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Delivered via email

November 19, 2014

RE: Sahtú Gathering for the Caribou consensus – Minister's request for feedback on Bluenose East caribou harvesting allocations

Dear Mr. Miltenberger:

On January 27-29, the ?ehdzo Got'įnę Gotsę́ Nákedi sponsored the *Sahtú Gathering for the Caribou*. The meeting included representatives from the five Sahtú communities, including Renewable Resources Councils, Sahtú Youth Network, and Délįnęgot'įnę community; representatives from other jurisdictions included the NWT Wildlife Management Advisory Council, the Inuvialuit Game Council, Kugluktuk Angoniatit Association, Tłįchǫ Nation, and Parks Canada. At that meeting, Assistant Deputy Minister Bird provided an overview of the your request for feedback on the issues to be considered regarding harvest allocations for the Bluenose East caribou.

There was considerable discussion about this request during the Gathering, and the participants requested that we share seven points of consensus as presented to Mr. Bird. These points are listed below, along with our understanding of Mr. Bird's preliminary response during the meeting.

Consensus of the Sahtú Gathering for the Caribou		Preliminary ENR response
1.	Decisions are needed about how to share the caribou.	This is a common starting
		point for discussion.
2.	ENR has invited Aboriginal leaders and wildlife management	This message will be
	authorities to a teleconference to discuss Bluenose East	conveyed to the Minister.
	caribou harvesting allocations on Monday, February 2; there	
	was strong direction that such important matters require an	
	in-person meeting of the parties.	
3.	Timelines for discussions and decisions should not be	This message will be
	imposed by the Minister; rather, they need to be agreed	conveyed to the Minister.
	upon by the parties. Allocations should be arrived at and	
	implemented for the 2015-2016 harvesting season; it is not	
	feasible to accomplish this for the current harvesting season.	
4.	According to the best available information, the current	Agreed.
	status of the Bluenose East caribou does not constitute an	
	emergency.	
5.	The health of the caribou depends on the health of the	Did not respond.
	aboriginal peoples, their ability to "Be Dene" (Dene Ts'ĮlĮ).	
6.	The full range of actions, as presented by the Aboriginal	Did not respond.
	Caucus at the November 28 meeting with the Minister, and	
	as outlined in the Bluenose Caribou Management Plan, is	
	needed to address declining trends.	
7.	Education is needed in the communities to prepare the	ENR is committed to
	ground for any decisions that will be made.	working collaboratively to
		support development of
		education and
		communication materials.

The Sahtú Secretariat Incorporated/Délįnę First Nation and ?ehdzo Got'įnę Gotsę́ Nákedı will be present at the teleconference on Monday to discuss these points and other contributions from the parties in response to the Minister's request. The Board thanks you for your department's participation and valuable contributions to the Gathering for the Caribou.

Máhsi cho,

Paul Latour Interim Chair Chief Leonard Kenny

cc. Ethel Blondin-Andrew, Sahtú Secretariat Inc., parties present at the Sahtú Gathering for the Caribou, Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management (ACCWM)