

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE  
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
9<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY, 4<sup>TH</sup> SESSION**

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Recommendations  
from the  
FISH, FUR, and GAME for the FUTURE  
Conference

Sponsored and Organized by the  
Science Advisory Board  
of the Northwest Territories

Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
February 23 - 25, 1981

The following recommendations were made by the participants of the 'Fish, Fur, and Game for the Future' conference organized by the Science Advisory Board. It is the wish of the conference participants that they be submitted to the Legislative Assembly for support and immediate action where appropriate.

1. It is recommended that hunting and trapping be recognized as a legitimate, long-term, viable land use activity in the N.W.T. and that the Legislative Assembly take appropriate action to ensure a productive future for this way of life for those northerners who prefer it.
2. In recognition of the important role of caribou, and in response to the recent decline in caribou numbers, it is recommended that the Legislative Assembly find a means to reduce predation on caribou by hunters and wolves.

The following steps are recommended as a means of achieving this goal:

- establish a committee now whose membership should include successful hunters and trappers as well as managers and biologists.

- an appropriate level of funding should be provided in order for this committee to hold consultations with the public, especially in those communities that depend on the Kaminuriak, Beverly and Bathurst caribou herds.
  - this committee should report its findings to the Legislative Assembly at the fifth session of the ninth Assembly and should make recommendations for action to ensure improved caribou management in the Northwest Territories for the long-term benefit of northern people.
3. It is recommended that all management and research decisions for our northern fisheries be made in the N.W.T.
4. In recognition of the nutritive, economic, and socio-cultural importance of country food resources in the N.W.T., it is recommended that Territorial and Federal government agencies implement appropriate measures to promote the systematic and optimum use of country foods by assisting more effective harvesting, preservation, and distribution of these resources. The following steps are recommended as a means of achieving this goal:
- education programs be developed by local and Territorial institutions and agencies to promote the safety and nutritive value of country foods.

- assist the establishment of country food stores.
  - the provision of adequate storage facilities for domestic and surplus supplies of fish and meat.
  - active monitoring of wildlife populations to prevent over-exploitation of these country food sources.
  - the exports of country foods should be regulated so as to ensure adequate supplies for local use.
  - the development of standards to ensure healthy slaughter, cleaning, preservation, and distribution of country foods.
  - establish facilities for handling, storage, transport and intersettlement distribution of surplus country food.
5. It is recommended that regional organization(s) (based on linguistic and/or ecological relationships) be established to represent the interests of hunters and trappers. Through consultation with local hunters and trappers, regional and Territorial wildlife managers and administrators, these organizations will advise and assist their membership on issues relating to:

- hunters' and trappers' assistance programs
- regulations affecting the harvesting of wildlife
- research into wildlife populations
- education and training programs for the public in general and for resource harvesters specifically.

It is further recommended that, as these organizations become established, more responsibility for allocating assistance funding, research programs, and the management of wildlife populations be turned over to them.

6. The Government of the Northwest Territories should subsidize freight rates on Arctic char and whitefish for export.