of you being here. Some of the topics were very interesting, especially our Chair, very calm. Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit, I will just briefly say something on this topic in relation to animals. As youngsters, we were not very bright at times. We had to be guided by our Elders quite a bit. We harvested some animals that did not please our Elders, some fish and other wildlife.

I have seen polar bears being shot at, not to kill but to deter. This has caused problems to this species where they no longer fear anything. They are hard of hearing after a while. They say the polar bear has very sensitive hearing to loud sounds. So, Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit will eventually one day be visible. Thank you, all, especially our presiding Chair. Qujannamiik.

*(Applause)*

Charlie: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. Charlie, HTO. I appreciate and thank you for those who have put me to my seat at the HTO. Your concerns are my concerns, as well as the public in this community. We have been mindful. I don't know how many I have suggested to become policy in other areas, especially national parks. I think it was established some years back. There are still a lot of lesser snow geese as a result of that park being established. You can see evidence of a park being established, because wildlife is in abundance.

I am also an Elder in this community, although my older brother is across the table. As a youngster, I know many of you. I want to tell you this. Eating country food, eating together, it is a lot healthier. You have better teeth when you eat country food, not processed food. Eating is a great part, eating with people. I still have five minutes so, thank you for coming in. Come to my house for food. Thank you for coming in.

*(Applause)*

Namen: *(Translated)*: Namen Inuarak, HTO. I want to appreciate and thank you to the people who have put to my seat. I would like to do my best to represent you, Nunavut Planning Commission and community delegates and other organizational bodies who have attending these proceedings, and our communities.

Today, things are much harder now. We have many problems that we are facing. We have learned a great deal of what our responsibilities are and what we should be doing, and other bodies as well. We are working very hard. We must work very hard to achieve what we believe in as we progress. What concerns us is not just the environment. It is our lifestyle and who we are, the way we do things. If we were to lose this, it cannot be replaced, not even by money. We should be as we are, so I just thank you now, all of you.

*(Applause)*

Limeekie: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Limeekie Palluq, Hamlet of Clyde River. I saw you as a youngster, and I see you again as an old guy. Qujannamiik. When I was told that Nunavut Planning Commission was bringing in people to this community, I didn't know what to expect at the time when I would sit down here. I was very confused about what we were supposed to be doing. I have learned a great deal. This exercise was worthwhile. I would like to have another one like this. But there is always a but.

The community members, I am here to Clyde, Resolute, Pond Inlet, Grise Ford, Arctic Bay. Your words are very strong and encouraging. It appears that the work ahead of us will be hard and productive. Look at our community. We are having problems. There is so much traffic in our area, a lot of disturbances. I am starting to understand. I have learned at this proceeding what we are facing today. With Moses and their family, I am able to be with my family. Thank you.

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Go ahead.

Nysana: *(Translated)*: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Nysana Qillaq, Clyde River HTO. I arrived here, and I appreciate being here. I have heard many things that helped me. Thank you, both levels of government, NTI, Nunavut Water Board, and thank you interpreters for assisting us.

*(Applause)*

Qujannamiik to the people of Pond Inlet. We have been invited many times for meals, welcoming. I don't know when I will be back here. I have heard Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit for the first time from my Elder as a youngster. I didn't know much about animals then and how to handle them.

I killed a little bird one time, and I was in real trouble. I was told you cannot eat this little bird, but since I killed it, they made me eat it anyway. I have learned a great deal about Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit when I was forced to eat this bird that I killed. So, we have to learn the hard way. So, I will probably tell people not to hunt snow buntings. I am very grateful that we were brought here to the community, and they welcomed us very well. Our fellow committee panel, I thank you. Qujannamiik.

*(Applause)*

Chairperson: We will give Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated a chance. Thank you. You can start anytime.

David N: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq, and thank you all. We are glad that we were invited to the community, and the community members have been welcoming. I apologize. I used to be a great Inuktitut speaker, but after three years, I have only spoken in English, and I sort of have lost my language. I would have spoken in Inuktitut, but I will speak in Inuktitut. Perhaps I will talk about it again. I apologize to our Elders.

*(English)* I want to thank the Commission for the opportunity to share our views at this important public hearing on the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. NTI has participated in the public hearings in Cambridge Bay, Rankin Inlet, and Thompson, Manitoba prior to attending this one. Our closing remarks reiterate what we have shared and what we have heard this week.

Nunavut Tunngavik has listened closely to the views and information shared by all participants and has paid close attention to the presentations from this region who will be impacted by the Nunavut Land Use Plan, including the Hunters and Trappers Organizations, hamlets, and the Qikiqtani Inuit Association.

Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated has heard clearly that protecting wildlife, wildlife habitat, and addressing marine vessels are issues that are very important to Inuit in this region. Nunavut Tunngavik has stressed that the Nunavut Land Use Plan must both ensure healthy vital animal populations but also provide economic benefits for Inuit as a whole as provided for in the *Nunavut Agreement*.

It is necessary that Inuit rights to wildlife and harvesting and Inuit Owned Lands both be equally recognized in the Nunavut Land Use Plan. Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated welcomes the Government of Canada's support in principle that the Nunavut Land Use Plan may apply a distinct approach to Inuit Owned Lands. Inuit have negotiated defined rights on behalf of Inuit within the *Nunavut Agreement*. These include becoming landowners to a small portion of land in the Nunavut Settlement Area.

It also includes a detailed process to protect land and wildlife when both Inuit and government wish to do so. This includes the right to negotiate Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements. Nunavut Tunngavik wants to ensure that these rights are not diminished due to the implementation of a Land Use Plan. In finalizing the Nunavut Land Use Plan, the Commission must respect the roles of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and the Regional Inuit Associations as landowners and managers on behalf of Inuit for Inuit Owned Lands.

Flexible approaches in the Land Use Plan must be adopted to support Inuit decision-making at the regional and community levels. Subsurface Inuit Owned Lands are only 1.8% of all Nunavut lands and Nunavut Tunngavik wishes to retain the possibility of mineral development subject to Inuit social and cultural aspirations.

We must continue discussions with all Inuit organizations, governments, and other participants to move forward with a first-generation Nunavut Land Use Plan. The *Nunavut Agreement* states that the Land Use Plan should reflect the priorities and values of the residents of its planning regions. Nunavut Tunngavik supports this planning principle, and we will work to engage with Inuit on the Land Use Plan.

We encourage all the community representatives to continue to provide their knowledge and views in this process. It is important that we provide the best information and evidence to the Commission to assist them in making the best recommendations. At this hearing, NTI, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated has listened closely to the information provided and will consider this information as we work on our submissions.

I am glad for the opportunity to listen to the submissions of participants at this important hearing. Recognizing NPC's proposed timeline to provide a revised Plan and a final recommendation by the spring of 2023, other important work related to land and marine management will continue. For example, as mentioned yesterday, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated will continue its advocacy, strengthen its services and programs, and develop corresponding strategies relating to the marine environment and the resulting impact to Inuit.

NTI is in the beginning stages of developing a Nunavut-specific marine framework. This framework will be intended to influence how Inuit inform policies and regulations in ways in which Inuit can be involved in decision-making. We heard yesterday a recommendation that Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated engage with regulatory authorities to explore ways in which Inuit at the community level can be further involved in decisions as to whether or not cruise ships traverse within Nunavut around our communities and Inuit hunting grounds.

We also heard that Inuit by way of Hunters and Trappers Organizations desire a greater role in monitoring shipping in Nunavut waters. While we recognize this is outside of the land use planning process, to a certain extent we commit to further exploring how Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated can do better to engage the Hunters and Trappers Organizations in this work.

The Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated Wildlife and Environment Department will be contacting the Regional Wildlife Organizations and Hunters and Trappers Organizations in the near future to discuss concerns about marine monitoring and tourism in marine areas. We heard from Aujuittuq delegates that the Land Use Plan must also consider appropriate protections for omingmak which NTI will further consider for its final submission.

This week, we also heard comments about the Community of Clyde River seeking a moratorium of the seismic survey in Baffin Bay and Davis Strait. We applaud the work and success of the community in bringing this important issue forward all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada and winning a case that sets important laws on the duty to consult in Canada.

You have made a very important contribution for Inuit and all Indigenous peoples. We encourage you to continue to bring your issues forward as your knowledge is vital to maintaining healthy wildlife populations and community wellbeing. Your involvement is necessary in this Land Use Plan process and outside of this process for the future of Nunavut.

We are listening and working hard to ensure your views are reflected in the Land Use Plan. It sometimes takes us time to respond, but we are listening and working on the issues you bring forward. With regard to seismic testing, NTI did intervene in the case at the Supreme Court of Canada and communicated to the National Energy Board that no decision should be made until a strategic Environmental Assessment was complete and that impacted Inuit communities were fully informed and consulted.

Prior to this, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated passed resolutions indicating that no permits related to oil and gas development including seismic testing should be issued in Baffin Bay, Davis Strait, Hudson Bay, Hudson Strait, Foxe Basin, Lancaster Sound, and Parry Channel until Inuit concerns are addressed to the satisfaction of Inuit. Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated is pleased to have supported the communities on that front and obtaining participant funding for the strategic Environmental Assessment.

It is also one of Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated's objectives and priorities to ensure that Hunters and Trappers Organizations and Inuit Organizations are provided adequate resources to fulfill their role and responsibilities.

(Translated): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq for giving us the opportunity especially at NPC's meeting. Your staff, you have done a great job here for the hearing in the community, and especially our translators. If they were not here, we would not be able to understand each other. I am very glad that we were given this opportunity. Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq.

(Applause)

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. QIA's turn. You will have three minutes anytime you are ready.

Levi: (Translated): Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq. I will speak in English. I was taught English. I was taught how to write English, but only with my wife did she teach me how to speak Inuktitut. It was hard learning Inuktitut. I will give a brief report.

(English): The Qikiqtani Inuit Association has taken into consideration in its 2022 submission engagements with Inuit and Qikiqtani communities. We have heard throughout this week about the need to protect the land and water surrounding us, community concerns over impact from dust, fuel, and from shipping including tourism, climate change, and other concerns.

We also heard about impacts to wildlife: polar bear denning areas, walrus haul-outs, caribou calving grounds, muskox, and marine mammals. We are committed to working with committees to address these concerns and are committed to ensuring habitat protection based on Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit is used in the land use planning process through engagement with communities and appropriate Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements.

An example of where we heard a lot of concern is about Lancaster Sound and Tallurutiup Imanga. The Qikiqtani Inuit Association will work to make sure that the areas that need to be protected from vessel traffic in this area are submitted to the Nunavut Planning Commission before the record closes.

The Qikiqtani Inuit Association is committed to engage all 13 communities over the next two years around conservation in the region, which may result in the future submission of Nunavut Planning Commission and potential changes to the land use plan at a later date.

The Qikiqtani Inuit Association will also seek to ensure that the 2023 submission accurately reflects to our expression on addressing Inuit Owned Lands and in the Land Use Plan as well as the critical concerns over caribou habitats including calving and post-calving grounds and other concerns that we have heard to date. We look forward to engaging the Nunavut Planning Commission next month in Iqaluit and to continue the discussion on how a Nunavut Land Use Plan can benefit our region and territory as a whole. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairperson: Thank you also.

(Applause)

Government of Canada.

Spencer: Qujannamiik, Mr. Chair. Spencer Dewar, Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada. Goump or Jonathan, can you put the first draft of our speaking notes up there? Okay, never mind. There it is. Excellent.

The Government of Canada would like to thank the community of Pond Inlet for your warm welcome and everyone who helped bring this hearing together. We would also like to thank the Commissioners, the Nunavut Planning Commission team, and the interpreters for their hard work this week.

This week has brought us together and has offered valuable insights into the expectations of communities, Hunters and Trappers Organizations, and all participants of the expectation of a first-generation Land Use Plan. This hearing was an important step in advancing the planning process, has highlighted the complexities and challenges the Commission faces in achieving the balance required in a Land Use Plan.

This week we have heard clearly that the protection of wildlife is a top priority for many of the participants in these hearings. The Government of Canada also places significant importance on this as well. The Government of Canada supports a variety of tools for wildlife conservation, including Limited Use designations for the protection of caribou habitat as outlined in the Draft Land Use Plan.

However, there are two exceptions. First, Inuit Owned Lands: The Designated Inuit Organizations should have say in how Inuit Owned Lands are managed. We view this as an important element of self-determination. Second, existing mineral tenure that has lawfully been acquired under the Nunavut Mining Regulations. As mentioned in our presentation, this represents approximately 4% of the Limited Use Areas in the current Draft Plan.

The Government of Canada believes the protection of wildlife is reinforced by other elements of Nunavut's integrated regulatory system, such as the work of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, the Nunavut Impact Review Board, the Nunavut Water Board, as well as federal land use permits and leases, and authorizations issued by Regional Inuit Association, which all can impose binding terms and conditions on projects and proponents.

The Land Use Plan is about finding balance, and it should not be a choice between economic development with jobs on one hand, and the environment, say cultural and food security on the other. Finding a balance that provides for the protection of the environment and economic development will require a closer look at specific areas. This will take efforts from all the parties to collaborate and compromise to find workable solutions.

As we are about to close the fourth of five public hearings, the Government of Canada remains optimistic that alignment is possible through further dialogue. We appreciate the Commission's openness and flexibility as parties work together on shared goals of the sound, well-supported and clear Land Use Plan that can be successfully implemented.

We remain committed to this process, and we will work with participants to help inform the Commission. As Terry said earlier, we are open to have ongoing discussions with communities after this hearing, and we all now have Terry's phone number, so please feel free to reach out. We recognize that the Commission has the difficult task of developing a first-generation Land Use Plan,



one that can be jointly accepted by the Government of Canada, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and the Government of Nunavut. Qujannamiik. Taima.

*(Applause)*

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Thank you, also. Nunavut Government, you will also have 15 minutes. Feel free to start anytime.

Henry: Henry Coman, Assistant Deputy Minister for the Department of Environment. On behalf of the Government of Nunavut, I would like to thank the Nunavut Planning Commission for the opportunity to be here and partake in the Mittimatalik public hearing for the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. The Government of Nunavut remains committed to the processes outlined in the *Nunavut Agreement* for land use planning and continues to support the efforts of the Commission in this task.

The successful completion of the Nunavut Land Use Plan is a Government of Nunavut priority. Once approved, the Nunavut Land Use Plan should guide and direct the territory's long-term vision for development and conservation. This is a monumental task for the Commission requiring a balanced approach that is reflective of a range of views.

I would therefore like to thank all those who have travelled here to participate in this public hearing. We wish to thank the Commission for providing this opportunity to comment on the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan and ask them to consider the recommendations that we have made, and those recommendations made by the other participants.

As stated in our presentation, the Government of Nunavut sees the need for revisions to the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan in order to achieve an improved balance between conservation and responsible economic development goals. We have listened to and recorded the different perspectives we have heard regarding the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan, and more broadly on the issues of caribou and cruise ships and development of calving grounds.

We would like to clarify that the Government of Nunavut is not recommending opening up critical areas for widespread development. Rather, the Government of Nunavut position remains supporting caribou management through Conditional Use while balancing the need for economic development opportunities for Nunavummiut.

To address the concerns of the Mittimatalik delegation, our department will also work on improving signage in parks and with the Department of Community and Government Services, signage in the hamlets. We will be taking back the concerns of the Grise Fjord delegation on the effect of glacial melt on their drinking water.

We heard again from Mittimatalik about the impacts of current mining operations on narwhal and other marine wildlife. These concerns contribute to the Government of Nunavut's ongoing monitoring of active projects in Nunavut.

We heard the concerns from many community delegations regarding the need for greater incorporation of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. We understand we have a lot of work to do on this. Our government's Katujjiluat mandate has made that work a priority.

This Nunavut Land Use Plan will be the first step in a rigorous process that reviews the impacts and mitigation measures for projects. The Government of Nunavut is a participant in this process and contributes information to the assessment in relation to our mandate and jurisdiction. We look forward to working with the Commission and our planning partners to develop a territorial-wide Land Use Plan, which is appropriately scoped and in accordance with our mandate, Katujjiluat.

We look forward to a refined Draft Land Use Plan after these public hearings and a successfully approved Nunavut Land Use Plan in the near, near future. This is not an end but the very beginning of more sophisticated land use regulation in the territory. We are merely making a foundation for the Nunavut Impact Review Board, Nunavut Water Board, the Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal, Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, governments, and Inuit Organizations to build upon for many generations.

The Government of Nunavut has listened and heard the passionate words of Inuit. We will take these concerns back to the rest of the Government of Nunavut, and they will help inform our final review of the Nunavut Land Use Plan. Finally, we would like to thank the Commission, community delegates, Hunters and Trappers Organizations, our fellow planning partners. This hearing would not be possible without the hard work of the interpreters, information technology staff, caterers, and the generous hospitality of Mittimatalik. Qujannamiik. Thank you.

*(Applause)*

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Don't leave. You will need to come back after Baffinland is done. *(Pause)* They are not here. GN can come back. They are done. Nunavut Water Board? You have three minutes.

Assol: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The Nunavut Water Board would like to thank the Nunavut Planning Commission for the opportunity to present its comments and recommendations on the 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. We would also like to thank the Community of Pond Inlet for welcoming us here. Thank you very much to the community delegates for the opportunity to hold formal and informal discussions with you during the past several days. In conclusion, thank you very much to the Commission staff, the interpreters, and the support staff for their work. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

*(Applause)*

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. If you want to speak again for the Nunavut Marine Council, you can go ahead.

Assol: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yes, I will take that opportunity. Again, thank you very much on behalf of the Council to the Nunavut Planning Commission. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the hearings. The Council would also like to especially like to thank the delegates for their input, their feedback, and what you have said during the course of the last several days will be taken to the Council. It will inform the Council's future work. Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.

*(Applause)*

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. World Wildlife Fund? You have three minutes.

Paul O: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik, Itsivautaq, hamlet, and invited guests. When I come here, I usually enjoy the scenery. I remember that here I used to hunt seals at breathing holes. This makes the scenery more enjoyable. In my community, the sea ice breaks up too early, so they taught me how to hunt on the sea ice. I am still proud of that. I appreciate what the community members did for me.

We as fellow human beings, we try and help each other in whatever we do, whenever somebody is entering a hardship. The organization that I am representing, I thank them, because they don't mind when I tell them how we can further support communities, so I appreciate that. I enjoy it. So, I wish to further invite you guys. We have not visited some of your communities, not by choice. We have gone to communities that need immediate help. COVID-19 knocked us back a few days off, and we have wanted to come to your communities.

I urge you, my fellow human beings, all people have the rights for food. We are Inuit. We live in our land, so we need the proper rights to be able to have our own food. For that reason, we want our wildlife protected even more. It keeps us alive. I urge the Planning Commission that they work towards that. They kept us alive today, and hopefully they will keep us alive in the future. I thank you, and I wish to work with you closely in the future. Qujannamiik.

*(Applause)*

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. We will also allow Beth to read a statement from the Inuit Kitikmeot Association. They were able to have a voice here. You will have three minutes. Go ahead.

Beth: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My name is Beth Gorham, and I have a statement to read that was sent to us from the Kitikmeot Inuit Association. The KIA would like to thank the Nunavut Planning Commission for the opportunity to speak clearly to our concerns with this Draft. The Kitikmeot Inuit Association actively participated in the Commission's processes, and we have provided both individual and joint submissions. Taken together, our past submissions and our presentation during the Cambridge Bay public hearing speak fully to our concerns with this Draft.

The 2021 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan, number one, interferes with Designated Inuit Organization authorities, including the management of Inuit Owned Lands, the implementation of existing Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements, and the potential to negotiate future Inuit Impact Benefits Agreements. Number 2: It fails to consider the considerable need for transportation corridors in Nunavut, and Number 3: fails to understand that area protection is not a substitute for caribou protection no matter where they may be.

The Kitikmeot Inuit Association Board's resolution to oppose the current Draft should not have been a surprise to the Commission, nor to other planning partners. The KIA is very pleased with the inter-agency discussions that occurred during this public hearing. We look forward to working with the Government of Canada, the Government of Nunavut, and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. to provide the Nunavut Planning Commission with informative clarifications to ensure that the final Nunavut Land Use Plan does ultimately devote special attention to Inuit Owned Land and recognizes the *Nunavut Agreement* land management authorities entrusted to the Designated Inuit Organizations. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

*(Applause)*

Chairperson: Qujannamiik. Sharon, go ahead.

Sharon: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We are getting to that hour. We are almost done. On behalf of the Commission, staff, and Commissioners, and I would like to recognize and thank first and foremost the Community of Pond Inlet. Without them, we would not have been able to pull this off, the hamlet especially. Recognizing Commissioner Joshua Arreak is a Commissioner, he is also the mayor. He and their SAO, Dave Stockley helped us significantly organizing. They did all the work for our billets and organizing everyone's accommodations. The facility staff have been wonderful. So, I would like to give them a round of applause.

*(Applause)*

Our community reps at the back, Jedidah, Scott, and Mark I see back there, and Agnowyak. If you guys could, stand up. Thank you very much. We really appreciated your support.

*(Applause)*

And our translators, if you guys can stand up.

*(Applause)*

We don't recognize at times how hard it is to translate, and we make them work very long days. We wouldn't be able to do our business without them. I would also like to recognize the Commission staff. They are never tired. They always are 500% on, and we have a very small team. This is our team that is here. If you guys can stand up, thank you very much.

*(Applause)*

I would like to thank everyone: the participants for coming and doing your presentations. The Community members, you guys were challenging, but your input is so invaluable. I am so grateful that each of you came. We would not be able to do our business without your voice. To each of you, thank you as well.

*(Applause)*

To all the organizations, I want to recognize, I said it at the beginning and I will recognize it again, NTI has always sent throughout all of their hearings, their Vice President, James Eetoolook and Aluki. Thank you for attending. It is very important for elected people to hear, so thank you.

*(Applause)*

We heard a lot about IQ principles. To the community members and to everyone, the Commission takes Traditional Knowledge as equal as scientific knowledge. Your comments, orally and written, are on the record, and they will get full consideration when Commissioners are making their decisions.

We have a lot of challenges going forward, but we know that working together, we will be able to resolve our differences and produce the first Nunavut-wide Land Use Plan going forward in 2023.

We have one more public hearing in a couple of weeks in Iqaluit, which will conclude the five public hearings. It is a landmark that we are here today.

Nunavut deserves this Land Use Plan. It is a requirement in the *Nunavut Agreement* and it is an outstanding implementation piece of the *Agreement*. So, the Commission looks forward to continuing the work and ensuring that there is a balanced Land Use Plan that is put forward that is representative of the evidence that has been heard by the Commission.

For those that did not get out today, the Government of Nunavut and Baffinland staff, sorry your plane did not land, but it is great to see you here for the closing remarks. For all the community members and everyone, we wish you safe travels. For some of the communities, I have an announcement for you. There are some weather issues that you are encountering. We need you to see Jedidah at the back. She is in touch with our staff and your charters. She can give you the latest update as to the timing for your charters to depart tomorrow, hopefully on time. To everyone else, we wish you safe travels. I would like to turn it over to our Chair for the final closing remarks. Thank you.

*(Applause)*

Chairperson: *(Translated)*: Qujannamiik. I am representing my fellow Commission members. First of all, I thank the hamlets and HTOs. Thank you for welcoming us to the community. Ever since we came here, you have been very welcoming. We all appreciate that. The members from the other communities, thank you for being able to come to the community.

Your statements won't be wasted. The governments, NTI, QIA, your statements are as strong as theirs. Even though we have written documents and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, when you are talking about it, they are being recorded. They will be written down, and we will use them to consider other ideas. All your ideas, all your statements will be used to think about and consider. We are not quite done yet. We started in Cambridge Bay. This was the fourth, and the last one will be in Iqaluit. That will be the fifth. We are not done yet. I thank all of you and our translators. They have been working very hard for you guys, for us.

I really appreciate that they were able to work for us and our staff. Sharon, our Executive Director, I really appreciate all the help that she does, and the camera man, sound guys, and the one who is always walking around daily. I am very appreciative. You have not stopped since we came here.

Everyone, I thank you all along with my fellow Commission members. There are others who are not saying anything, but they are listening. We are here to do work. I am sorry that I had told you guys that we were working on something else. I did not want to stop statements, but I had no choice. That is the way it is supposed to be. You have broken the time limit, but you won't be punished for it. We were told don't kill what you are not going to eat, otherwise they may force you to eat it. I thank you all. We started with an opening prayer, and we will have a closing prayer. We had asked Joshua for the closing prayer, and he agreed. Qujannamiik you all. Let's stand up and thank God.

Joshua: *(Closing Prayer)*

**End of Mittimatalik Public Hearing**