



“When You Talk - We Listen!”



SAHTU RENEWABLE RESOURCES BOARD

MANAGEMENT OF

BLUENOSE EAST EKWE (BARREN-GROUND CARIBOU)

PUBLIC HEARING

Panel Members:

Michael Neyelle	Chairperson
Paul Latour	Vice-Chairperson
George Barnaby	Member
Leonard Kenny	Member
Lesley Allen	Member
Jeff Walker	Member
Camilla Rabisca	Member
Leon Andrew	Member
Frederick Andrew	Member

HELD IN:

Deline, NT

March 3, 2016

Day 3 of 3

	APPEARANCES	
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2	Deborah Simmons	) SRRB
3	Joe Hanlon	)
4	Lori Ann Lennie	)
5	Daniel Tseleie	)
6	Keith Hickling	) Advisor
7	Colin Macdonald	) Advisor
8	Lorraine Land	) Counsel
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10	Bruno Croft	) ENR
11	Lynda Yonge	)
12	Brett Elkin	)
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19	Morris Neyelle	)
20	Walter Bayha	)
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22	Wilbert Kochon	) Colville Lake
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24	Joseph Kochon	)
25	Norman Barichello	)

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3 Hychinthe Kochon )

4 Jennifer Duncan ) counsel

5 Larry Innes ) counsel

6

7 Chief Frank Andrew ) Tulita Panel

8 Joe Bernard )

9 Jonas Peter )

10

11 Jordan Lennie ) Sahtu Youth Connection

12

13 Barry Harris ) Fort Good Hope

14 Bella T'seleie )

15 Frank T'seleie )

16 Barthe Kotchilli )

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1 --- Upon commencing at 9:07 a.m.

2

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Good morning,  
4 everybody to the hearing. This is our last day today,  
5 so before we get started, I would ask one (1) of our  
6 advisors to the Board to do an opening prayer. Leon,  
7 please. It's not -- yeah, please.

8

9 (OPENING PRAYER)

10

11 CONTINUED QUESTION PERIOD:

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, masi, masi.  
13 Okay. Good morning, everybody. This morning we're  
14 going to continue our question to the Colville Lake  
15 delegation -- party.

16 And the last to ask questions as of  
17 last night, it was the Sahtu Renewable Resources  
18 Board. So we'll -- Colville Lake, if you're prepared,  
19 we -- we still have a few more questions to ask of  
20 you. So we will get started. So I will get Paul.  
21 Paul was the last one to ask questions last night, and  
22 I think he's got a couple more.

23 Go ahead, Paul.

24 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
25 Chair. My name is Paul Latour, Sahtu Board member.

1                   Yesterday in your presentation, and I  
2 forget what slide it was exactly -- I think it was  
3 under one -- maybe one of the ones under taking  
4 action. I'm not sure, but there was a -- a line in  
5 there, and I think it was -- this is pretty close  
6 wording. It says, Restrictions relating to caribou  
7 must be approved in a public forum.

8                   We'd just like to get a better sense of  
9 you -- from you what restrictions might entail. What  
10 do we mean by "restrictions", or even possible  
11 restrictions? What's -- what do you have in mind by -  
12 - by restrictions?

13                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Go ahead, Colville  
14 Lake.

15                   CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON:   Chief Wilbert  
16 Kochon. Masi, Mr. Chair.

17                   I think the restrictions are mostly  
18 quotas. That's one (1) thing that we don't like the  
19 restriction on the way they do the quotas on caribou.  
20 I think that's what we're talking about.

21                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON:   So by saying  
22 approved -- sorry.

23                   MR. LARRY INNES:    Sorry. Larry Innes,  
24 legal counsel, Colville Lake. I would say that  
25 restrictions would include the full range of

1 conservation measures. So it's a spectrum of anything  
2 from changes in the times that people would go out or  
3 the distances that people would go or the places that  
4 people would go, methods that people are using.

5                   You know, there's sort of a very broad  
6 range of potential restrictions. And, you know, as I  
7 think we made clear yesterday, quotas are really only  
8 a very last resort after you've put in place a plan of  
9 action that is intended to address conservation  
10 concerns. And only after those measures have been  
11 shown to be ineffective would you move to a quota.

12                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Yes. Thank  
13 you. Paul Latour, Board member. Yes, that definitely  
14 clears things up a bit. So by saying certain kinds of  
15 restrictions, or all restrictions I'm -- I'm hearing,  
16 I guess, including possible quotas would need public  
17 approval in some sort of a public forum in your  
18 community.

19                   Is that to say that under some  
20 circumstances, Colville Lake would -- would support  
21 harvest limitations -- restrictions on the harvest  
22 even down to the zero level? Could a restriction in  
23 fact be taken to its, you know, given number --  
24 declining numbers to a logical conclusion of zero  
25 under some circumstances? And would that have support

1 in the community?

2

3

(BRIEF PAUSE)

4

5

MR. DAVID CODZI: Thank you, Mr.

6 Chair. When we say we're going to work with ENR-SSRB,

7 we're going to explore options. We're not agree to --

8 for setting quotas, and -- what we're looking for is

9 to -- to develop a plan that's going to be acceptable

10 to our people, and other people in the region.

11 Our message was quite clear. We want

12 to develop a path that is -- it's -- it's -- the

13 community has a hand in it, so -- thank you.

14

THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you for

15 that. Yes, I -- I recognize that until we see your

16 caribou plan a lot of these questions remain somewhat

17 up in the air. So we look forward to seeing that.

18 Thank you. I do have a couple more questions, Mr.

19 Chair. Paul Latour --

20

THE COURT: Go ahead, Paul.

21

THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: -- Paul Latour,

22 Board member. Just a -- actually the -- the word

23 'monitoring' has been tossed around a bit. I -- I

24 heard it at least in the context of your presentation

25 meaning more tracking the caribou in terms of numbers,

1 but I've also heard it in terms of tracking the  
2 harvest -- keeping track of the harvest. I've heard  
3 it in two (2) different sort of contexts here.

4 I'm just wondering what your -- what  
5 your meaning is by monitoring. Thank you.

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Colville Lake...?  
7 Go ahead, David.

8 MR. DAVID CODZI: By -- by monitoring,  
9 you know, it's -- we have things like -- you know, we  
10 want people to be respectful. So the only way we  
11 could -- we don't like to tell people what to do. We  
12 want to make sure that they're hunting right with full  
13 respect, not leaving no parts behind. You know, that  
14 what -- the evidence that you see on the ground after  
15 a kill is what we're looking at.

16 You know, we're not just -- we want to  
17 make sure that it's respectful, you know. You have to  
18 care about what you're doing. You're not just going  
19 out there just -- you know. It's not just an object.  
20 And that's what we're trying to -- that's what we're  
21 trying to explain with this whole thing. You know,  
22 there has to be that respect value in everything that  
23 we do.

24 So when we go out there and we monitor  
25 the hunters, and we want to make sure that they know

1 that we're going to go out there after them so that  
2 they know that they -- you know, they should take  
3 everything. They should do it with respect. This is  
4 our -- you know, our means of -- of living. It always  
5 has been. So good enough?

6 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Yes. Thank  
7 you. From that, I -- I detect that it's more along  
8 the lines of monitoring your own activities and -- and  
9 your relationship with the caribou, including  
10 harvesting. Thank you. That -- that -- is that  
11 correct? Yeah.

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Go ahead, Joseph.

13 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: You mentioned  
14 about the -- the migration, that type of stuff, too,  
15 so. In some of our -- our response and our  
16 presentations, you know, we mentioned that it's --  
17 it's a natural thing. Annually we have people out  
18 there all over the land. We have a really big area.  
19 We have trappers that are out there that keeps track  
20 of things out there.

21 And since ENR started conducting their  
22 counts back in, I don't know how many years ago, we  
23 started doing the same thing. We have to kind of  
24 verify some of this stuff, so. So that kind of opened  
25 up that, Hey, we could do this too, you know, rather

1 than just sitting back and being observers, and just  
2 taking in the presentations.

3                   So it opened up an opportunity for us  
4 and it's educational for us. You know, we see it  
5 every day. It's just like, no, you know, you see a  
6 herd coming by, it's nothing new to us. We could  
7 almost say, Hi, and just keep on doing our thing.

8                   So all the monitoring and everything  
9 it's -- it's natural. You know, it's what we see.  
10 Now that ENR are presenting their reports then we're -  
11 - we're curious, we want to see exactly what they're  
12 talking about and -- to ensure that it is the truth,  
13 whatever has been presented.

14                   So that's the other way of monitoring.  
15 Thank you.

16                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
17 Kochon. One (1) -- Paul Latour, Board member. You  
18 notice the statement in presentation, once again, I  
19 think I got the -- the wording pretty close here, but  
20 it was to the effect, ACCWM plan does not meet the  
21 requirements of the Sahtu land claim agreement.

22                   I was wondering if you could elaborate  
23 on that, please? Thank you.

24                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Go ahead, Larry.

25                   MR. LARRY INNES: So, Larry Innes,

1 legal counsel, Colville Lake. The obligation in the  
2 land claim is for government to work with the users of  
3 the Bluenose caribou herd for the purposes of  
4 establishing agreements for the management of the herd  
5 under 13.6.3.

6           The scheme of this envisioned in the  
7 land claim includes the participation of the RRCs, the  
8 participation of the Renewable Resource Boards, and  
9 the language. And I -- I really want to emphasize  
10 this, is 'to the greatest extent possible'.

11           I'll also emphasize the language is  
12 that the operative clause in the section given with  
13 management of the Bluenose herd is not to work with  
14 the Wildlife Management Boards. It's to work with the  
15 users of the Bluenose herd.

16           So when the Wildlife Management Boards  
17 agree amongst themselves to a management plan, they're  
18 not the users. The obligation is to work with the  
19 users. And so we maintain that the ACCWM process was  
20 incomplete.

21           I've seen the documentation, it's on  
22 your website, as to how many meetings were held, who  
23 was consulted. Colville Lake very much takes the view  
24 that those discussions and those decisions which  
25 culminated in the Minister's approval of that

1 management plan in 2015 did not involve the users of  
2 the herd. Masi.

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank you for  
4 that.

5 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: That's --  
6 that's all the questioning I have, Mr. Chair. Than --  
7 thank you.

8 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Paul. Lesley,  
9 do you have questions for the Colville Lake party?

10 MS. LESLEY ALLEN: Lesley Allen, with  
11 the Board. We heard yesterday from -- from Deline and  
12 we spent time looking at their plan. And we realized  
13 that their plan is the first plan and it's never easy  
14 going first.

15 When -- when we heard from other  
16 parties in relation to their plan, that there were  
17 important considerations. One (1) of them was the  
18 impact of the plan on other communities, and the  
19 second one (1) was the alignment with the land claims  
20 agreement.

21 Last night we heard from you and you  
22 talked about working together. And it seems like  
23 that's an extremely important consideration in any  
24 planning process. So my question is simple: What  
25 does it look like in terms of working -- of you,

1 Colville Lake, working with the Board, and working  
2 with ENR?

3

4

(BRIEF PAUSE)

5

6

THE CHAIRPERSON: David...?

7

MR. DAVID CODZI: From here going --  
8 looking forward, you know, over the last say eight  
9 (8), ten (10) years or -- or so, pretty well from the  
10 onset of the first hearing we've kind of kept all the  
11 information to ourselves thinking that -- or knowing  
12 that the information was somehow used against us.

13

You know, right now, we're -- we want  
14 to work together. We know that if we coordinate our  
15 efforts we could get a lot done without spending so  
16 much money, without so much resources. There's more,  
17 you know, hands-on approach than just flying over it.  
18 And, you know, a lot of these res -- things are put in  
19 place, that they're keeping people away from the land.  
20 And, you know, maybe somewhere else it kind of works.  
21 But here everybody survives off the land, they  
22 subsist.

23

And there is a relationship with  
24 everything that's out there. And to put restrictions  
25 on place, it's -- you know, it's part of our

1 Aboriginal rights and we can't allow that to -- to  
2 diminish. And so having, you know, hunting and --  
3 hunting is a right for us, so.

4           And, you know, we want to make sure  
5 that we're working with our -- you know, our other  
6 Aboriginal people, as well. But at the same time, we  
7 still have to make sure that we're protected and we're  
8 doing things that, you know, are not going to diminish  
9 who we are.

10           So, you know, the communities are not  
11 who we are. We're the land.

12           THE CHAIRPERSON:    Okay, another  
13 question, Les?

14           MS. LESLEY ALLEN:    Thank you for that  
15 answer. It's Lesley Allen, from the Board. Thank you  
16 for that answer. But I'd like to just sort of tease  
17 it out a little bit more. Like, can you give me some  
18 examples of the kinds of things that -- that -- where  
19 we could work better together, for example, being a  
20 special advisor or -- or whatever.

21           But how -- how could the Board work  
22 closely with Colville Lake on the plan and in general?

23           THE CHAIRPERSON:    Go ahead, Joseph.

24           MR. JOSEPH KOCHON:    You're referring  
25 to the SSRB (sic), how you could work better with us

1 and Deline? Is that what your question is? You have  
2 to be clear. Get closer to the mic because I can't  
3 really hear you too good.

4 MS. LESLEY ALLEN: All right. Lesley  
5 Allen, with the -- with the Board. Yes, my question  
6 is: How Colville Lake sees us working closely  
7 together, how Colville Lake will work with the Board  
8 and how the Board will work with Colville Lake?

9 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Thank you. Joseph  
10 Kochon, President RRC. I think we are already working  
11 together. I don't think we're -- we're hostile in any  
12 way. You know, we had the meeting. I guess your  
13 representative is Debbie. And ENR, we had that  
14 meeting. We're working together. That's a good first  
15 step.

16 I don't think there's any detachment or  
17 anything. Right now, we're following your process.  
18 We're following the land claims. I don't think we're  
19 far off. If nobody asks some of these tough  
20 questions, then you're going to get off easy.

21 So we are here. We're always looking  
22 for opportunities. We enjoy the opportunities. And  
23 if you do things yourself, then sometimes you develop  
24 something that might not be suitable to any community  
25 or the region as a whole.

1                   So when we come to the table today, you  
2 know, we are very prepared because we live on the  
3 land. We know exactly what we're talking about. It's  
4 not something we picked up or looked into the library  
5 or anything. So we thank you for that answer -- for  
6 that question.

7                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Go ahead, Norm.

8                   MR. NORMAN BARICHELO:    Norman  
9 Barichello, with Colville Lake. There seems to be a  
10 lot of confusion or misunderstanding about what  
11 'working together' means, what 'monitoring' means.

12                   And what we've heard in reports and  
13 what we've heard around the table, there's a whole  
14 bunch of events going on on the land. We have  
15 vegetation changes being reported, very dry  
16 conditions, willows encroaching into the tundra.

17                   You've got moose that are moving in,  
18 muskoxen that are moving in. You've got wildfires  
19 that are creating habitat for moose, which brings more  
20 of them in. The wolves are coming in, far more than  
21 was the case in the past. Caribou movement patterns  
22 seem to be shifting.

23                   The whole idea here is to try to figure  
24 out what's going on and to better understand caribou.  
25 And the single focus on a population estimate on the

1 calving ground is a very reactive process.

2                   It's questionable whether you can do it  
3 at all without analytical models that are very, very  
4 difficult to interpret. Certainly, the community  
5 can't understand the -- these very sophisticated  
6 analytical models.

7                   So the monitoring is really about  
8 getting a better understanding of caribou, not for  
9 today, but for today, next year, the year after, and  
10 so on. And what -- what's always missing, it seems to  
11 me, is the value of trend data.

12                   If all the trends move in one (1)  
13 direction, it should cause us concern, whether --  
14 whether there's a -- a confidence interval around it  
15 or not. And there are statistics that can deal with  
16 trend data, but that's the kind of thing we're looking  
17 for as far as ENR's participation.

18                   Of course they offer some useful  
19 techniques that Colville is interested in -- in  
20 looking at, certainly not intrusive means.

21                   But there's all kinds of monitoring  
22 that could be done or -- or talked about as to what  
23 might be practical and cost effective. You can think  
24 of all sorts of things, what one might want to do  
25 through a scientific approach.

1                   So the -- the idea is -- is working  
2 together to learn more about caribou. The way it's  
3 gone is that it's a science-based process that, for  
4 reasons that are -- are unclear to me, would ignore a  
5 huge body of knowledge in the community. Why would we  
6 do that?

7                   So -- and -- and as far as the role of  
8 the Board, we would assume you've got technical  
9 advisors that can help. We would assume you've got  
10 money to help, or maybe not. But it seems to me we  
11 should be encouraging a collaboration to try to better  
12 understand caribou. And when we start to figure  
13 things out, maybe we'll be in better shape to make  
14 recommendations toward conservation.

15                   So it -- I don't know if that helps,  
16 but it seems there's questions on monitoring and  
17 collaboration I don't quite understand. Thank you.

18                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Masi, Norm.  
19                   Lesley...?

20                   MS. LESLEY ALLEN:    Yes. I have one  
21 (1) more question. Thank you for that.

22                   You mentioned that there are other  
23 things and that the harvesting restriction should be  
24 the last -- last resort. So can you tell us some of  
25 the other things that should be done before harvesting

1 restrictions take place?

2 MR. NORMAN BARICHELLO: Norman  
3 Barichello.

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Go ahead, Norm.

5 MR. NORMAN BARICHELLO: The -- the  
6 first thing we have to do is understand the problem  
7 and how significant the problem is. And until the  
8 science starts to match up with the observations on  
9 the ground, it becomes -- it -- it's unknown. So  
10 that's the first step.

11 I -- I almost think we -- we should  
12 tackle it from that way rather than start to jump to  
13 extreme examples. There's lots of measures one can  
14 take to, you know, that I've heard around the table  
15 about shifting harvest from one (1) area to another.

16 Trying to understand the whole question  
17 on benefit-cost, at what point does it become too  
18 expensive to -- to run all over the country looking  
19 for one (1) caribou? You know, I -- I just am -- am  
20 not sure why we need, at this point, to be so  
21 prescriptive when I think we should be concentrating  
22 on trying to figure out what the -- what the problem  
23 is, and -- and then start to think about what options  
24 there are.

25 If I was going to offer a few actions

1 right off the bat, it would be to stop exploration in  
2 the calving ground. And, you know, you -- you've said  
3 that you need the community's help, but that's -- to  
4 me, seems like it's a -- a no-brainer, and -- and that  
5 would be the first step as far as acting right now in  
6 something that's prescriptive.

7                   But I would suggest that we should take  
8 pause, and start to accrue a -- a much more  
9 comprehensive knowledge base, and then -- then go  
10 after it when we can clarify what the issues are.  
11 Thank you.

12

13   (BRIEF PAUSE)

14

15                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Okay. I believe  
16 that's all the questions that's been asked of Colville  
17 Lake. I don't know if Colville Lake would -- you  
18 would like to say your last statement before we let  
19 you go? Go ahead, Wilbert.

20                   CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON:   Chief Wilbert  
21 Kochon. I just want to say masi for all the  
22 questions, and as you can see, that we're a team. Not  
23 only one (1) person has answered all the questions, so  
24 you know that we're all -- we're all work as a team  
25 and doing this plan together.

1                   Not just one (1) person is talking, so  
2 you can see that we all work together nicely, even  
3 though these guy -- lawyers work with us. And that's  
4 why we're prepared. Not to undermine anybody. It's  
5 just what we think, what we see, and what we live  
6 with. And so that's what we're bringing out.

7                   And I'm excited to work with ENR, and  
8 hopefully we can keep that going, and maybe our SSRB  
9 (sic) can assist us in a lot of ways. Maybe money.  
10 Like I said, a lot of these things we do, we do  
11 ourselves, our own money that we generate. And we  
12 don't use public money. It's money that we, through  
13 our businesses, and that, that we use quite a bit.  
14 And a little bit of assistance from Debbie.

15                   And we're always trying to find new  
16 monies and new ways to better our plan for the future  
17 and for the rest of the Sahtu, because I know  
18 everybody is watching. I know this is a public --  
19 public hearing where it's a legal proceeding, so I  
20 think a lot of people have -- have to understand that  
21 these hearings, you have to be prepared.

22                   And that's what we did, and we have  
23 learned. Even when you're on the land, the way the  
24 caribou acts, you see the difference if you're a  
25 hunter. Like, I've been out there since I was twelve

1 (12) years old. I don't know all the answers, but you  
2 can see different things. The way the land is, but  
3 the land always takes care of itself.

4                   When I asked the Elder about climate  
5 change or climate, whatever, warming, they said, Well,  
6 the land is taking care of itself. It's the simplest  
7 word he put it. Even that one (1) little word means a  
8 lot. And people always think that all the heat is  
9 coming from this side, but they never look within.

10                   So that's what I see in the law, that  
11 the changes through the lakes, it's all from the  
12 bottom. Nobody really sees that. If you're out  
13 there, you'll see that. That's why you get all these  
14 drops and that, so.

15                   So when I asked that Elder, it -- it  
16 really validates what I was thinking. The way that I  
17 -- I see things. You just ask a simple question.  
18 They answer you right there. It's the same thing with  
19 animals. We're not only worried about our caribou,  
20 we're worried about all the animals on our land.

21                   1957, around there, when our Elders  
22 were worried about other peoples coming in, killing  
23 all our animals, well, that's when they put that group  
24 trap in the area. It's there for a reason. To  
25 protect our animals, every species that live on there,

1 and that's quite a bit. And that's what we want to  
2 continue doing. We don't want nothing to be wasted.

3                   And we want to continue working with  
4 ENR. Back in the '80s, we used to travel around with  
5 them on the trap land. Everybody was just embracing  
6 them, because they used to work with us. But you  
7 don't see some of those officers anymore. And I think  
8 we need more of that with trappers to go out on the  
9 land with them, to see what they see.

10                   And at that time it was beautiful,  
11 because I -- I did that tour once and took a couple  
12 officers to all the camps. At the end of the day they  
13 said, Boy, people would pay to do this he -- they  
14 said. But I tell them, I'm just showing you my land  
15 and you should be happy that I showed you my land, how  
16 beautiful it is, how people live with the -- with the  
17 animals, so.

18                   I can go on and on but I know this is a  
19 hearing but I just want to say in my closing remarks  
20 that the Board is listening and how much we care about  
21 our land, and our animals, and the water, and the air  
22 that we breathe. And I just wanted to Masi to Deline  
23 and I'm not just -- I don't know if we are going to  
24 have a closing remark going to have a closing remark,  
25 but I want to say Masi anyway for all the hospb --

1 hostibal -- for where we stay. Sometimes my tongue  
2 gets tied up.

3                   So I just want to say, Masi, and I  
4 think David wants to say a closing thing, so Masi.

5                   MR. DAVID CODZI: Yeah, thank you for  
6 the opportunity to be here. A lot of the things that  
7 we're talking about, you know, we're observing a  
8 balance that happens, you know, for the last, say  
9 twenty (20)/thirty (30) years, how has that balance  
10 shifted. And a lot of the things that we're doing has  
11 shifted away from a land-based lifestyle. It's going  
12 to community.

13                   You know, that changes a lot of things.  
14 So, you know, those things that we -- we have to  
15 understand and we have to look at those things too.  
16 We have to involve that. So, you know, I just want to  
17 mention that. It's one (1) of the points that we were  
18 talking about earlier in the presentation.

19                   So thank you -- thank you for the  
20 opportunity to be here.

21                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Go ahead, Joseph.

22                   MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Thank you, Mr.  
23 Chair. You know, for a while we were kind of looked  
24 at as people that are opposed to whatever is going on  
25 with the count and everything. But then there was

1 never a time anybody came to us and asked, Well, what  
2 can we do? What can we do?

3                   So finally, after -- that's almost  
4 eight (8) years they're finally realizing, Hey, these  
5 people -- you know, we can work with them. So we've  
6 opened up that door. We've opened up that dialogue  
7 and we're very happy to -- to explore that option.

8                   Remember ENR, we're going to take you  
9 for a ride up and down the hills and through the  
10 valleys and everything. This SRRB, you can sit there  
11 and watch like watching a movie. But anyway, that's  
12 the way we -- we roll, is that you have to involve us.

13                   This is our land, our turf. Alone, you  
14 can't survive there. So you have to learn from us.  
15 That's all -- that's all you had to do was come to us,  
16 Okay, how can we do this? But when you're taking that  
17 colonial approach where, Okay, this is how we do  
18 things, this is how government rolls, it really gave  
19 us a lot of questions to ask.

20                   So -- and then when biologists would  
21 come in front of our elders and said, This is what we  
22 see here, and this, that, that, that, and the elder  
23 are saying like, When did I see this guy on my land?  
24 Like -- it's kind of like never in my life have I seen  
25 this guy in my area and how come he's telling me about

1 my caribou.

2                   What's wrong with the picture? So  
3 those are facts. So now we just want to fix up the  
4 picture a bit. We -- we're not a hostile community.  
5 We've always said we'll find a way to work together.  
6 Sometimes it's always good to ask that question, how  
7 can we walk down this path together.

8                   We don't take things personally and we  
9 expect ENR-SSRB (sic) and whoever else around the  
10 table don't take things personally. Ourselves, we  
11 come from a small community. But yesterday I was  
12 totalling up the amount of responsibility invested in  
13 each and every one of us.

14                   Right now, I -- I sit in about twelve  
15 (12) different organizations, community, regionally  
16 and elsewhere. I didn't realize I was busy. While  
17 you're asking questions I'm working on my other file.  
18 I'm negotiating as we go along, so I'm multitasking.  
19 That's what I've been doing for the last twenty-five  
20 (25) years.

21                   So if I'm not looking at eye contact,  
22 then I'm just doing other work, so. We -- we're  
23 always working. These two (2) here, we work in the  
24 office, so I apologize if we're not kind of paying  
25 attention, but our ears are always open. So thank

1 you.

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Colville Lake, masi.  
3 Thank you very much, Colville Lake. And if you're  
4 going to stay right until the end of the hearing,  
5 there's going to be an opportunity for closing  
6 remarks, okay. So thank you very much, Colville Lake.  
7 Masi.

8 Okay, on our agenda, the next party to  
9 present to the Bluenose East hearing here in Deline  
10 would be the community of Tulita. So, Frank and your  
11 delegation...?

12

13 PRESENTATION BY TULITA:

14 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Good morning.  
15 Chief Frank Andrew, from Tulita. You know, I don't  
16 have no presentation here today, but, you know, it's a  
17 good discussion on what we want to do for the caribou,  
18 you know. And listening to the people around the  
19 table, some sounds good, some sounds not too good.

20 You know, I was sitting here and  
21 thinking about the years that we came for caribou  
22 myself. I came to car -- for caribou hunting from  
23 Tulita down to around Grizzly Bear Mountain. A couple  
24 of times, I went down that way for caribou.

25 And, you know, my presentation will be

1 that we don't want to be forgotten from Tulita. No  
2 matter which presentation it is, we don't want to be  
3 forgotten. We always want to be part of the Sahtu  
4 region. And I really believe that the quota system is  
5 not going to work for our people. It's not going to  
6 work for our people. It's going to hurt our people  
7 for sure. Because when you listen to people speaking  
8 about the way things were and the way things should be  
9 -- and I think it should be that way.

10                   It's good that we want to protect the  
11 caribou. I believe that for sure. The future depends  
12 on that. For me, when I think about all the things  
13 people talking about the Dene, the non-Dene, everybody  
14 want to support caribou, I believe that.

15                   But when you talk about all the things  
16 that I've heard and think about the things I used to  
17 do when I was a younger guy, such as hunting down this  
18 way a couple times, and, you know, it was a good  
19 experience, you know. The first year when we came  
20 down this way the caribou were right on the lake, so  
21 it was good. We got them right off the lake.

22                   The second year, I think we came. They  
23 weren't on the lake. They weren't waiting for us  
24 there, so we had to search in the bushes to find them.  
25 That's how we find our caribou. That's how we work as

1 Aboriginal people. If you don't find them on the  
2 lake, go look for them in the bush. And that's how we  
3 got our caribou. And we went home after that.

4                   But the thing is that I don't want my  
5 young people to be -- the enforcement that I saw just  
6 a while ago when hand game was happening, I don't  
7 think there's no quota in place. I don't think there  
8 was anything in place. The enforcement people were on  
9 the road, which I never saw before when caribou came  
10 here.

11                   When I watch TV -- I don't know how  
12 real that is, but when you watch TV, in Alaska, you  
13 see the way the Native people are treated over there.  
14 That's what I fear our people will come to if we have  
15 quotas.

16                   Ethel talked about the fishery in New  
17 Brunswick. It's because of the law, the way it's  
18 written, they said, under the Wildlife Act.

19                   When we have rights, I really believe  
20 that that right has to go on the legislation. It has  
21 to. It has to protect our people. That is why we  
22 have rights. We've been inheriting the right for a  
23 lifetime, and we've still got it today, people are  
24 saying, and I believe that.

25                   But somebody's trying to twist that on

1 us. So I really believe that the quota is going to  
2 hurt our people. It is going to hurt our people.

3 I listened to the old timers that  
4 passed away. They talk about how one day, you might  
5 have one (1) stick standing for you here on Great Bear  
6 Lake. And I think we're coming to that.

7 If we would leave it the way it is  
8 going, our young people is going to be hurt. And I  
9 just can't agree with that, me, not with the quota  
10 system. I can't agree with that. I won't agree with  
11 that.

12 But I know we have to protect the  
13 caribou. There's ways we could do it. Tulita, you  
14 know, we -- the young people this fall wanted to come  
15 over for caribou. But I told them, I said, You know,  
16 you've got to watch yourself, because these people are  
17 probably on the road and waiting for you. So call the  
18 RWED first before you go.

19 But we have the rights, they said. I  
20 said, That's true, you have rights. So you want to  
21 take that chance, go ahead, I said. And I don't want  
22 to say that to my young people in the future. They  
23 know they have rights to hunt within the Sahtu region.

24 So my presentation is that we don't  
25 want to be forgotten in Tulita. And the Board itself

1 has to really look at that picture. The Board's  
2 supposed to say the people of the Sahtu, as the  
3 lawyer's saying, The users. You've got to look at the  
4 users, and the users is the Sahtu region people. I  
5 guess "users" mean people that's hunters, I guess. So  
6 thank you. Masi cho.

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Frank.

8

9 (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM

10 NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

11

12 THE CHAIRPERSON:

13

14 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

15

16 THE CHAIRPERSON: I asked if there's  
17 any other Franks from Tulita that want to speak. If  
18 not, we're going to go proceed with questions from the  
19 parties.

20 Oh, go ahead, Fred. Yeah. Go ahead.

21 (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE SPOKEN).

22 MR. FREDERICK ANDREW: Thank you,  
23 Michael. My name is...

24

25 (SWITCHED TO NORTH SLAVEY CHANNEL)

1 MR. FREDERICK ANDREW:

2

3 (SWITCHED BACK TO ENGLISH CHANNEL)

4

5 MR. FREDERICK ANDREW: ...I'd like to  
6 say in my own language, because I feel more  
7 comfortable speaking in my own language. And in this  
8 way, I honour my ancestor that went -- had gone before  
9 me, so I just wanted to say it in my own language.

10

11 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

12

13 MR. FREDERICK ANDREW: The -- the --  
14 speaking about the caribou, in the old days before the  
15 white people arrived, it was very -- kind of a quiet  
16 existence here. And the animals were peaceful and  
17 quiet, too. The animals were -- the Creator put all  
18 these animals on this Earth for us to survive on.

19 In the white man way, they say that in  
20 the white man's terms, that they call the peaceful  
21 animals, and when there's a lot of noise, they don't  
22 like that. And -- and lately, it's -- it's -- since  
23 the white man arrived here, people that are -- are  
24 looking for -- in mining industry, into the oil  
25 industry, and within the Tlicho area, and just in --

1 also in the Sahtu, they are all over the land.

2                   And the -- and the caribou are -- are  
3 disturbed by the noises and the disturbances, and so  
4 they're moving all over the place. And where they --  
5 they're calving grounds -- and the calving grounds  
6 were really honoured and sacred places. And animals  
7 that live on -- on the -- on the caribou, like bears  
8 and the diga, the -- this is the way it is since the  
9 beginning of time.

10                   That's the way it is, but -- but the --  
11 all the industry that are on our land, and the  
12 helicopter, and -- is the -- the loudest one. And he  
13 said that in our language, we called helicopters  
14 moroke (phonetic). And so the caribou is -- is  
15 depleting, and -- and that's the way it is. This is  
16 the way things happen.

17                   And it does whatever it does, and we  
18 can't -- we're not the boss of it. We can't tell it  
19 what to do, and we can't really say anything about it.  
20 However, when...

21

22                   (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM  
23                   NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

24

25                   MR. FREDERICK ANDREW:

1 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

2

3 MR. FREDERICK ANDREW: He said that I  
4 -- we talk so often about the caribou, and for me, it  
5 really feels bad for me, and I feel uncomfortable  
6 speaking about it so often.

7 And yet I wanted to hear from RWED how  
8 -- why is it that the caribou is depleting. And with  
9 -- with me -- in -- in me, I think about it with --  
10 wholeheartedly. Back in 1930, when you -- till today,  
11 when you reflect on it, there has been so much noise,  
12 and -- and the industry and the helicopters, and  
13 there's been so much noise, and that -- that is the  
14 result of -- of it.

15 And the caribou would like to go to  
16 their eating grounds with -- without that -- all that  
17 noise, and so it's travelling all over the place. And  
18 it is true that caribou some -- deplete, and then come  
19 -- renew themselves and come back. And I have been --  
20 I was born on this -- on this land, and I -- I was  
21 raised by -- with the animals, and in Tulita, and that  
22 is where my -- I will be buried.

23 And my brother, Frank, who he says -- I  
24 -- I agree wholeheartedly with what Frank is saying.  
25 The quota that people are speaking about, and the

1 counting and that, I don't -- I disagree with it. I  
2 don't want it like that. And I -- I have one (1)  
3 granddaughter and one (1) son. Those are the only --  
4 just the three (3) of us exist now. Seven (7) months  
5 ago, I turned sixty-five (65), and my granddaughter is  
6 now entering high school in -- in grade 11. I -- I  
7 really spoke fluently to -- to my granddaughter with a  
8 child in -- in their language. And tomorrow my son is  
9 turning twenty-one (21).

10 I've been thinking about them and the  
11 quota. And he said that even -- even if -- when we  
12 have a quota in Tulita, we don't have any numbers  
13 given to us and therefore, if we shoot an -- an animal  
14 that is there, we will be charged and therefore,  
15 that's what Chief Frank said, I agree with them.

16 When you talk about something that is  
17 really important the number one (1) priority, if you  
18 think about your grandchild and you think about the  
19 future, and then you think about thirty (30) years  
20 into the future and that's how it is, and that -- that  
21 is good.

22 And then when you talk about -- then  
23 talk about things for thirty (30) years ahead then --  
24 then you've put things in place so that you don't  
25 worry about the -- the young people that are coming

1 behind you. We're all seated around here.

2 He said, We're all seated around here.

3 We're not talking about fixing things for ourselves.

4 We're talking about putting things in place for our

5 grandchildren. And in Tulita -- I'm from Tulita and I

6 thought that it -- it would not be wise for me not to

7 speak. And so I wanted to make sure that my comments

8 were and -- and I'd like to thank Michael for giving

9 me the opportunity to talk. Masi.

10

11 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

12

13 (NOT SWITCHED BACK TO ENGLISH CHANNEL)

14

15 THE CHAIRPERSON:

16

17 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

18

19 MR. LEON ANDREW: My name is Leon

20 Andrew. I come from Tulita. Tul -- since I was a

21 young child I was raised in Tulita. And across -- and

22 to the mountains, I'm a mountain people -- person and

23 there's a lot caribou in the -- in the mountain, lots

24 of sheep in there. There's lots of moose there as

25 well.

1                   And when they're -- they're -- on the  
2 rivers there's a lot of graylings and there's a lot of  
3 trout and lots of fish. There's a lot of ptarmigan.  
4 There's a lot of rabbits. There's bears. And that --  
5 that is what our -- my ancestors survived on.

6                   Yesterday we talked about our elders  
7 and we talk about this report and the -- and we said  
8 that -- not this report. We talked about the -- the  
9 way that we lived, the way that our culture and since  
10 -- in the -- in the old days there used to be a -- ice  
11 ridges here. And to -- and to this day we are still  
12 talking about that. And tho -- those ice caps were  
13 called yakachine.

14                   And -- and the -- and the big whales  
15 used to come and travel back and forth. And then --  
16 and on the -- and there's graylings runs and -- not  
17 grayling runs, but fish runs and that and they -- they  
18 migrate and -- and they -- just like the caribou they  
19 have trails and they walk on it and they travel on it  
20 and they do that year round. That's the way it is for  
21 them.

22                   And when you don't take care of the  
23 trails and the migration routes then it will start  
24 moving differently and they -- they start to move away  
25 from it. And they walk on these trails and those

1 migration routes, because they know that is where  
2 their feeding grounds are.

3                   And wherever it's going to calf, it has  
4 it's place where it's going to calf as well. And when  
5 you destroy those calving grounds then things will not  
6 be okay for them as animals. And so I think the same  
7 way.

8                   We -- we see -- he said when we talk  
9 about quotas and stuff like that, it's like going  
10 against our own principles and our own beliefs and the  
11 way we do things.

12                   And I -- I had -- I'm not going to --  
13 I'm not sure that one day I'm going to walk around and  
14 kill ten (10) caribou again in the future, and yet our  
15 young people are the -- working in the bush. And they  
16 are hunting for themselves and -- and killing animals  
17 so that they can sustain themselves.

18                   Today the land is changing. And the --  
19 the land is heating up. And the water is depleting,  
20 as well. We all -- we have to think about all these  
21 things. And he said because we're not hunting caribou  
22 and saying that the -- placing quotas on there, making  
23 it difficult for our own people. It's not something I  
24 can agree with it.

25                   I think very -- we -- we have a lot of

1 caribou in our land in the mountains. I -- we -- we  
2 see a lot of caribou on -- in the mountains. I am --  
3 and the -- the migration route has all the way out to  
4 the oceans, and now it's not doing that again.

5                   Since the roads have been -- since the  
6 roads were developed, the -- the caribou are not going  
7 back to the oceans. They are now living in the  
8 mountains and now are -- are living in the mountains.  
9 They are no longer going down to the oceans.

10                   I -- I also believe in the -- the words  
11 that were expressed by the Tulita people. When we are  
12 working on paper, there was four (4) regions that is  
13 supposed to -- we are walk -- talking about four (4)  
14 regions collaboratively working on -- on a paper, and  
15 we were not involved in -- in it.

16                   And in 2007, there must have been  
17 representatives that were there for -- on behalf of  
18 Tulita. And they probably made some statements to be  
19 a part of it. But nobody came to see us and told us  
20 how we should be involved in that. And we've been  
21 involved and -- and we've asked questions to them, but  
22 they never came to see us. And they treated as if we  
23 are -- don't live there.

24                   We -- in -- we -- in Tulita, we -- we  
25 can't make laws for the people that are over there.

1 And -- and it's like -- it's like they don't speak for  
2 themselves. That's why we can make these rules for  
3 them. I don't believe that. I don't feel that way.  
4 We all live on this land together. And we're all Dene  
5 people together. And we're supposed to support each  
6 other. And we all stand united. Then -- then  
7 everyone will be together.

8 I want to say these things. I want to  
9 express these concerns that I have. I want people to  
10 think very seriously about this, because people aren't  
11 -- today is -- the existence of the world is not just  
12 for today, it's also for the future. And, therefore,  
13 please be careful how you look at this and work  
14 carefully on it.

15 And things that are really, really  
16 important to us, everyone has to think coll --  
17 collectively on this issue to make it work for all of  
18 us. Thank you very much.

19

20 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

21

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. If there's no  
23 other from Tulita -- oh, Joe. Go ahead, Joe Bernard.

24

25 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

1                   MR. JOE BERNARD:    Good morning.  Masi.  
2  I wasn't here yesterday, but I slept.  I had a pain in  
3  my chest, so I -- I was sleeping, so.  But when we  
4  talk about these kind of issues, and were those of us  
5  that sit on certain -- certain board and -- or certain  
6  committees, we have to say something.  And those who  
7  have made -- made the rules and guidelines, and we  
8  don't say anything.

9                   Why are we -- and we -- when we are  
10 here, we go to our community and we tell our people.  
11 As beneficiaries, we should know all this information.  
12 We are beneficiaries.  We also are band members.  We  
13 are still the same people that we're including the  
14 land claims.

15                   They keep questioning us about it, when  
16 we are going to be thinking about, and the -- for  
17 those reasons, the -- the wildlife officer is always  
18 questioning us.

19                   My father said -- he said he went to  
20 school, and he went to Providence, and I came back.  
21 All her peop -- all his people were gone, so -- so he  
22 went to the -- to the priest, and he said -- and --  
23 and he said, in the end this is what happened.  And  
24 here, it had happened.  And he -- and it's happening.

25                   We said yes to the land claim, and then

1 all included -- and then it would -- it would -- they  
2 would talk to us and -- and they will come and discuss  
3 with us. And I'm hoping that -- that these would not  
4 happen when the people don't come and make decisions.

5                   Who is -- who is going to help us? If  
6 -- it's like they're our fathers. Me, I get pension  
7 from them, and for -- for them to write things down  
8 for us and for our children. We want them to survive.

9                   I -- even if I have five dollars (\$5),  
10 I can't spend it on myself. I give it to my  
11 grandchildren or my children. That is how we are. The  
12 way our children are raised -- are raised by these  
13 wildlifes.

14                   When we talk about caribou, it is --  
15 it's very tiresome. And they walk among this world.  
16 All the things that are living, we know that the  
17 legend says that they were once human, and they can  
18 hear us. And when they -- we count -- hunt for  
19 something, we know that the mooses -- or we want to  
20 say that we're going to go there, and we will hear it.  
21 And they -- they will hide from us, because they can  
22 hear us.

23                   Even though we do not talk on the phone  
24 or hear us, they can still know that we are coming for  
25 them. And now we're talking about this wildlife. I

1 wonder how he feels.

2 I was -- and they won -- they probably  
3 wonder, Why people hate us? They probably think that.  
4 We are not allowed to speak about it. As long as this  
5 land is here, it's going to -- if it's going to go,  
6 it's going to go. If it's not, it's going to stay.

7 It's been here for thousands of years.  
8 We've been using it. We've been using it for that  
9 long, and it is -- helps us to survive. The Creator  
10 is the one that is -- because we didn't put it there.  
11 They will be there.

12 When there is calving, we cannot touch  
13 the young calves. Even -- even ducks, we can't touch  
14 the eggs. We're not allowed to, because they would be  
15 gone, and they won't go back there. When -- when  
16 there are birthings in any -- any kind of animal, we  
17 are not allowed to touch it.

18 How we raise our children, it is the  
19 same for them. When you are talking about the  
20 wildlife, we have to protect it. And there should be  
21 a whole bunch of rules and guidelines by -- I have  
22 lots of grandchildren. My grandchild -- my grandson  
23 is twenty-three (23). They're all in schools.

24 I am seventy-nine (79) years old. I'm  
25 here. I am very glad that I am on this Earth. I

1 don't know if I'm going to make it in a few years. I  
2 don't know that. The Creator is the only one that  
3 knows.

4                   It -- I had a great pain in my chest,  
5 and I went to the nurse yesterday. For those -- those  
6 kind of reasons, if we are -- we cannot just leave it  
7 be. We have to also think about our Creator.

8                   We have to also talk about it. When  
9 you talk about the caribou, we can't -- we can't even  
10 let it -- even -- like they mentioned before, you can  
11 throw the bones in the fire. You -- you can't -- you  
12 can't take it back.

13                   A lot of young people know this.  
14 That's how we have to teach our children. Sometime  
15 children would just throw it into the fire. When we  
16 kill something, when we respect it -- when we respect  
17 it, it will come back to us. That is how it is --  
18 lives. When -- in the past -- and they will -- there  
19 is -- isn't -- isn't a spot of blood on the ground,  
20 that's how they look after things.

21                   There are a lot of people -- now this  
22 is different. It sounds like we've been talking --  
23 talking to us all the time. Now it -- a lot of -- a  
24 lot of young people do hear us. It -- it seems like  
25 we don't seem to -- to be paying attention to them.

1 My grandchildren come to me. I am very grateful. I'm  
2 grateful. After they -- they come back from school,  
3 they come and see me.

4 I have -- have six (6) boys. They are  
5 all in their twenties. Because of the -- the guidance  
6 of my Creator, one of them does -- none of them drink,  
7 none of them smoke, and so we have to pray for them.  
8 That is how we are protect -- I have destroyed myself  
9 as a young person. A lot of people know me because I  
10 have destroyed my life with alcohol.

11 And in the end I didn't know where to  
12 go, so I asked for help. I prayed, I prayed, and I  
13 prayed. And in the end, one day I was lying down,  
14 somebody was speaking to me, and I didn't know who it  
15 was. For those are the things that you're going --  
16 we're going to help you, it said. I was wondering  
17 what it was. And all of a sudden I don't drink  
18 anymore. I don't smoke anymore. I'm not saying that  
19 I am a perfect person.

20 Those are the kind of things we go  
21 through the church, and we should continue to do our  
22 prayers. And our -- our children -- to our children.  
23 We don't -- don't think that we are just saying this  
24 for nothing.

25 When we make the sign of the cross, we

1 are the ones that use it. When we eat, we -- and we  
2 do the sign of the prayer, Bless our food, so that we  
3 don't choke on our food. If we are going to be gone,  
4 there will be a cross on our -- on our coffin. That  
5 is how he died, too. So we also think about our  
6 spiritual.

7                   I didn't want to say this much, but I  
8 am very thankful for talking to us, and -- and you  
9 sound like you're going to be in Tulita, so. And we -  
10 - we are here -- all the people, and then they will be  
11 here so when they tell the community they should come  
12 to -- to our meeting. If they are sitting in their  
13 offices -- they're just sitting in their office and  
14 get paid, they should come and see us. If -- if they  
15 come to us and talk to us about what's happening.

16                   Ronald Doctor is our -- our ENR person.  
17 We have never been in a meeting with him. Why he is  
18 not having a meeting with us. Those kind of staff you  
19 have. You should talk to them. We should not be  
20 afraid of them.

21                   All the people -- nobody in my -- I am  
22 the oldest. They can't get mad at me. I can say  
23 whatever I want. When we say something, we cannot be  
24 angry or frustrated with each other. If it's not good  
25 then we just leave it alone. We take the good things.

1 That is the kind of thing that we should come to a  
2 conclusion.

3                   This is all what I'm going to say.  
4 Tulita and Colville Lake are the same. Deline, and  
5 all the people that have talked about their issues, I  
6 am really thankful. When you hear those kind of  
7 message you say, Thank you. When you go and follow  
8 their -- whatever they have said, and everybody is  
9 thankful and come to conclusion, then everybody will  
10 be thankful to you.

11                   This is all what I'm going to say.  
12 Thank you.

13

14                   (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

15

16                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Joe. Okay.  
17 Colville Lake -- I mean, Tulita (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE  
18 SPOKEN). All rise. The Honourable Jonas Peter is  
19 about to speak on behalf of Tulita.

20

21                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

22

23                   THE CHAIRPERSON: I just heard Frank  
24 say that Jonas is there is their lawyer. It's a joke.  
25 Go ahead there, Jonas. Go -- go ahead, Jonas. Jonas

1 Peter...?

2 MR. JONAS PETER: Hello. First of all  
3 I'd like to introduce myself. I'm from some place  
4 north, Tulita, that's what's it's called. I was born  
5 in the mountain and I move in -- my dad move and walk  
6 over from Ross River.

7 But first of all I'd like to say thank  
8 you very much to these guys including my -- what's  
9 this -- Mr. Speaker, Michael. Mehada masi (phonetic).  
10 Leonard. Masi.

11 I wanted to ask some -- something about  
12 (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE SPOKEN) I'll speak my language.  
13 (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE SPOKEN). Could you give me  
14 time to ask about something after, after I'm finished?

15

16 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

17

18 MR. JONAS PETER: Thank you. Masi,  
19 Joe. I was listening and was really thankful to -- to  
20 what they're saying and I'm -- I'm thankful.

21

22 (SWITCHED BACK TO NORTH SLAVEY CHANNEL

23 AND NOT INTERPRETED)

24

25 MR. JONAS PETER:

1 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

2

3 MR. JONAS PETER: When you hold a gun  
4 you think a ver -- it's very important to you. And  
5 when we talk about a caribou and it goes in different  
6 places, the creator had created these wildlife.

7 When you talk about the caribou it is  
8 important to talk of to each other. And we want to --  
9 there's a lot of elders that are here. And also, when  
10 you talk about wolf. And when -- when they -- there's  
11 a story about when there was a caribou and a wolf came  
12 and it killed all the caribou and not even one (1)  
13 bone was there.

14 We have no idea where he put them. And  
15 there are elders that have told me these stories.  
16 When we listen to their stories we should not let -- I  
17 am just saying thins in my own opinion. And if we say  
18 things too many -- too many things. And I've been  
19 living here in the Sahtu region for a long time and  
20 when we talk about -- the elders were -- a long time  
21 ago they were sitting outside and talk about caribou.

22 And -- and so I -- and there's RRC  
23 people that are here and I don't -- and that is -- I'm  
24 -- I'm thankful but -- for RRC to be here, but I  
25 wanted also to talk to Leonard on my -- so that --

1 (BRIEF PAUSE)

2

3 MR. JONAS PETER: I wanted to ask the  
4 chief if we could go hunting before we leave the  
5 community. They said it's closed, but I'm asking the  
6 chief. There's -- there's tags also. We wondered --  
7 I was wondering if we pay for the tags, or do we buy  
8 one (1) tags from Deline or -- well I'm just asking if  
9 we could go hunting.

10 I know that I'm very not -- I'm not  
11 well, I'm -- I'm very ill, but I wanted to ask. And  
12 so if -- even just -- if we -- if we see it we were  
13 wondering if we could shoot the caribou. We're not  
14 going to go hunting for it, we -- if we see it on our  
15 way back to Tulita.

16 And that is all what I wanted to say.  
17 And the -- everybody -- everybody's mentioned it  
18 already, so I'm not going to comment on the same  
19 issues. Masi.

20

21 QUESTION PERIOD:

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Masi. Masi,  
23 Tulita. Okay, now the opportunity to ask questions  
24 and -- or -- or make comments to what Tulita has been  
25 presenting to the -- to the table here. So maybe I

1 can give ENR the first one to respond to any -- any  
2 comments or anything to what Tulita has just talked  
3 about. Go ahead.

4 DR. JAN ADAMCZEWSKI: Thank you, Mr.  
5 Chair. Jan Adamczewski, with ENR. From a number of  
6 the comments, it's fairly clear that Tulita  
7 representatives are opposed to the use of a -- a quota  
8 for managing caribou harvest. What I'm wondering is,  
9 if the Board determines that there is a need to manage  
10 harvest, given the declining numbers, what would be  
11 your suggestions as to how that harvest should be  
12 managed if the Board, in fact, finds that there's a  
13 need to put some limits on harvest?

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Frank.

15 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Chief Frank  
16 Andrew, from Tulita. Yeah, you know, well, we have to  
17 work this together, I said, you know. And then  
18 remember when I said that first time? We had -- and  
19 you mentioned -- one (1) of my member mentioned that.

20 We've been -- we've never been  
21 consulted on this case, so -- so it was hard for us to  
22 -- we didn't even have a presentation on the Board, so  
23 we had to come up with something. And I really  
24 believe that, you know, by working together, the quota  
25 system, it's okay, but it's going to take my people

1 into court if they don't have a tag or something.

2                   So I want the Board to really think  
3 about it. We know the decline is there, but there's  
4 got to be a way around it so the people itself are not  
5 hurt. Masi.

6                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Go ahead, Jan.

7                   DR. JAN ADAMCZEWSKI: Thank you, Mr.  
8 Chairman. And thank you for the response. I guess my  
9 other question is, as you've said, there is a decline,  
10 the numbers are down. So what other actions would you  
11 suggest at this time for the Board to consider to try  
12 to -- try to do something about that decline?

13                   So you've talked about harvest. But  
14 what other things would be -- would you see as  
15 priorities for the Board to consider in terms of  
16 management actions?

17                   CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Well, I think, to  
18 me, when I look at that, the whole picture of what's -  
19 - what's coming down to us here in the Sahtu region,  
20 you know, it's -- it's good that, you know, we do  
21 something about it, as the gentleman from Fort Good  
22 Hope talks about.

23                   There's got to be some -- something  
24 that has to be done about it. And I really think that  
25 we could limit our hunting from each community instead

1 of just go in, and slaughtering animal or anything.  
2 But I think we -- we never did that, but -- so I think  
3 we should limit our hunting within our -- our own  
4 community. That's what we should do just to help the  
5 herd come back up.

6                   We don't need the quota in place to do  
7 that, because when you heard the gentleman speaking  
8 yesterday about how the caribou disappeared for many,  
9 many years, and one (1) day it all came back again, he  
10 said. So they -- they didn't put a quota on at that  
11 time, but it still returned in the whole bunch.

12                   So I'm thinking the same note here, so  
13 that within each community, we could tell our people  
14 at home in Tulita, We don't have to hunt this year for  
15 the Bluenose herd. That's all we could do. And I  
16 think -- I think our young people will help us with  
17 that, you know, because I -- I don't want to see a  
18 quota because of what I see on TV and stuff like that.  
19 And I don't want to hurt our young people down the  
20 road. And I think you're feeling the same way, too.

21                   So thank you.

22                   THE CHAIRPERSON:     Jan...?

23                   DR. JAN ADAMCZEWSKI:     Thank you, Mr.  
24 Chairman, and thank you for your -- your comments.

25                   I would also like to ask you the

1 question I asked Deline yesterday, and that has to do  
2 with wolves and whether you have any ideas or  
3 suggestions. Should we do anything about the wolves?  
4 Should we leave them alone? Should we be hunting them  
5 more?

6 I think everybody knows they kill  
7 caribou, calves, adults, all times of year. And I'm  
8 just interested in what Tulita's view would be on  
9 harvesting wolves and whether we should be trying to  
10 address that -- that source of caribou mortality.

11 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: The wolf are part  
12 of the caribou, from what I hear from my father way  
13 back, you know, when he said -- when he said, If  
14 there's a lot of caribou, there's a lot of wolves  
15 around it. It's always been like that, time  
16 immemorial, she (sic) said.

17 So if we slaughter them maybe, or kill  
18 all the wolf, then the caribou might disappear. So we  
19 -- I have to think about this. I really have to think  
20 about this, because I have some Elders here that might  
21 answer your question for you.

22 So if any of you want to answer the  
23 gentleman's question about the wolf, (NORTH SLAVEY  
24 LANGUAGE SPOKEN). Yeah.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thanks,

1 Frank.

2 Leon is going to respond to your  
3 question, Jan.

4 MR. LEON ANDREW: Thank you, Jan.  
5 Appreciate your question. Leon Andrew, Tulita Band  
6 member.

7 Wolf is an issue that has been -- has  
8 been outstanding with the people of the mountain Dene  
9 people. They respect the wolf in a way, because we --  
10 I -- I've talked a little bit -- I've touched a little  
11 bit on that ice age.

12 And back then, you know, the wolf kind  
13 of helped our people learn how to hunt. So that was -  
14 - that was the important role they played in our -- in  
15 our beginning of time, our life, supposedly.

16 So I really -- I really have respect  
17 for them. But to -- to go after the wolf and clean it  
18 out, or try to clean it out, I don't know. I don't  
19 know. I have mixed feeling about that.

20 If -- if that's the wishes of the  
21 people to -- to look into it, I think it's a good  
22 idea. Maybe take a few out and maybe that could be a  
23 solution, you know, because -- because the way ENR  
24 reporting the number of caribou declining, I think we  
25 need to find an alternative to -- beside hunting.

1                   So I think -- what I'm saying is I  
2 think maybe we should take a few out, if that's  
3 possible. Masi. Thank you, Chair.

4                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Masi, Leon.

5                   Fred...?

6                   MR. FREDERICK ANDREW:    My name is Fred  
7 Andrew, and I'm -- I'm going to say it in my own  
8 language.

9

10                   (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY TO ENGLISH)

11

12                   MR. FREDERICK ANDREW:    The -- the  
13 animal, the wolf, they live with the caribou, and it's  
14 been like that since time immemorial. A -- the -- the  
15 doctor said that -- he said that -- I agree with him,  
16 and yet at the same time, you can't blame it on the  
17 animal.

18                   You have to think about all the other  
19 things that are impacting their movement, for example,  
20 the oil industries and that. And those are the people  
21 that we should be talking with. The -- the -- all --  
22 all that mining is -- they should be sitting here  
23 amongst us, and we should be talking to them directly.

24                   The -- the noise level for the animals  
25 is too high, and therefore it's -- it -- they are

1 moving in different directions. And for -- as far as  
2 I'm concerned, blaming the wolf for the depletion of  
3 the calf, I -- I disagree with that. They've been  
4 together. We can't blame them for the depletion of  
5 the calf -- of the caribou.

6 We should be talking with our Elders to  
7 get the information that they can provide on this  
8 issue. It would be important to have the mining  
9 industry and the oil company industry to sit here and  
10 talk with us about these things, that we can address  
11 these things. Thank you.

12

13 (NOT SWITCHED BACK TO ENGLISH CHANNEL)

14

15 THE CHAIRPERSON:

16

17 (SWITCHED BACK TO ENGLISH CHANNEL)

18

19 MR. BRUNO CROFT: Thank you, Mr.  
20 Chair, Chief Blondin (sic), thank you. I've been  
21 thinking for a little bit here if I should ask this  
22 question or not. It -- it's a little different, but I  
23 -- I figured I -- I will.

24 I've been involved with these kind of  
25 meetings for the past ten (10) years with the onset of

1 the Bathurst caribou decline, as we found that out in  
2 2006, and -- and had lots of meetings in the  
3 communities, and I think I -- I heard something here  
4 that I never heard before.

5 In your opening remark you made a  
6 comment about people might get hurt out there. And  
7 today you said something about young people asking you  
8 to come this way to hunt and you advised them not to,  
9 or -- or to be careful because you could get hurt.

10 So I'm just wondering if you could  
11 explain a little bit more what -- what did you mean by  
12 that? It -- those are strong comments. So if you  
13 could, please, clarify that if you don't mind?

14 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: What -- what I  
15 meant by that is that, you know, if there's a lot...

16

17 (SWITCHED TO NORTH SLAVEY CHANNEL)

18

19 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW:

20

21 (SWITCHED BACK TO ENGLISH CHANNEL)

22

23 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: ...said they  
24 were going to come this way, they should ask a  
25 Renewable Resource officer before they make they way

1 over here. That is why I said, Maybe you might get  
2 hurt. Thank you.

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. At this  
4 moment, because it's 10:30 and we started at nine  
5 o'clock, I would like to call to -- to call for a  
6 break. And there's some breakfast -- new breakfast --  
7 fresh breakfast here, so we'll take about fifteen (15)  
8 minutes? back together. Masi.

9

10 --- Upon recessing at 10:34 a.m.

11 --- Upon resuming at 11:04 a.m.

12

13 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Masi.

14

15 (PORTION NOT TRANSLATED FROM  
16 NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

17

18 THE CHAIRPERSON:

19

20 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

21

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: And so the Tulita  
23 people can actually ask the questions of the ENR. And  
24 I'm going to ask if ENR --

25

1 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

2

3 (NOT SWITCHED BACK TO ENGLISH CHANNEL

4 AND NOT INTERPRETED)

5

6 THE CHAIRPERSON:

7

8 (SWITCHED BACK TO ENGLISH CHANNEL)

9

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: ...to Tulita.

11 MS. LYNDA YONGE: Thank you, Mr.

12 Chair. Lynda Yonge, for ENR. No more comments or

13 questions.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Masi. Okay.

15 The next line of questions from Deline. Deline, any -

16 - any questions, comments to the statements from

17 Tulita?

18

19 (BRIEF PAUSE)

20

21 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Yeah, Mike, I'll

22 just try to -- you know, a -- a lot of the comments

23 this morning really -- you know, I -- I would try to

24 answer the -- the -- for the -- a lot of the things

25 that relate to the -- the plan that we have.

1                   I don't really have any questions for  
2 Tulita. I mean, a lot of the -- the comments were  
3 general, but I -- one (1) thing that I keep noting  
4 here is that the question about -- you know, the whole  
5 area of -- of rights. I know Frank brought that up  
6 yest -- yesterday, and certainly today again. Yes, it  
7 is in the land claims.

8                   I -- I wrote also here, and I said to  
9 myself, Well, how do we move forward and make a  
10 decision without infringing on those rights? What --  
11 where is the Board going to head with that? But  
12 that's a huge question. Or does it allow -- does the  
13 Board -- is the -- the Board allowed to make a -- a  
14 decision once a conservation issue is declared?

15                   And then I think we have to look at  
16 what the conservation issue is -- is. We may -- I  
17 think that would help us. We might -- I think it  
18 would help all of us here to -- to just do a quick  
19 summary of this process, because I see even our own  
20 people here, they really don't understand what's in  
21 the land claims, because I don't know how many times -  
22 - I -- you never hear the main instrument of wildlife  
23 management.

24                   Most people -- I ask myself, Well, what  
25 is that? What does that mean? What does that mean to

1 people? And we all sign the land claims, so we all  
2 have to live by it. So those are huge questions, but  
3 I think in terms of our own plan, I think that the  
4 part that would be very difficult to deal with in --  
5 for Deline is the part where, you know, Frank  
6 mentioned that he comes here -- I don't know what year  
7 he came here, but he went hunting.

8                   Well, I think we -- we have to be clear  
9 that Deline is the -- the people that -- that are  
10 hunting on Bear Lake. I think maybe we can go through  
11 that again and see if there's -- if -- if there's ways  
12 that we can lessen the impact to other -- other  
13 communities. I think we -- we'd be all open to it.

14                   You know, I love it when you have Jonas  
15 Peters say -- talk to our Chief there, and he said,  
16 Give me one (1) caribou. You know, that's a true  
17 Dene. That's -- that's not even considering  
18 everything else that has gone on and the complications  
19 that we have to live with today.

20                   The -- so I would suggest that -- I  
21 think it would make -- especially for Deline, because  
22 we have a plan. We have a plan that we have worked on  
23 many, many, many -- you know, I -- it more -- it seems  
24 like so many years now. And it's Deline's plan.

25                   And we will go back to all of our

1 people. I would love it to see -- to have everybody  
2 understand what this plan is about, because I could  
3 tell them that's -- that's all it is is we've put --  
4 we've put things down that our grandfathers would be  
5 proud of.

6           And this is why I mentioned the areas  
7 that -- that where my family harvests, because that's  
8 where we have to start. I don't think we can -- the  
9 claims is good, but we -- it doesn't help when it says  
10 that you can harvest anywhere. That doesn't help at  
11 all.

12           You know, yesterday, I was writing some  
13 notes down. And I think that might -- that might help  
14 us to move forward. You know, maybe we have to slow  
15 down. Deline would have it's own government in six  
16 (6) months. You know, does that mean that the  
17 government that they point out in the sections that  
18 Colville Lake's lawyer talked about, in six (6)  
19 months' time, our government has to behave like that?  
20 And as far as I know, I think that's where we're  
21 heading.

22           But anyway, I have notes here on other  
23 processes. And this is very important, because we  
24 deal with rights here, also. You know, a lot of ways,  
25 yesterday, I was thinking about it, and we do. We are

1 infringing on those rights, but we do it for  
2 conservation. We do it because we want caribou in our  
3 country. And I think that's a very different way of -  
4 - of looking at it, more like how, say, our  
5 grandfathers would look at it.

6           But everybody has an idea how the land  
7 use permits are issued, how our water licences are  
8 issued. They're issued all over the place. I mean,  
9 you could look at the history of how things went. And  
10 I think Colville Lake has -- has gone through a lot  
11 back in 2005, as the impacts of the oil and gas  
12 industry.

13           And one (1) of the things happens --  
14 and you can go to the websites. They're all on the  
15 websites. The land use permits, the applications are  
16 not sent if -- there's one (1) in K'asho Dene  
17 district. They don't send it to Deline, because the  
18 land use permits issues in Tulita. They're not sent  
19 to Deline.

20           So you can say that there's things  
21 happening that we can look at. You can ask them why  
22 they're doing that. They'll probably give you an  
23 answer. So I think there's little things that are  
24 happening that maybe it's indicators that we -- that's  
25 where we should go.

1                   I don't think -- I don't think -- and -  
2 - and it's a huge issue that we have to deal with.  
3 There's -- and part of the -- part of the -- the  
4 bigger picture is that it's there. It's there in the  
5 whole territories. And I think yesterday we were  
6 talking. I think Leonard and I were -- were talking  
7 about our next meetings and some of our scheduling.

8                   I would love to see people look at the  
9 territorial form where these issues are talked about.  
10 At that level, there is no answer. What happens at  
11 that level is everybody's saying: Well, there's only  
12 this much. I want this much. And I'm going to do  
13 everything I can for my community or my region so that  
14 we get the most.

15                   And I think that doesn't help  
16 conservation. And I think too often, I said already,  
17 I'm talking about -- Deline is talking about  
18 harvesting. I mean, sure, we call it -- we call it  
19 galatawil dehseqam (phonetic), but that's just a  
20 title. We're talking -- we're talking about ourselves  
21 and we're saying, How are we going to hunt, where are  
22 we going to hunt, who's going to do what? And I think  
23 that that's very different.

24                   And I think we -- we -- I'm going to  
25 say it again. We -- we do -- we don't -- when we made

1 the plan, we don't -- we stayed as far away as we can  
2 from limitations, restrictions, everything that's  
3 coming down, because those -- you start with those,  
4 and you're starting with the wrong foot. You can't  
5 deal with that, not -- not as one (1) group.

6                   So I think that you also have to  
7 remember that -- and I think somebody mentioned  
8 yesterday -- somebody mentioned yesterday that --  
9 gosh, I don't know where I wrote it down. But anyway,  
10 the -- yes, they're right. And -- and your land  
11 claims -- in your land claims, it says that the  
12 minister of our present government has the ultimate  
13 jurisdiction on the wildlife, and it talks about  
14 conservation. That's one (1) of the big things it  
15 says in there that says, Okay, if there's a  
16 conservation issue, they can make the decisions. The  
17 legal -- our -- our land claims talks about that all  
18 the time, and -- that it's in there.

19                   I remember in 1993, when I saw that --  
20 that portion, and especially the portion where it  
21 says, Surrendering our rights as treaties outside of  
22 our settlement area.

23                   And I remember that time, sitting  
24 behind Morris's wife. They were so happy about the  
25 land claims that I -- my heart said, No, don't bring

1 it up. Don't spoil it for them. They're happy now.  
2 They think that the land claims is the answer. Leave  
3 it -- leave it at that. The land claims is not going  
4 to be implemented. It'll take forever to implement.  
5 So I didn't say anything.

6                   But today, it comes up again, a huge  
7 issue. and I -- I don't want to stand -- you know, a  
8 lot of times, like Leo, I listened to Alfred and a lot  
9 of the leaders in Tlicho. And they tell me things  
10 like, Oh, we -- we have a -- an agreement. We have an  
11 agreement that's not written. We hunt in their area,  
12 they hunt in our area, but it's not in the land  
13 claims.

14                   We have one (1), Chapter 27, I think,  
15 with the Inuvialuit, and they call it reciprocal  
16 hunting. They hunt in our area, we hunt in their  
17 area. Same with the Inuvialuit.

18                   But anyway, I think what I'm trying to  
19 do is try to give you a better picture of the  
20 challenges we have. I hope -- I hope what I said  
21 tells you that we don't -- some things that happen  
22 that come here doesn't come from Deline, doesn't come  
23 from us. We're -- we're not -- we didn't put the  
24 quota in or the -- the restriction. We have nothing  
25 to do with it.

1                   We're just trying to live within the  
2 way we think our grandfathers have -- have conserved,  
3 conservation. They're conservationists. They -- they  
4 never take more than what they need.

5                   But I think that that's a little bit of  
6 the big picture. It is so important to have the issue  
7 in your head very well before you make a decision. I  
8 wish -- I wish everybody, all of our hunters, can tell  
9 us what to do.

10                  I don't want to -- you know, how many  
11 times the last two (2) years Leonard gives me two (2)  
12 mandates: We're not going to tell our Elders not to  
13 shoot caribou. We won't do that. And we're not going  
14 to accept a quota.

15                  So the solution is that you look at our  
16 plan. We don't talk about quotas or we don't tell  
17 people not to hunt. We're going to lead. We're going  
18 to lead and say, This is what we're going to do.

19                  But when we go to other -- other areas  
20 -- and we're going to be -- we'll have a chance to go  
21 Wek'eezhii public hearing. And if we -- we get a -- a  
22 chance to look at some of these things, and maybe some  
23 of us would -- would get a chance to speak, we'll --  
24 we'll bring that out again.

25                  But again, they make their own

1 decisions. And I think so much, I said -- and I think  
2 one (1) of the things is talk about tomorrow. What  
3 does it look like? I think I heard somebody talk  
4 about their children. I wish we had more children  
5 here so that we can talk about their future.

6 I heard somebody mention that that's  
7 their -- their future we're talking about. So it's  
8 right here for me, and I'm saying, Well -- I'm saying  
9 to myself, Well, I'm not hunting. I'm not hunting  
10 caribou this year. I will go back to my traditional  
11 area called Johnny Ho or Tagaicho De (phonetic) and  
12 hunt moose and eat fish.

13 But that's my decision. Every one of  
14 us has to do that. We can't -- there is no room  
15 anymore to say -- to talk about things and not have an  
16 answer, because that's up here. That's in the  
17 political world. We don't -- here, we -- we have to  
18 make decisions.

19 And I'm not talking about taking sides.  
20 There is no sides. It's just me.

21 I say I'm not hunting, and -- you know,  
22 one of the most beautiful words I heard in the -- when  
23 I was chair of the SSRB and having meetings with the -  
24 - the ACCWM, Moise Rabesca was a outfitter at one  
25 time. I don't know where is his outfitting business

1 now, but I know we were talking about, you know,  
2 issues about harvesting, you know, numbers declining,  
3 all these things.

4                   And he got up and he said, I'm not hunt  
5 -- harvesting caribou anymore. I'm not hunting  
6 caribou anymore. And that -- a few years ago, and he  
7 -- he kept that promise. And that's probably one of  
8 the most beautiful words that you can hear, that  
9 somebody that -- you know, just one person that gets  
10 up and says, Okay, I'm not hunting anymore.

11                   We're not asking people not to hunt.  
12 We're asking people to -- to help us find that  
13 solution, and work towards that solution. And like I  
14 said many times, I'm not dealing with rights. That is  
15 up to my leadership. They can deal with that.

16                   So I hope I -- you know, all of the  
17 times I -- I'm trying to -- to paint a picture of  
18 where Deline is coming from. We don't -- we don't  
19 want to step on other people's rights. We don't want  
20 to talk about hunting rights. We want to stay within  
21 our -- our Deline district. And we appreciate, you  
22 know, any -- any assistant, any help, any guides, any  
23 indicators of where we should be going.

24                   I hear the words right, to do the right  
25 thing. Well, what is the right thing? So this is why

1 at the end of our presentation yesterday, or -- I  
2 said, you know, if we have nothing else, no solutions,  
3 I -- I'd ask the caribou. So I think that -- that's -  
4 - I don't want to talk anymore, but I think -- a  
5 decision is going to be made by our Board, and they're  
6 going to look at all of the things that we talk about.

7

8                   And they're going to bring their  
9 experience forward, and make a decision. That's what  
10 we agreed on when we had the land claims. This is  
11 what this says. Your land claims says that. That's  
12 what happens. So I -- I give them -- you know, I --  
13 it's a huge task they have, and I hope I -- I've  
14 helped towards getting closer to a solution that  
15 Deline can live with.

16                   Taga lechurno (phonetic), masi. Masi  
17 those people that talked. And masi, Jonas. I -- I  
18 think the first time in many years I heard Jonas Peter  
19 talk, and that is good. Masi. Masi.

20                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Walter.

21

22                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

23

24                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Gina...?

25                   MS. GINA DOLPHUS: Thank you, Mr.

1 Chairperson. Gina Dolphus, Deline Land Corporation.

2 This question is to Frederick Andrew.

3

4 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

5

6 MS. GINA DOLPHUS: When you said --  
7 and you mentioned that it should be quiet for caribou.  
8 Those people that are doing mining, exploration, and -  
9 - and drilling, it would be great if they were here so  
10 that we can -- for me, you are right.

11 If you -- if you request for it -- for  
12 all the Sahtu we can -- we can discuss this, are you  
13 saying that we want -- you want to discuss this issue  
14 with them? Thank you.

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: Fred...?

16 MR. FREDERICK ANDREW: Yes. When we  
17 gather we're talking about caribou. In the past we  
18 knew that it was -- when it was quiet for them in the  
19 past it was good. Now there is a lot of things and  
20 activities happening on our land. It's -- it's a lot  
21 of noise for them, a lot of disturbance. That's why  
22 it goes everywhere.

23 So maybe some people from the industry  
24 should -- we should invite them and ask them questions  
25 and that is what I'm asking. So they -- them too,

1 they go out on our land. Animals are -- when -- in  
2 English it's peaceful animal and they do not like  
3 smoke and all that, and also noises from helicopter.

4                   And it -- it's loud. I'm hoping that  
5 if they will hear then it would be nice for us to  
6 question them.

7                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Fred.  
8 Morris...? Gina...?

9                   MS. GINA DOLPHUS: Masi, Frederick.  
10 For me you're right. Maybe sometime if we are -- if  
11 they can sit with us in the future, because our land  
12 has been destroyed. We have water. We have lots of  
13 wildlife. They -- they should be here, but they're  
14 not here.

15                   So -- so maybe sometime in the future  
16 maybe they could sit with us and talk to us about our  
17 issue, because this is -- this is for our land. That  
18 is why we're talking about this. Thank you.

19                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Gina. Deline,  
20 Morris?

21                   MR. MORRIS NAYELLE: Thank you. When  
22 you talk like this we can come up with a solution. We  
23 know -- we know we're all from different community.  
24 We're all different from each community, but we should  
25 be helping each other.

1                   We know that our land is being  
2 destroyed and we don't know what's going to happen in  
3 the future and the issue on the caribou. When we talk  
4 about it it is something that it is -- it's important.  
5 It is huge.

6                   In my opinion, it is not -- we did not  
7 make it, so it's hard -- difficult for me to discuss  
8 this issue. About 1997/'98 they said there was  
9 diamonds. And I wrote an article on it in News of the  
10 North about caribou. And think about caribou, I said.

11                   And then follow about -- follow what  
12 you're going to. And I also wrote an article on the  
13 big game outfitters. And so they wrote to me and they  
14 were disappointed and -- and I said -- I told them  
15 that I've -- I know what I'm saying and in the end,  
16 like the caribou will be all gone, so this is what's  
17 happening right now. I was correct.

18                   The Dene -- the -- the non-Aboriginal  
19 people, they try to change our mind with money. That  
20 is how they -- sometimes that is how they work. They  
21 -- people that speak and all that they would give it  
22 to them -- and try to give it to them and they try to  
23 take them. And so it -- they would take them and they  
24 would -- they would take our people that have  
25 knowledge and they would use them to come and talk to

1 us.

2                   For us that make decisions here for the  
3 Sahtu region, we have to help each other, because we  
4 don't want this to happen. We want to make our own  
5 decisions. And all the communities also could come  
6 together and make decisions. We can't -- we can't  
7 close this to each other. We have to help each other.

8                   If -- and if they come up with  
9 guidelines and policies it would be upon us. It's  
10 come to this. And what -- we know that we cannot tell  
11 the future, but we're here for the future of our  
12 children.

13                   I have a grandchildren. I have  
14 grandchildren. We know that we have a treaty right.  
15 But if the caribou is ahead, can I -- can I shoot that  
16 caribou that's in front of me or ahead of me? And I  
17 would decide that I would not because would I have  
18 that same caribou in the future.

19                   The -- the issues that you're  
20 discussing, you're saying that you want to -- you  
21 discussing the caribou issue and we want to protect  
22 it. You're all saying this around the table, and you  
23 don't -- you don't want to be destroyed.

24                   I know that we -- I've mentioned that  
25 our -- our land has been destroyed because of

1 fracking. There's Mackenzie Highway being built,  
2 their oil exploration. And, also, people are going  
3 above and on the water. Everywhere there's things  
4 that are happening on us.

5                   But we are all the same kind of people,  
6 so let us help each other. That is what I will -- I'm  
7 not going to talk about this too long, but that is --  
8 this is my thoughts. But one (1) of the things that I  
9 want to say is I haven't -- I didn't write it. My  
10 brother and I talked about this, my brother, Charlie.  
11 I'm going to say it in English.

12

13                   (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

14

15                   MR. MORRIS NAYELLE: It's a statement  
16 that -- way back in '64, '63, when Kennedy --  
17 President Kennedy was president, and he made a  
18 statement to his people, a famous quote, I think.  
19 That's how we say it. I changed the -- instead of  
20 'people' -- and I'm addressing to the leadership.

21                   It should stay -- it says ask not what  
22 the land can do for you. Ask what you can do for the  
23 land as of today. That's how it should be because we  
24 don't have much left. We don't have much time left.  
25 And as -- as I've always said, we have to come

1 together. That's -- that's the law of Dene people and  
2 probably for everyone, for our survival into the  
3 future for the younger people, our grand kids. What  
4 are we leaving them?

5                   We can't always argue. We have to  
6 unite. With that, I'd like to thank everyone for this  
7 workshop. There should be more of it. Maybe our land  
8 will be a little bit better, but to think about it  
9 once you go on land. The reason why land is important  
10 is once you go -- you go on land you realize that  
11 without the land you can't survive. You become part  
12 of the land.

13                   For your survival, you save what's on  
14 the land, the bugs, the birds, the bees, the grass,  
15 the fish. You begin to see that once you get on the  
16 land. That's what the Elders have been trying to  
17 teach the younger people today.

18                   Masi. Thank you very much for  
19 listening me out, and hopefully we'll meet again in  
20 the future. And what we're trying to accomplish here,  
21 I hope it works for all of us, for our survival and  
22 our grandkids. Masi.

23                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Morris. And I  
24 know -- I think Gina's asked for a supplementary. And  
25 that's okay, Gina, if you want to go ahead and do a

1 supplementary.

2 MR. GINA DOLPHUS: Thank you. Gina  
3 Dolphus. I just want to thank people that talk  
4 because I don't know if I'll be here this afternoon.  
5 I'm going on the road, so I don't know if I'll be  
6 here.

7 But I just want to thank everybody  
8 that's had a presentation and talked to us, and all  
9 the communities, Colville Lake, Fort Good Hope,  
10 Tulita. Those are very powerful statements you guys  
11 make for our community and the survival of our country  
12 food.

13 We try very hard as leaders to help and  
14 support and encourage our community. But it's always  
15 difficult when you don't have resource, when you don't  
16 have money, when you don't have the support.

17 I always had a problem with government,  
18 GNWT or federal government, because they always make  
19 decision for us. They have never come to our  
20 community individually. They have never come to our  
21 house and never see how we eat, what we do, how we  
22 prepare our food, or anything.

23 But yet they make a decision for us, be  
24 numbers or be no money, nothing. They want that  
25 control, and I always have a problem with it. We are

1 the ones who should be having that control.

2                   You cannot tell me I can't eat caribou.  
3 Nobody has the right to tell me that. And we have to  
4 think of our kids for the future, too. And we have to  
5 work together in order to help and support on what  
6 we're here to talk about, the caribou issue.

7                   So I just want to say thank you to  
8 everybody and for all your comments. Please work with  
9 us and support us. Masi.

10                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Gina.

11                   Okay. We have one (1) more rep --  
12 representative from Deline to speak. And if he wants  
13 to, we're going to let him. He's a board of director  
14 for the -- the Board here, but he's got -- he wears  
15 two (2) hats. So he's going to have to remove one (1)  
16 of his hats to speak as another hat.

17                   Go ahead there, Leonard.

18                   CHIEF LEONARD KENNY: Good morning.  
19 I've been sitting here over two (2) days listening,  
20 and I -- I really wish I can say more, but I -- I  
21 couldn't really speak. But I was asked a specific  
22 question to me as the chief from Elder Jonas Peter.

23                   He asked me if he can hunt and take a  
24 caribou, and I couldn't just not answer. And so I --  
25 I wanted to respond to that -- to him.

1                   One (1) thing we say right from the be  
2 -- from the beginning when we're working on a plan is  
3 that -- Walter and I and the group, I said, As a  
4 chief, I will never tell my Elder not to hunt. I will  
5 never do that, you know, because Elders, that's all  
6 they know.

7                   Right from -- they were born on the  
8 land. Right till they become Elders, that's all they  
9 had was caribou, fish, and country foods. So as -- I  
10 have no right as a chief to tell my Elder that, You  
11 can't go hunting.

12                   And I wanted to -- to respond to Jonas  
13 -- or Elder. I -- I'm speaking as a chief right now,  
14 for the record. You know, part of the Dene way is  
15 that you never say 'no' to an Elder. Never. The --  
16 the other thing is that the land claim, the Sahtu  
17 Comprehensive Land Claim says that you have an  
18 exclusive right to hunt anywhere in the Sahtu.

19                   And -- and so how we came about with  
20 some of the stuff we're doing is that Deline, for the  
21 record, I'm going to say that we never -- never ever  
22 agreed to a quota. Never. A lot of my people think  
23 that we -- we agreed. The other day my Elder Leon was  
24 upset that he thought that we agreed to a quota. We  
25 never did. Deline, we never did.

1                   And also that -- that proposal for  
2 quotas came from ENR and the Tlicho. They set a quota  
3 for the Sahtu to hunt only a hundred -- to take only a  
4 hundred and sixty-three (163) caribou. We never  
5 agreed to that. Not -- not Deline. Not -- not my  
6 community. It was ENR and Tlicho proposal. It's a --  
7 it's a proposed proposal.

8                   You know, they also have -- they had --  
9 they're -- it's so challenging. The Tlicho are in a  
10 very hard position. They -- they can no longer take  
11 Bathurst caribou. They have to hunt the -- the  
12 Bluenose East. And they're -- they're Dene people,  
13 too. They have -- they have a lot of issues, like the  
14 same as us.

15                   But over the course of the years, like  
16 the last four (4) years, Walter and I attended many  
17 meetings with Tlicho. And when you go to these  
18 meetings, it is represented by Akaitcho, North Slave,  
19 South Slave, North Slave Metis, Northwest Territories  
20 Metis Association. All those groups are Aboriginal.  
21 They all want to hunt the caribou.

22                   So the government have -- you know,  
23 over the course of the years there's alarming evidence  
24 that shows that the caribou herd is declining. And  
25 the trends for the Bathurst (sic) East herd are the

1 same as the ones the Bathurst herd.

2                   And there's -- I went to many meetings,  
3 and evidence after evidence after evidence and today -  
4 - yest -- a couple days ago you -- they showed it  
5 again. So because of those alarming numbers, Deline,  
6 here we said, We're going to make a plan to help the  
7 caribou for tomorrow to make sure caribou is around  
8 all the time.

9                   So based on our Elders, Walter named  
10 all of our Elders, we're going to use their concept to  
11 hunt like our ancestors. To make sure caribou is  
12 around all the time. That was all it was. Our -- our  
13 conservation plan was to -- to help the caribou to  
14 replenish so that there's caribou for everybody.

15                   And, you know, the number game. The --  
16 it's all about numbers now. I don't -- as a Chief, I  
17 never agreed to those quotas. Never. So -- so but  
18 we're going to have to -- and to respond to Jonas, you  
19 know, you have exclusive right to hunt anywhere in the  
20 Sahtu region. I'm not going to say, No, to you.

21                   And the -- and plus when we said, No  
22 hunting, it wasn't -- it was the zone. If you guys  
23 want to -- the zone that -- because the caribou goes  
24 through that area across there...

25

1 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

2

3 CHIEF LEONARD KENNY: Hunt in that  
4 zone because of the migration.

5

6 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

7

8 CHIEF LEONARD KENNY: We decided that  
9 we'll -- we'll take a break from taking the caribou.  
10 That's all we said.

11

12 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

13

14 CHIEF LEONARD KENNY: Our elders did  
15 that in the past. They said, If there is no beaver,  
16 we'll leave it alone and it comes back.

17

18 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

19

20 CHIEF LEONARD KENNY: Oh, leadership,  
21 close it down. That's not true. No. We have a  
22 beautiful plan. In fact, I wanted to tell my -- tell  
23 the Elders, I'll never -- I'll never tell you not to  
24 hunt. If you want to hunt, go and hunt. But the plan  
25 was based on the Elders. It wasn't Leonard Kenny --

1 Chief Leonard Kenny. It wasn't Walter Bayha. It was  
2 a group of people from all the organizations.

3                   And sure, they're -- they're not here  
4 to -- a lot of the leaders or the young people,  
5 because a lot of the -- the -- the roads are open  
6 since Christmas, before Christmas. Our road only  
7 opened last week. Part of my people have went out.  
8 Coming here -- drive -- I was gone too.

9                   And that -- and it -- and it's hard.  
10 Like, it -- it's such a sensitive issue. As the  
11 Chief, no matter what I say, what I do, people will  
12 say something to me about it, this plan. And then we  
13 have many meetings, many. It wasn't just a, Oh, let's  
14 put something together, the hearing's coming up.

15                   No, it wasn't like that. So I wanted  
16 to respond like that, because I haven't said anything,  
17 and -- and it's hard for me, because I'm sitting back  
18 here, but I -- I needed to respond, and -- to Jonas as  
19 why -- why -- to see if he can go hunting.

20                   And that all we're doing -- trying to  
21 do with our plan is to -- for the caribou populations  
22 to come back. That's all we're -- we're doing. And  
23 for the record, I never agreed to quotas, never. I  
24 don't think any Aboriginal -- Aboriginal person would  
25 agree to it.

1                   But the -- the hundred and fifty (150)  
2 was just a number that the group -- that the group  
3 planning committee thought it was a -- a good number,  
4 but I think later on, we found out it wasn't a good  
5 number. We should have added more.

6                   But this is a living document, the --  
7 the plan. It's always going to change to -- to  
8 accommodate things that need to be better. But all  
9 we're trying to do is help the caribou to repopulate.

10                   When we said we -- we didn't want to go  
11 hunting across the ways, because that's that migration  
12 of the caribou. We're not saying that you don't go  
13 hunting. We want the caribou to be increased.

14

15                   (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

16

17                   CHIEF LEONARD KENNY:    Jonas, Masi.

18                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Masi. Masi,  
19 Leonard. Okay. We still have Tulita on -- as a  
20 party. So I -- I believe Colville Lake, it's your  
21 turn to maybe comment or respond to Tulita's  
22 presentation. Wilbert...?

23                   CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON:    Chief Wilbert  
24 Kochon, Colville. I'm not questioning the Elders, but  
25 just to comment on a lot of things that Elders -- I

1 want to talk in my language.

2

3 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

4

5 CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON: Because -- we're  
6 very plea -- our -- our voice and the things that we  
7 say are all similar, exact, the same. And -- and we -  
8 - we all agree that we don't like the discussion on  
9 the caribou, the amount of discussions that are taking  
10 place. We disagree with that. We're not very pleased  
11 with that. And what Jonas Peters said is also very  
12 true, and I am very thankful that he spoke, and Joe  
13 Bernard, when he spoke, and Leon, and Frank, and Fred.

14 I -- I want to thank you for your  
15 comments. And people that have been living on the  
16 land and -- and those are the people that speak that  
17 are aware of the -- the needs and the -- the way that  
18 the land is -- the -- the animals are on this land.

19 We came here to all sit around to make  
20 comments that are agreeable with each other. And when  
21 we made the -- our presentation, it is to make sure  
22 that we want our people to survive. And the quotas  
23 that are being set, it -- it seems like the -- it's a  
24 reflection of the non-Aboriginal concept. And that's  
25 why we are asking questions.

1                   And we didn't want -- and if we -- and  
2 when we -- and if -- if it -- it comes to true, then  
3 it is -- it's going to make -- create difficulties for  
4 the people, exactly the same that's happening with the  
5 Tlicho. Sometimes when we're out hunting -- and they  
6 say sometime when they go hunting, the -- the meat is  
7 replaced from them. And it's very -- it's really hard  
8 to see things like that, to have meat removed from  
9 you. It would have been nice if they -- when they  
10 took that meat and distributed it to the people that  
11 are -- needed it.

12                   And just a while ago, we were all  
13 sitting here playing handgames. During the time the  
14 handgames were happening here, somebody spoke to me  
15 and told me that, when we go out hunting for animals,  
16 then the -- when -- sometimes we look out into the  
17 mountains, the beauty of it. And not only that, all  
18 the caribou are walking around.

19                   And -- and so you guys go hunting and  
20 really keeping it well, keeping to the traditions, and  
21 everything is so beautiful out there. And now, a  
22 couple of years ago, the gas exploration took place  
23 and -- and the -- and the caribou just went depleted.  
24 And the caribou calving grounds -- and when they are  
25 talking about the wolf -- and it always lives

1 together. The caribou and the wolf live together.

2                   And -- and they are -- always ask us  
3 about stuff. And you should respond to these people,  
4 because this is your land. You should -- we are the  
5 ones that are keeping the -- keeping it, and we are  
6 the ones that are living and depending on it.

7                   When we speak in our own language, it's  
8 -- you really understand what I'm saying. When I  
9 speak in English, you don't understand some of the  
10 things that I'm saying. And, therefore, I feel that  
11 when we speak in our own language, we really  
12 understand each other, and we are one (1) people.

13                   And we are decedents from one (1)  
14 people. And, therefore, we are one (1) people. And  
15 the car -- the animals are exactly the same. They are  
16 all one (1) family. The caribou, when it walks on  
17 this land, it knows what it is doing. It doesn't need  
18 -- it does -- it -- it doesn't depend on anything. It  
19 knows what it's -- it -- it's walking around. It  
20 knows exactly where -- where it is. They don't  
21 understand what -- quotas and things like that.

22                   And when, Fred Andrew, your -- when  
23 your father spoke, I remember the words of your  
24 father. And he was a real person that came from the  
25 land. And he spoke often. And he -- and I still hold

1 within me the words that he came. And he was a  
2 Shihgot'ine, a real Shihgot'ine. And he gave us some  
3 words. And I still keep within me those words. All  
4 the words are the same. All the Elders' words are all  
5 the same.

6                   We're talking -- speaking based on  
7 that. And you're talking about whether you can hunt  
8 on our land. We -- we can't say 'no' to you, because  
9 we're not the boss of that. And the Creator is the  
10 one that is the boss of that. When you see a caribou,  
11 you don't just walk by it. That's -- when you really  
12 look at it, that's what you mean when you say it is  
13 alive, and it -- it sustains itself.

14                   Sometimes when -- sometime the ones  
15 that are -- when the peop -- the other animals that  
16 are the ones that are destroying it, they usually kill  
17 the ones that are sick and that. And that's what the  
18 Elders talk about, and that's the ones that the  
19 animals eat.

20                   Sometimes our language is different,  
21 but we understand what is being said. Our language is  
22 -- our language are basically the same, but we do have  
23 different dialects, and we still understand each  
24 other.

25                   We are also writing our paper, and we

1 all came here to make sure within the Sahtu district  
2 to agree with each other. 1993, when those papers  
3 were made, that's when things began to talk.

4                   And back then, everybody sat together  
5 and worked together. And when they spoke on those  
6 issues, they spoke -- they all spoke together to  
7 create land claims to make sure that it comes with one  
8 (1) voice.

9                   All the things that are happening on  
10 our land, the -- the way the caribou are -- are  
11 travelling and all the seismic lines that are being  
12 created right now, and the oil companies, all the  
13 things that happening on our land, it should be up to  
14 us.

15                   It is up to us, and we can't say no to  
16 you. And the people -- all the Elders who spoke to  
17 us, they -- we -- you are our leaders. You are ahead  
18 of us, and you are carrying the -- the words of our  
19 Elders. We're very pleased. With those words, we are  
20 -- things are working really for us. Without those  
21 words, things can become very difficult.

22                   I am -- I speak -- Aboriginal per --  
23 person, I speak my language very well. And the --  
24 when Morris -- Morris, when he speaks, I really enjoy  
25 listening to him, because he speaks carrying the words

1 of the Elders, and especially Prophet Ayha. And I  
2 really enjoy the comments he made.

3 I wanted to say thank you to you. And  
4 I'm not here to ask you questions. And all the people  
5 that are here are collecting some of the things that  
6 are being said, and we are collecting the words that  
7 you are saying.

8 And we -- and we are going -- we always  
9 collect words that are -- and made sure that in our --  
10 our -- in our words that used to be in our -- in our  
11 heads, now it's all written down. And everything is  
12 being written down today.

13 And so it -- and he says that that's  
14 why, when people carry a -- a pen, he says, it's like  
15 carrying a -- a gun. And because -- because the pen  
16 can actually say exactly what people say, or it can  
17 deviate from the things that are being the saying.

18 And he says that he used the analogy  
19 that, when people are using pen, it is using the --  
20 it's using a gun. And he's saying that basically --  
21 he's talking about the infringement of rights.

22 And when he spoke, very, very little,  
23 but it -- he made it an analogy that is really, really  
24 powerful and important. And that's how decisions are  
25 being made. We are becoming like that. We are now

1 writing down everything, and we are now -- we're using  
2 the pen to make decisions for us. And that's what we  
3 as Aboriginal people are now doing.

4 And we'd like to work together, and all  
5 these people should be working for us. And from now  
6 on, we want to make our prepare -- presentation --  
7 complete our presentation. And we will be telling you  
8 about it and presenting it to you. And we can work  
9 together -- together on it.

10 That is all I wanted to say. Masi.

11

12 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

13

14 THE CHAIRPERSON:

15

16 (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM

17 NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

18

19 MR. DAVID CODZI: David Codzi, Ayoni  
20 Keh Land Corporation.

21 I just want to make a -- like a  
22 statement. I agree with what Frank is saying. A lot  
23 of the people around the table have spoken. A lot of  
24 times when we're talking, we -- you know, we seem to  
25 be bashing on ENR a lot.

1                   But at the same time, we were sup --  
2 we're supposed to be a co-managed system, you know.  
3 We're supposed to have our own equal opportunity to  
4 have all these things in -- in place. We're not  
5 underneath them.

6                   When we signed the land claims, and  
7 right in the front of it, it says we never, ever gave  
8 up any rights. What these rights are is the  
9 opportunity to make a choice. We're not trying to  
10 take that away from people, you know. We operate  
11 underneath the consensus forum.

12                   You know, all my life I've always been  
13 around people that went out on the land. That choice  
14 was always theirs, to go out if they wanted to or not.  
15 I think -- I believe that these RRCs were fully funded  
16 with the same capabilities that we could work more  
17 closely together. A lot of the stuff that happened  
18 out on the land is what we fund. We, as corporations  
19 or RRCs, fund a lot of things that happen out on the  
20 land, you know.

21                   So having these things in place, and  
22 having all these arguments would never happen if they  
23 were like that, you know. It maybe means that maybe  
24 our -- ENR does less, but we do more. But this is,  
25 you know, where we are. The Sahtu is where we are.

1 And it's our land. It's our responsibility to make  
2 sure these things are happening. But we can't rely on  
3 other people to do it all the time.

4                   And when we're -- when we're talking  
5 here, that's the whole thing. That's our message, is  
6 that we have to be responsible. We have to make sure  
7 that we're doing these things ourselves because we  
8 can't just rely on somebody else, and then tell them  
9 this is a problem. And if they're not doing it right,  
10 then bash them and complain about them.

11                   You know, it's -- it's what we have to  
12 do ourselves. But we have to be funded fully. So I  
13 just want to say that. Thanks.

14                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, David. Okay.  
15 Go ahead, Joseph.

16                   MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Thank you, Mr.  
17 Chair. I don't know when is our lunch but I'll make  
18 it short. The presenters from Tulita covered a big  
19 area. Talked about a lot of stuff that is relevant to  
20 them.

21                   But I just wanted to -- to make it  
22 clear that we're here for a purpose. And as you hear  
23 at the last hearing, ENR present their data, presented  
24 to SSRB (sic). That's for a purpose. That's to --  
25 you look at the land claims, and it specifies clearly

1 all the process in order to set that total allowable  
2 harvest.

3                   You know, we don't criticise what  
4 Deline is doing. They developed a plan for  
5 themselves. They set a limit. And the way I  
6 understand it, it's going to be -- work right into  
7 that total allowable harvest that's going to be for  
8 the Bluenose East for the Deline people.

9                   So that's why we ask questions. We  
10 don't ask questions for nothing. That's why we ask if  
11 rights may be infringed upon. So once this hearing,  
12 the Deline's plan is put into the record, it's for  
13 consideration for the SSRB hearing. Whatever  
14 recommendations the SSRB make tomorrow will go to the  
15 Minister of ENR. And ENR, if they made  
16 recommendations to implement or impose total allowable  
17 harvest on the east side of Sahtu, it's going to  
18 become law by -- so that's where there will be no  
19 hunting within the next year or two (2), or the --  
20 what -- however long. So that's the target here.

21                   You know, when we're given an agenda  
22 for this meeting, there's nothing on it. There's just  
23 presentations. What are we presenting. You know, for  
24 the future you have to specify what you want us to  
25 present, or what you want us to talk to. We're not

1 talking about our own personal community, what -- what  
2 we're doing. There has to be a reason.

3                   You know, there's a target here, and --  
4 so it has to be clear. You could correct me if I'm  
5 wrong. So I don't think anybody is far off explaining  
6 what's happening in their areas and whatever else. I  
7 don't think anything should be taken personally.

8                   We all learn as we go along. We make  
9 things better for ourselves and our future. You know,  
10 you hear things of respecting one another and the  
11 decisions that you make for your people. That -- you  
12 know, it goes back to all of us. Yeah, we -- we know  
13 that. We know that we have to respect other people's  
14 decisions, very clearly.

15                   But then if it's put into a public  
16 document that we have to make a decision on, we have  
17 to make sure it's clear -- crystal clear. Although we  
18 hear that it's just for the -- for one (1) -- one (1)  
19 people then it begs that question, why are we having  
20 this hearing?

21                   This hearing is geared toward imposing  
22 total allowable harvest. It's going to put a  
23 restriction. Once that right have been given up to --  
24 to ENR then it's going to stay there, you know. So  
25 although the Deline have made this plan for

1 themselves, they set a mark, a target. ENR has to --  
2 or based on whatever discuss that the SSRB (sic),  
3 those recommendations are going to go over.

4           That is the law. That's the way the  
5 law is written. I'm not sure how else you're going to  
6 go around the law from the way it's written through  
7 the land claims and everything unless you have other  
8 written law that gives one (1) community to self-  
9 regulate.

10           So when each community asks, you know,  
11 how are they going to be impacted, how their rights  
12 are going to be infringed upon, how Section 35 and  
13 Section 13.345 is applied. Those are legitimate  
14 questions. So I just want to make sure that is clear  
15 just to -- to ensure that the future hearings you have  
16 to specify to us, you know, what you want to hear in  
17 the community presentation, to speak to the facts.

18           What is it we're here for? But just  
19 based on what I know in the past and whatever's  
20 written into the land claims is geared towards a full  
21 allowable harvest, which the Minister will have the --  
22 the final say. So right now Deline has given the okay  
23 to the Minister.

24           Okay, we want to set the limit for  
25 ourselves. We are not against that. We just want to

1 make sure they know exactly what they're doing and we  
2 want to make sure that all the Sahtu people know  
3 exactly what's happening.

4                   It is good to -- to do things yourself,  
5 but at the same time, good to make sure everybody  
6 clearly understands. It cannot be personal. It's a  
7 public document right now. So I just wanted to make  
8 for clarification. I just wanted to put that out  
9 there. Thank you.

10                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Joseph. Okay,  
11 we're -- should be getting lunch in about another  
12 seven (7) minutes, I think. So Tulita is still on the  
13 panel, here. And Fort Good Hope, do you have any  
14 comments or statements to make towards Tulita --  
15 Tulita's presentation? Go -- go ahead, Frank.

16

17                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

18

19                   MR. FRANK T'SELEIE: Yeah, the --  
20 thank you very much, Mr. Chair. I have a question to  
21 any of the delegates from Tulita. We have very little  
22 information on -- and I noticed that ENR doesn't have  
23 it, either. And -- but rather, they're seeking  
24 answers from us. And if we don't give them, then we  
25 kind of -- they look at us like a villain.

1                   But -- and I'm referring to, like,  
2 climate change. We know very little about how that's  
3 affecting the animals. How -- you know, the -- the  
4 hotter weather is making the land more drier. And  
5 there's been huge fires since the 1990s, especially  
6 along the river. And I know a huge part of the land  
7 around the valley around Tulita that was burnt a few  
8 years ago. And I wonder what kind of effect that  
9 might have on animal feed, on insects, on -- you know,  
10 what that does to it.

11                   I know that they don't have the  
12 answers, but I know that I really like Deline's paper,  
13 but they used Dene kede, Dene law, and -- and they're  
14 well put together. And I know that our people,  
15 particularly the Shihtaot'ine is pretty knowledgeable  
16 about those kind of environments and habitats for  
17 animals.

18                   And have you seen any changes since  
19 those fires on wildlife, you know, in your area? You  
20 know, in our area, we had some old burn that are --  
21 now have a larger population of moose. And I don't  
22 know what that means for caribou, you know. And we're  
23 seemingly getting more and more fires. And we all  
24 don't know what kind of effect...

25                   And that's the kind, like, answers that

1 we don't have in the community. And -- and our  
2 governments are asking to us to answer questions like  
3 that. And do you have any knowledge in that area  
4 from, you know, your area, and they're really good to  
5 know.

6

7

(BRIEF PAUSE)

8

9

THE CHAIRPERSON: Frank --

10

MR. FRANK T'SELEIE: M-hm.

11

THE CHAIRPERSON: -- I know, your mic

12

was still on, so I -- I thought maybe --

13

MR. FRANK T'SELEIE: Okay.

14

THE CHAIRPERSON: -- you still had

15

more.

16

Okay, go ahead, Frank to -- Frank

17

Andrew.

18

CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Chief Frank

19

Andrew, from Tulita. Yeah, they -- we had a lot of

20

fires in Tulita. And everybody knows about that.

21

And, you know, the -- since we had fire, there's a lot

22

of things that -- the small insects kind of -- there's

23

nothing seems to be around, no mosquitos, no bumble

24

bees, not much butterflies and stuff like that.

25

Everything sort of disappeared since then.

1                   I think that since then, anyway, we  
2 never seen many, because one (1) year -- a coup --  
3 last year, I think it was, or two (2) or years ago, we  
4 went to Fort Wrigley. In Tulita, there was no  
5 mosquitos, esela (phonetic), nothing. And when we got  
6 to Fort Wrigley, there was a lot of mosquitos there.

7                   So that was -- we used to have that  
8 many years ago. But I think the fire -- fire did  
9 affect it, those animal. And little frog like that,  
10 (UNREPORTABLE SOUND), a delinane (phonetic), nothing,  
11 too. (NORTH SLAVEY SPOKEN). No noise of those kind of  
12 frogs and stuff like that.

13                   So -- but we see some moose and stuff  
14 like that, but right around Tulita, we hardly see  
15 caribou all my life. We see one (1) -- one (1) once  
16 in a while, but the only time we saw a lot is when  
17 they came from this side, the Bluenose East.

18                   It was right around by the fire, I  
19 think it was, that -- by that time. So they went  
20 right across to -- right to the Mackenzie River.  
21 Right around Police Island, about 15 miles away from  
22 Tulita, there's a couple of boys, they shot a couple  
23 of caribou there, and it was small one.

24                   And then we shot a couple of caribou in  
25 the Stewart Lake the following year, I think it was,

1 and they small, little ones. So I -- I think they  
2 came that far.

3                   So I think the caribou really spread  
4 all over the place here since that time. And I always  
5 brought that up to Arwin (phonetic) and people like  
6 that, that we shot two (2) little caribou down in  
7 Stewart Lake, which we never did before.

8                   You know, the woodland are really a  
9 large animal, and that's our mountain animal. Yeah.  
10 So I think the fire had a lot of effect on the animal  
11 -- the insects and smaller animals. Masi.

12                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Masi, Fort  
13 Good Hope.

14                   Go ahead, Bella.

15                   MS. BELLA T'SELEIE: I wanted to talk  
16 in Dene kiane (phonetic), but maybe some of it I will.  
17 In 1990, early 1990s, I seen -- like, I was living in  
18 Yellowknife, taking a two (2) year course. And then  
19 one (1) weekend, I went for a ride to -- what's --  
20 what they call it, Prelude Lake? And it was a  
21 horrifying scene that my friend and I, we seen.

22                   We were talking about caribou  
23 management, but that time I seen absolutely no  
24 management outside of Yellowknife. There was a lake  
25 there was completely a lake of blood. This was a

1 slaughtering of the caribou that was happening, and I  
2 just know that indigenous people do not harvest this  
3 way.

4                   And I -- I knew that the -- the caribou  
5 harvesting was open to all nations, all people in  
6 Yellowknife, even immigrants. And I was horrified and  
7 -- to see a lot of the good meat that was thrown away.

8                   A lot of these visitors -- that's what  
9 they are, immigrants -- are visitors. And they --  
10 they take just the hindquarters, front quarters, the  
11 legs, and throw everything away.

12                   I know some indigenous people were  
13 going to the site and putting some of that thrown-away  
14 stuff to use, which was very good. I seen my nephew,  
15 Daniel (phonetic), picking up good meat from there,  
16 and we -- we ate it, you know, like, out of respect  
17 for the animal.

18                   The other thing is the sacred rules  
19 that we follow, you know. Like for women, I couldn't  
20 even get out of the truck, because, like, we -- the --  
21 as Dene women, we follow many, many strict rules, like  
22 all Dene do, but especially women.

23                   It's also for our own safety. It's --  
24 and also it's to respect the animal. I don't want to  
25 get into too much of that. It's a little bit too

1 complicated, but that was disturbing to me. And I was  
2 wondering, Where is all these people? Who's sitting  
3 in their offices and talk about management because  
4 then we had no management of any kind.

5                   In the past, we -- the -- the -- we --  
6 the Dene people used the caribou as quite different,  
7 too. You might be horrified to hear about it. But  
8 times were different then. Our needs were different.  
9 One family maybe needed fifty (50) caribou, maybe a  
10 hundred for the year because you need -- you needed  
11 the hides to make clothes, also shelter coverings,  
12 ropes, everything. Tools. Everything came from the  
13 caribou.

14                   And I never heard any rules, any --  
15 anything from my Elders. I was brought up by Elders.  
16 I was adopted to Elders. I never heard my father or  
17 my Elders saying, Shoot just the bulls. You think  
18 you're doing good by doing this, but actually it's not  
19 even tested knowledge that is just being drummed into  
20 peoples' heads now.

21                   Like when I was growing up, my father  
22 harvested caribou. My father and my brothers. We  
23 went with dog teams, so my father and my brothers took  
24 what was available to use. And one time my brother  
25 and I, we cried because we were still kind of young

1 and we were watching my dad shooting caribou. And he  
2 was shooting the small calves, and then we cried. And  
3 we were saying, Stop, dad, stop.

4 He didn't deal with us then. He just  
5 said something like L'ejok (phonetic), you know. Oh,  
6 good grief, or something like that. And he said,  
7 We'll talk to you later, he said, and then so I was  
8 wondering what he was going to say to us later. I  
9 didn't like the calves being shot because they're  
10 cute. I didn't look at it as food or anything at that  
11 time.

12 But later my dad explained to me that  
13 when you see something that's available to you on the  
14 land, you don't refuse it. It's like n'weseni  
15 (phonetic) God -- n'weseni God is holding it out to  
16 us, and what are you going to say? Oh, no, no, you  
17 know science says that I should not take this animal.  
18 Life was more urgent in the past. We all know that.  
19 And people made hard decisions.

20 A lot of things -- you were asking,  
21 What kind of things were done in traditional  
22 knowledge, traditional ways to preserve the way of  
23 life for the caribou? I have a few things that I know  
24 our people did that's kind of given up now because we  
25 think other people's ways are the -- the best for us.

1           In K'achot'ine land and Ilaquit we are  
2 one people. We are known to be a tribe as a whole.  
3 And -- but we can't hunt or trap as one people. It's  
4 going to deplete the land. And our ancestors knew  
5 that very well. So there's -- from the tribe,  
6 alternate groups were broken off, and they have their  
7 own places on the land. Their traditional grounds.

8           And they're very familiar with their  
9 area. They know exactly what to do when they're very  
10 stuck. There's people starving. They know where to  
11 go for the next resources.

12           And I know that they -- they did this  
13 as a survival method, because we had caribou corrals.  
14 We didn't need shells or anything like that because we  
15 knew how to get caribou without shells. We could  
16 snare them. We could -- we know where their  
17 migrations are. We could put the corrals there and we  
18 could -- we could get all the caribou we need for the  
19 year.

20           And also, there is clan families  
21 because there is fish traps. There's no such things  
22 as nets then. Maybe there was no hooks. Later on  
23 people depended on hooks after fish traps.

24           Fish traps are a very human -- humane  
25 way of fishing too. And a lot of -- fifty (50) to one

1 hundred (100) people could get their winter supply  
2 from one (1) fish cat -- fish trap. All the clan  
3 areas had fish trap sites that they had rights to.

4                   And then the other thing is there's no  
5 steel traps once our people started trapping. They  
6 use dead falls de se'an cho (phonetic). It's pretty  
7 localized. It's pretty hard to move. You have fifty  
8 (50) to one hundred (100). It's going to keep you in  
9 that area for years, that's why clan families stuck to  
10 their -- their area except for when they went to their  
11 barren land.

12                   The barren land to me seemed to be the  
13 only place where people gathered in large, large  
14 groups if they wanted to. They didn't have to. It  
15 was also a very social thing. I worry about that  
16 sometimes, because like our people would meet up on  
17 the -- the tree line before you hit the barren land  
18 where there's no -- the treeless barren land.

19                   (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE SPOKEN) would  
20 meet with the Iniuqwene (phonetic) people from this  
21 area and we were relatives on the land. We're always  
22 relatives. And now we're starting to be divided and  
23 conquered, you know. We're getting less -- you know,  
24 more and more weak as we let other people decide  
25 things for us.

1                   And it's all because we think our way  
2 is not good enough as someone else's way. That's not  
3 always true. I know we can't go back to the past, but  
4 at least we could study what is important to us in our  
5 lives. When I hear Dene people talking in Dene you  
6 should strive for perfection, not just -- not that I'm  
7 saying anybody's talking, you know, unclear or  
8 anything. I'm just saying that because it used to be  
9 a response -- a responsibility.

10                   Dene learning is a responsibility that  
11 we have. To carry it on to the future we need to know  
12 about it and we need to embrace people that hold this  
13 in their soul. They're not there for the bucks. It  
14 disturbs me when we come to meetings and I see people  
15 playing around, you know, not really interested.  
16 They're there for other reasons.

17                   Well, this makes us weak too. I had  
18 all kind of stuff here -- and the only other thing I  
19 wanted to say was my foster father is gone a long time  
20 ago, but my biological father, Charlie Barnaby, he's  
21 still alive now. My dad is well known everywhere.  
22 He's very ill now. I don't know how much time he has.  
23 It really upsets me because his favourite food is  
24 ayah. And sometimes our elders they use the fetus of  
25 the caribou. That may sound horrifying to you, but

1 it's kind of sacred to us.

2                   Our elders, they could request this for  
3 their last meal. They love it. And I don't agree  
4 with science saying, you know, leave the cows alone.  
5 Because every caribou is important in its role. Why  
6 are we slaughtering just, you know, like one (1) side  
7 of the caribou. We should do as we did in the past  
8 where we just -- you know, like take what's available  
9 to us.

10                   Some of this food is -- is spiritual  
11 food. You know, like recently I just had the most --  
12 not the fetus, but I just had the little feet and legs  
13 and so I brought that to my dad and, you know, like he  
14 was overjoyed. And I told him, Dad, mulai (phonetic)  
15 are saying we have to leave like the cows alone.

16                   What do you think of that? And then he  
17 said, It's food. You know, like -- and it's very  
18 important to some of us who are old. He said, Where  
19 did these things -- these rules come from? Why did we  
20 not follow our own ways? Instead we have faith in  
21 other people's ways that we don't know.

22                   Like, we need science. But, you know,  
23 like the way I see it it's khatwanaikai (phonetic),  
24 visitors making decisions for us, you know. It's --  
25 it's crazy when you really think about it. I worked

1 hard in my life, you know, like to gain all my  
2 knowledge, work with elders.

3 I come to a point where it looks like  
4 I'm not even going to use, you know, like what I'm  
5 trained for. It's becoming all jumbled up in  
6 bureaucratic stuff. Keep it simple. That way we know  
7 which way we're going, which way we're coming from,  
8 and which way we're going.

9 I have respect for science, but to a  
10 certain extent. Not if it's going to start ruling us  
11 and running our lives. Should I say that in Dene,  
12 kahtoneke. I was sick for quite a while but now I'm  
13 back and I want to do things.

14 Where I think I -- I know a lot about  
15 the land. I know a lot about the people of the past.  
16 They way it used to be. The system. The way people  
17 ran their system. It's -- everything's got to adapt,  
18 so it's changing. That's not my problem.

19 My problem is we're not ever given a  
20 chance to discover what we know already, what we --  
21 has been discovered generations ago. It's not -- I  
22 seen no management in 1990 and now the government  
23 wants everybody to be in on management, their way.

24 That's all I want to say, just because  
25 that's the way I see things. Maybe it's not right.

1 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi. Masi, Bella.  
2 Okay. It's 12:30. We should just take a break right  
3 now, and there's food here. So let's -- let's take an  
4 hour break, and come back in an hour. Okay, 1:30.  
5 Masi.

6

7 --- Upon recessing at 12:35 p.m.

8 --- Upon resuming at 1:38 pm.

9

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. If -- if you  
11 look at the presentations by -- by the parties, we've  
12 just finished with Tulita. So now Fort Good Hope, you  
13 are part of the party to the hearing so you have the  
14 opportunity to make a presentation on some of your  
15 ideas to the Board. How -- how you see Bluenose East  
16 management can be improved.

17 So can you go ahead and take over,  
18 Harry?

19

20 PRESENTATION BY FORT GOOD HOPE:

21 MR. HARRY HARRIS: One (1) of our --  
22 one (1) -- one (1) of our people want to talk; Barthe  
23 Kotchilli. I'll let him speak before -- oh, he's not  
24 here, hey.

25 Anyway, there's a couple of questions I

1 wanted to ask of Tulita. One (1) thing that -- one  
2 (1) thing I want to address is communications, yeah.  
3 One (1) thing I want to address is communications  
4 among the groups.

5                   And the other issue I had was money.  
6 You talk about -- way back in 2002 -- 2002, I -- I got  
7 on the board or the council in Fort Good Hope, their  
8 Renewable Resource Council.

9                   And the first Sahtu Renewable Resource  
10 Board meeting we had -- we attended, it's about a  
11 three (4) or four (4) day meeting, and all -- all the  
12 RRCs in the community. And all we did was talk.

13                   We listened to all the presentations  
14 and we had to -- at the -- on the third day, we had to  
15 caucus to -- among the RRCs to talk about the  
16 presentations. And our only involvement was the --  
17 with the whole thing was whether the oil exploration -  
18 - the oil exploration that happened that year was okay  
19 for us.

20                   Clearly, always it's really hard --  
21 easy to answer that. Everybody disagreed to it, but  
22 they didn't have any say.

23                   From -- since that time, or as soon as  
24 that -- that -- our first meeting, I -- I saw a  
25 problem right away: money. Now, right away I found

1 out we get our money from SSI. We get seventy-nine  
2 thousand (79,000), and right away you know it's not  
3 enough.

4                   And I addressed the issue through the  
5 years, but what's happened is they added another five  
6 thousand (5,000), so it went up to eighty-five  
7 thousand (85,000) to run the RRC offices. That's  
8 clearly not enough money. It's something -- some  
9 issue that we're -- it's an issue that we all have to  
10 address.

11                   The other thing -- the other thing I  
12 wanted to address is communications. The chief,  
13 Leonard Kenny, and Mr. Joseph Kochon addressed those  
14 issues. We need to set up some sort of communish --  
15 com -- commu -- communication system because we've got  
16 to know what each -- each group is doing, each  
17 community is doing to come up with a final result.

18                   What -- what should really be looked at  
19 is the way -- you know, the way the government is sort  
20 of imposing things on us. We really should be working  
21 -- we should be doing Colville Lake's management  
22 project as a -- as a -- just to see which works best.  
23 Or we could have used a combination of, you know, like  
24 Deline's plan there and also Colville Lake and also  
25 ENR.

1                   And we're all here for one (1) -- you  
2 know, one (1) goal, like Joseph said, we -- we -- for  
3 the betterment of the caribou. It's just something  
4 that I wanted to address.

5                   Like I said, we -- we used to caucus in  
6 earlier meetings. And from -- since that time, here  
7 we're sitting now. We're -- we're trying to get  
8 involved in the whole process, and it's something  
9 that's good.

10                  What we should do is -- like especially  
11 with dealing with communication, we should have a --  
12 an informal meeting, you know, every year, tell -- if  
13 we find something that's workable.

14                  It's just some comments I -- I -- you  
15 know, like I'm so -- I have to apologize. Like when I  
16 -- when I speak, I'm sort of critical, but I don't  
17 mean to be. I'm sorry for that. I'm just -- what I'm  
18 trying to do is trying to make everybody work  
19 together. Like, I see a lot of things. Like, I -- I  
20 -- back in 1992 to 1995, I attended a renewable --  
21 renewable resource technology program in Fort Smith.

22                  And from since that time, I've been  
23 trying to make life easier for -- you know, for  
24 myself, my community especially, as we're just -- you  
25 know, we need a lot of things in the community. And I

1 just -- the whole idea of a leadership is to make life  
2 easier for everybody, and it's just something that we  
3 have to look at.

4                   And -- I -- I sure wish, you know, we  
5 all work together to -- to -- it -- it'll help each  
6 other. Felt that -- right there -- right away, I  
7 noticed -- when I came in, I noticed there was a  
8 conflict. It shouldn't be there. We're all doing the  
9 same thing. Masi.

10                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Harry. Fort  
11 Good Hope, Frank or Bella or Barthe? Barthe, Good  
12 Hope (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE SPOKEN).

13

14                   (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM  
15                   NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

16

17                   (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

18

19                   MR. BARTHE KOTCHILLI: He said that  
20 you've been bothering the caribou, and you're all  
21 bothering. This is what I'm hearing. I've been in  
22 the bush for over -- in the bush for over fifty (50)  
23 years. I am -- I went hunting and trapping.

24                   Somebody -- in all that time, nobody  
25 spoke that -- that I felt uncomfortable with, and so I

1 spoke sharply to that person. Everything around us,  
2 the wildlife all around us, trying to make a -- a way  
3 to live by itself, and we are like that. And the  
4 animals all try to survive. And we, as an Aboriginal  
5 people, are the same way.

6                   And as -- as long as they are here, we  
7 -- we hunt them as long as we can. And the caribou  
8 travel wherever they want to go. And for -- in the  
9 last how many years, they have disappeared. And the -  
10 - they've depleted in our region. And this non-  
11 indigenous people...

12

13                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

14

15                   MR. BARTHE KOTCHILLI: Even though --  
16 industry, even though we try to stop them from doing  
17 things, they keep ahead and do things.

18

19                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

20

21

22                   MR. BARTHE KOTCHILLI: They -- they --  
23 the -- we don't understand why things are  
24 disappearing. And when they work on our land, they  
25 don't inform us that they are doing this.

1

2

(BRIEF PAUSE)

3

4

MR. BARTHE KOTCHILLI: When we work on caribous, the things that we -- we -- that we harvest for ourselves, we treat them very respectfully. We take really good care of the way that we treat them. We make sure that nothing is spoiled from them.

9

And what the Aboriginal -- non-Aboriginal people are saying is -- have treated our animals, and I'm -- I'm not very pleased with that. And the -- the things like, for example, the -- the collars, the tags around the caribou necks. And -- and -- and the caribou who travel to the calving grounds and the -- and the wolves always travel with them.

17

And sometimes -- sometimes they said -- people have said that they've seen caribou with collars around them. Even the Inuit people are not very pleased about that.

21

A long time ago when we come to Deline and a lot of peop -- a lot of caribou came across...

23

24

(BRIEF PAUSE)

25

1                   MR. BARTHE KOTCHILLI:    When they --  
2 they travelled into the -- the -- I think what he said  
3 is that when they travelled into the mountains, they  
4 didn't come back.  And there's -- and people are --  
5 are saying that they don't -- they're deliberately  
6 telling us not to travel in that area.

7

8   (BRIEF PAUSE)

9

10                   MR. BARTHE KOTCHILLI:    Us -- we,  
11 the people of this area, we've -- the caribou has  
12 always been here, and in -- and Colville Lake is where  
13 the caribou live.  We don't -- can't really talk about  
14 it that much and how we get our meat from them.

15   People are still trapping out there,  
16 and that when we go out there, this is the -- this is  
17 the way it is still.  In 1959, when I was travelling  
18 throughout the Colville Lake area, and Hycinthe is a  
19 person from the barren lands of that area.  And all  
20 those people that were travelling with him, or people  
21 at that time are all gone.

22   When you go into those communities,  
23 those people are all gone.  Today, the young people --  
24 people -- the young people are now moving over to  
25 Colville Lake and -- and making homes for themself,

1 and I'm really happy for that.

2                   Sometimes the -- there's -- there used  
3 to be tents here and there, everywhere. Sometimes  
4 there would be no food. Now the -- when you go to  
5 Colville Lake, it used -- now they're all -- all these  
6 homes are built there now. It used to be such that --  
7 it used to be just a few tents here and there. And  
8 I'm very pleased to be able to go over there and see  
9 all that.

10                   The -- the -- speaking of the caribou,  
11 I'm not sure what it is that they want to do with it.  
12 And you said that the -- the atmosphere and the way  
13 that people are talking, it's like we -- we seem to be  
14 a little bit off in terms of when we talk about the  
15 caribou right now.

16

17                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

18

19                   MR. BARTHE KOTCHILLI: I'm a person  
20 that travelled in the bush for quite a while when I  
21 was -- when I was -- I've been in the bush all my  
22 life. I'm sorry, it's really difficult to understand  
23 him.

24

25                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

1                   MR. BARTHE KOTCHILLI:    They say that  
2 you are not supposed to talk about it or laugh at it  
3 behind its back, because it's aware of it.  And people  
4 who want to live like white people, that's okay, they  
5 can go ahead and do it, but for us, those people who  
6 want to live the traditional lives can maintain those  
7 trad -- traditional lives.  And we as traditional  
8 people are real -- really like our country food.  And  
9 today -- and he said it's -- it's all white man's food  
10 now.

11                   And people are not walking around in --  
12 in snow shoes.  The -- in the old days we used to walk  
13 around, and we can't even walk with snow shoes now  
14 because of the white people's food that we eat now.  
15 In the old days, we used to walk all over.  We're --  
16 using snow shoes, and that.  Our health was such, and  
17 we were able to do that.  Even though we travelled for  
18 that period of time, we never got really sick or -- or  
19 it didn't wear us down.

20                   This caribou we're still talking about,  
21 what should we do with -- what we should do with it is  
22 what -- when you talk about that, then I agree with  
23 the -- and when you -- the way the -- the discussion  
24 that is taking place, I'm not sure what it is -- it is  
25 we are saying.  And he said that in the future we will

1 still continue to be talking about this issue, and  
2 people can think about it and then -- and then  
3 continue to talk about.

4                   And I'm so pleased that -- listening to  
5 all the people that are say -- I'm really pleased with  
6 what people are saying. I'm sorry that I can't -- I  
7 can't express this myself the way I wanted because of  
8 the cold that I'm -- I'm suffering.

9

10                   (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

11

12                   THE CHAIRPERSON:     Frank...?

13

14                   (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

15

16                   MR. FRANK T'SELEIE:     Thank you.

17

18                   (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

19

20                   MR. FRANK T'SELEIE:     In addition to  
21 the comments of my colleagues, I think we shared with  
22 you some of our sketchy knowledge on caribou, and  
23 about -- specifically the ENR is -- is seeking to find  
24 a formula for a quota among our communities. And  
25 those numbers don't seem to be sitting well with any

1 of the communities.

2                   And, you know, it begs to question, you  
3 know, where -- where do we go with that? And I could  
4 see it happening now. Our people always fall back on  
5 their traditions, and that's what Barclay (phonetic)  
6 just finished saying.

7                   And on generally on caribou, like you -  
8 - you heard from Harry, you know, the lack of  
9 resources, the lack of proper systems in place for  
10 them to communicate is -- is also -- has always been  
11 there. I mean, with the amount of money that they  
12 receive you might be able to -- to get a part time  
13 secretary other than that. And what else? Nothing  
14 else beyond that.

15                   And it's -- it's seeming really for me  
16 really unbalanced, you know, seeking answers from  
17 communities' representatives that have a lack of  
18 resources to give you like good, intelligent answers.  
19 And efforts should be made to increase the capacity of  
20 those IRCs.

21                   For us all in Fort Good Hope, I -- I  
22 mentioned yesterday of the wildlife that's available  
23 to us. And the Bluenose caribou East, I'm kind of  
24 like personally in the same boat as Jonas. And I want  
25 to thank him for clarifying his rights with the chief

1 here.

2                   And in the same manner, since time  
3 immemorial that the Luguwit (phonetic) have been  
4 taking care of and -- and making sure the caribou  
5 corridor is always taken care of. And we always  
6 follow their lead on the Bluenose West.

7                   And depending on the environment, the -  
8 - once the caribou goes into the tree line, they --  
9 they spread out into their different grazing areas.  
10 And sometimes they come right into the Fort Good Hope  
11 area.

12                   And the last time we saw that, that was  
13 in 1990s where they even crossed the river. And we  
14 hadn't seen it since. We hadn't seen that happen  
15 again since.

16                   And the -- the questions around things  
17 like climate change I mentioned earlier, we don't know  
18 how the climate is affecting the caribou. And we  
19 don't know how the scientists -- whether they're  
20 disturbing the caribou while they're calving. We  
21 don't know that.

22                   We -- we lack a lot of information to  
23 make good, sound decisions at the local level, and --  
24 because, like it or not, some of the scientific  
25 answers are relevant to our traditions. And in some

1 cases, they're very close.

2                   The other area that was mentioned a bit  
3 is the -- the impact of development on -- on the  
4 caribou. I don't see very much on that from the  
5 literature on the ENR, but rather focussing all their  
6 effort on the user. Like a gentleman said earlier,  
7 those companies, oil companies, they should be here.

8                   And so tho -- those type of things, you  
9 know, we have to work out. We have to work it out  
10 together so that we continue to have caribou into the  
11 future.

12                   And I think I'll -- I'll stop it there.  
13 And I want to -- while I'm on a mic here, I want to  
14 thank the chief here, Deline, and the people we're  
15 staying with. I want to thank them because we're  
16 going to be travelling back to home this afternoon  
17 also with Colville Lake.

18                   And we might not get an opportunity  
19 because there's so much things to talk about that I  
20 don't want to take up too much of your time.

21                   plan here in Deline, not that I agree  
22 with -- with the quota and all that, but it's a really  
23 good paper that they use our language. They even list  
24 our laws which is -- you know, it's -- it's a good  
25 start. You can see it. It's -- it's in your face.

1                   And -- and so that is a good start.  
2   And I think, depending on resources or whatever the  
3   ENR supports, we should continue these discussions and  
4   -- and begin working together so that the -- the  
5   future on the use of caribou can be protected or  
6   secured for us.

7                   And with that, I'll -- I'll cut it off  
8   there. And we'll gladly answer any of the -- the  
9   questions that -- I -- I could see ENR's point on the  
10   concern over the decline of the caribou. I think  
11   yesterday, I mentioned that -- that musk ox went under  
12   protection in 1917, I believe. And that's a hundred a  
13   years ago. It was wiped out already.

14                  And in the same manner -- like, once  
15   the buffalo was cleaned out in the south, then the  
16   focus went to musk ox. I asked, What was it used for?  
17   And this would have been before there was trucks,  
18   cars. People in Europe were still travelling by horse  
19   and cart. And they used it for their seats and to  
20   cover themselves up, and robes.

21                  And I was asking Uncle Heisen's  
22   (phonetic) dad, Sedor Keshan (phonetic). He was  
23   telling me that, My dad used to pack musk ox hide out  
24   of -- from the tree line to Fort Good Hope to trade.  
25   And he'd have it -- dry meat and all that rolled up.

1 And they'd pack it all the way to Good Hope.

2                   And I asked, Well, for how much? And  
3 he said, horenosawa (phonetic). That means five (5)  
4 bucks, five (5) bucks a hide. And so that trading  
5 system really had a -- an impact. I don't know if  
6 anybody has done any studies on that. Perhaps that  
7 might be another area for somebody to get a doctorate  
8 degree, one (1) of our own people.

9                   The other -- the other area that I -- I  
10 really see a gap is that the Kacho Dene has  
11 experienced this kind of impact before. And that  
12 would have been during the gold rush in the Yukon,  
13 where things got so out of hand that our people had to  
14 abandoned everything. They had -- we abandoned one  
15 (1) community over there.

16                   And my mother was born over there. I  
17 remember her telling me that they left the Yukon with  
18 everything in their house in place. And they just  
19 packed what they could pack over the mountains. And I  
20 revisited that about ten (10) years ago and discovered  
21 that the -- the chief and council of Mayo had the  
22 wisdom to protect -- put in their claims the area that  
23 we -- we used to use, including our community over  
24 there under the chapter on heritage resources.

25                   And so it's not the first time that

1 we've experienced those kind of impacts. And but that  
2 -- that's some of our -- our -- a little bit of our  
3 history. And I hope that in the future, we continue  
4 to exercise our rights so that the families can  
5 continue to eat wild meat.

6                   And one (1) funny story come to mind.  
7 My father-in-law, Bella's adopted dad, he said the --  
8 in the -- I believe in the '20s or '30s, it became  
9 against the law to hunt moose. And that was really,  
10 really hard on -- on families. They had to hide. And  
11 if they have any kind of meat they had to hide it, or.  
12

13                   Anyway, it's just -- it's really sad to  
14 think about that. But apparently, the -- the --  
15 somehow an order was given to the RCMP to do a moose  
16 track count. So he was selected to travel with the  
17 RCMP towards Colville Lake on a road to count moose  
18 tracks.

19                   And -- and he said that every time the  
20 RCMP came to rabbit tracks they asked what kind it is.  
21 I say -- I tell them, Moose. All the way -- and then,  
22 of course the RCMP, when they record all the moose.  
23 And not long after that, they reopened the laws again  
24 for moose.

25                   But those -- those are the type of

1 things that -- that affected our people in harvesting  
2 wildlife for ourselves. But I'll -- I'll cut it off  
3 there. Thank you. We'll -- we'll try and answer any  
4 questions that you may have. Masi.

5

6 QUESTION PERIOD:

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Good Hope.  
8 Masi. So maybe we can start with the ENR, maybe make  
9 comments to -- if -- if you have comments or anything  
10 in regards to Fort Good Hope's presentation?

11 DR. JAN ADAMCZEWSKI: Thank you, Mr.  
12 Chairman. Jan Adamczewski, with ENR. I would just  
13 ask, I guess, a couple of similar questions that I  
14 asked previously. And the first one would be: Since  
15 people don't like the idea of quotas, but if there is  
16 a need to manage harvest and limit harvest, then --  
17 for the Bluenose East herd, then how would Fort Good  
18 Hope suggest that -- that this be done? What would --  
19 how would they advise the Board on this?

20 And the second question would be  
21 whether Fort Good Hope has any thoughts about wolf  
22 harvest, wolf management, and, you know, what, if  
23 anything, should be done in that area?

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Harry...?

25 MR. HARRY HARRIS: I could -- I -- I

1 guess I get to answer that. I guess yesterday, I  
2 wasn't -- like I said it, I was -- personally, I  
3 wasn't really involved in the -- the -- the caribou  
4 quota, the -- because I am back at home.

5

6 (SWITCHED TO NORTH SLAVEY CHANNEL)

7

8 MR. HARRY HARRIS:

9

10 (SWITCHED BACK TO ENGLISH CHANNEL)

11

12 MR. HARRY HARRIS: Anyway, the -- the  
13 office work is done by the president and the office  
14 worker. So I guess they were talk -- they were  
15 talking, Colville Lake management project. And I just  
16 -- I -- I just attended two (2) meetings. And that's  
17 why I wasn't really directly involved.

18 So that -- so -- so -- and that's why  
19 we're -- we're didn't come out with a -- a  
20 presentation. Like, we just sort of -- like, back in  
21 the, well, two (2) or three (3) years ago or whatever,  
22 they told them, Okay, here -- here are your -- here  
23 are your kid were given tags and -- and the office  
24 refused it. You know, they told me they refused it.  
25 They didn't want to -- didn't want to put that on

1 their people.

2                   So -- so from what I -- you know, the  
3 Board is saying -- my -- my fellow Board members are  
4 saying is that we have to be aware and support  
5 Colville Lake and their -- so we're involved. That's  
6 our involvement is. I guess I push it -- give it --  
7 give it in a presentation, but the -- that's how we're  
8 involved. And -- and it's something new. We -- it's  
9 involving us. Something that -- you know, is way  
10 different than just tags.

11                   There's something that I wanted to  
12 address. I guess for wolf, it's part -- it's part of  
13 the caribou. They're the doctors. The -- like  
14 yesterday -- just -- they -- they did a wolf kill way  
15 back they used strychnine kill -- kill off caribou in  
16 the '40s. And they kill off all other kind of  
17 animals, and also they -- like moose, caribou. And  
18 especially in the Yukon. Elk. And buffalo. It all  
19 starts leading into the trees. They ate up all their  
20 food.

21                   That's because they did a wolf kill. I  
22 guess somehow -- they study the wolf if you're going  
23 to do anything about it. But we should let nature  
24 take its course. Just something that I -- you know,  
25 as a person of the land, you know, I know the land, I

1 -- I just believe that, you know, it'll work itself  
2 out. Masi.

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Harry.

4 DR. JAN ADAMCZEWSKI: Thank you, Mr.  
5 Chair. I think ENR has no further questions. Thank  
6 you.

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, masi. Deline,  
8 do you have any comments of what you heard from Fort  
9 Good Hope?

10

11 (BRIEF PAUSE)

12

13 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Thanks for the --  
14 the...

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Deline.  
16 Colville Lake, do you have any comments? Anything  
17 that you want to say in regards to Colville Lake and  
18 Good Hope's presentation? Norm...?

19 MR. NORMAN BARICHELLO: Norman  
20 Barichello, with Col -- Colville. I just want --  
21 wanted to make a comment, more about the wolf control  
22 that was done in the Yukon. And prior to the wolf  
23 control project that was done over there, the Elders  
24 were saying that what you're going to do is end up  
25 essentially disturbing the social structure of the

1 wolves. And so you'll end up getting more hunting  
2 groups because it'll take time for them to establish  
3 territories.

4                   And indeed that's what happened, is  
5 that they -- they got an immediate increase in the  
6 number of moose and caribou but after they stopped  
7 killing wolves, the wolves came back very, very  
8 quickly. And actually increased in numbers beyond  
9 what they were when they were first -- when they were  
10 first culled, or -- or shot.

11                   And so in effect it's -- it had very  
12 poor long term -- no long-term success. It was  
13 actually -- it created more problems in the end. And  
14 it did get immediate results in terms of more caribou,  
15 but certainly not in the long run. And it's as you've  
16 said, it's -- it's the -- it's monkeying with the  
17 system without really knowing how it works. Thank  
18 you.

19                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Masi, Colville Lake.  
20 Tulita...? Frank...?

21                   CHIEF FRANK ANDREW:   Frank Andrew,  
22 from Tulita. I just wanted to thank you guys for your  
23 presentation. Masi.

24

25                   (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

1 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Thank you for  
2 talking. So I just wanted to thank you for presenting  
3 to us. Masi.

4

5 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

6

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Tulita.  
8 Jordan, representing the youth, do you have anything  
9 you want to say to Fort Good Hope? Okay. Thank you  
10 very much, Jordan.

11 How about from the Board here? Any  
12 comments to Fort Good Hope? Okay. Okay, Paul.

13 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Nothing, no.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Ka nezo.  
15 Well, I'd like to thank Fort Good Hope for coming to  
16 Deline. And at the end there, there's going to be  
17 final comments. So if you do, you know, we're looking  
18 forward to hearing from you. Masi. Masi, Fort Good  
19 Hope.

20 Okay. We have one (1) of our last  
21 presenters, not -- the second last presenters here,  
22 the Youth Connection, Sahtu Youth Connection. You  
23 have the opportunity, but if you don't, it's okay.  
24 Ka.

25 You're okay? Okay. Thank you. Let's

1 give a hand for the Youth Connection for participating  
2 for the past two (2) days. Hopefully you'll have a  
3 final comment maybe later. Okay. Masi.

4                   Okay. We have -- next is Sahtu  
5 Renewable Resource Board. We have experts, technic --  
6 technical advisors with us. And we have with us Colin  
7 Macdonald who will be giving us some scientific  
8 knowledge.

9                   So, Colin, I don't know if you have a  
10 mic with you. Okay. There it is. Okay. Okay. Do  
11 you need a couple of minutes there? Okay. Let's take  
12 a five (5) minute break. Then we'll get right --  
13 right back. Five (5) minutes.

14

15 --- Upon recessing at 2:20 p.m.

16 --- Upon resuming at 2:26 p.m.

17

18                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. I think we'll  
19 get started. Tulita, you finished your meeting?

20                   Okay. Go ahead, Colin.

21

22 PRESENTATION BY SRRB:

23                   MR. COLIN MACDONALD: Yeah. Thanks  
24 very much, Mr. Chair.

25                   Okay. I've been coming to Deline since

1 about 1998. I came into the community to help them  
2 deal with some of the -- the issues related to Port  
3 Radium. And I come back here a few times and just --  
4 I love coming to Deline because of the -- the energy,  
5 the -- you can see the -- the passion in the -- the  
6 uranium issue back twenty (20) years ago.

7 I was lucky enough to go across the  
8 lake with four (4) or five (5) of the guys in the  
9 community here, across the lake to do some sampling at  
10 Port Radium. And it's been great to see some of them  
11 this week.

12 I'd like to thank the -- the chief,  
13 council, and the community for the hospitality this  
14 week. It's been wonderful, great food, and just nice  
15 to be back here again. So -- actually, I kind of miss  
16 Paul Baton not being in the front row here giving me  
17 heck every time I say something, but anyway.

18 The -- what I'm talking about today is  
19 just a technical review of the -- the proposed ENR  
20 management plan for the -- the Bluenose East caribou  
21 herd.

22 My name again, Colin MacDonald. I'm  
23 from a small town in Manitoba. You can contact me any  
24 time.

25 The summary of the issue? The way we

1 see it right now -- and this maybe is, at this point  
2 of the meeting, worth emphasizing. The decline of the  
3 Bluenose East herd from a hundred and twenty thousand  
4 (120,000) -- sorry I got my back to you guys -- a  
5 hundred and twenty thousand (120,000) in 2000 to about  
6 thirty-eight thousand (38,000) in 2015. That's a huge  
7 decline.

8                   Surveys on the calving ground in 2010,  
9 '13, and '15 are showing a major decline in total  
10 numbers. The number of breeding females declined from  
11 fifty-two thousand (52,000), to thirty-four thousand  
12 (34,000), to seventeen thousand (17,000). This is a  
13 pretty distinct decline we're talking about.

14                   And as we heard a couple days ago from  
15 the ENR people, the -- the key statistics, low cow  
16 survival, low calf recruitment, and the low cow  
17 pregnancy rates. So these are all vital issues that  
18 we use to indicate how healthy the herd is, and it  
19 looks like there's this decline. And that's an  
20 urgency that I think -- many of the things we're  
21 talking about over -- around the table these days,  
22 it's just -- it's the urgency of having to respond  
23 fairly quickly.

24                   So the SRRB has requested two (2)  
25 reviews, one (1) of which is my review, the western

1 science review. I put together a technical paper,  
2 which is on the registry. So if anybody wants to  
3 download that and read it and have -- just see what it  
4 has to say -- this talk -- this talk is basically a  
5 summary of many of the points that I made in this --  
6 in the written technical review.

7                   There's also Allice Legat, who is doing  
8 the traditional knowledge side of things. This  
9 material will go to the Board for their consideration,  
10 among a number of other things, in their  
11 deliberations.

12                   So what I was trying to do in my  
13 review, examine the western science behind ENR's  
14 recommendations to limit the harvest, how good are the  
15 estimates, how good are they accounting the -- the  
16 herd, some of the considerations that go into making  
17 the actual estimates of what has to be done, provide a  
18 summary of issues.

19                   This list of key emerging issues is a -  
20 - was developed through conversations through at the  
21 Sahtu. So one (1) of the things we wanted to do was  
22 actually build up a little bit of a -- a case of what  
23 information we had behind each one (1) of those, and  
24 examine the science behind the key issues and the  
25 state of information for the Bluenose East herd. Do

1 we know anything about the habitat, the development,  
2 all the -- the things that we've been talking about  
3 the last couple of days, things that might impact the  
4 health of the herd short-term and long-term, and how -  
5 - what -- what we know about the actual herd itself.

6                   So the key issues, caribou monitoring  
7 and approaches. So I'll spend a couple of times (sic)  
8 on how well we -- or what we know about the -- how ENR  
9 is -- is counting the herds, what approaches are used.  
10 Harvest management is another one, habitat quality,  
11 predator control, development, cumulative effects, and  
12 disease and parasites.

13                   So -- so these are major issues that  
14 we've been looking at. And I just wanted to go over  
15 the one (1) example of the Beverly herd. Probably you  
16 -- many of you are -- are aware the herd declined from  
17 over two hundred and fifty thousand (250,000) in 1994  
18 to too low to count in 2008. Okay, this is -- Nunavut  
19 was created right in about here. So there was a  
20 change in -- in management systems and a lot of  
21 different things, so there's about a space of about  
22 ten (10), twelve (12) years where there were no herd  
23 counts done.

24                   Scientists originally thought that a  
25 large number of the females could have joined another

1 herd, because when they went out in 2008, they just  
2 found remnants, essentially, of -- of -- I don't know  
3 what kind of survey it was, but they were just a  
4 remnant of the herd.

5                   More research. Adamczewski's paper  
6 just recently shows the herd probably declined to very  
7 low numbers and may have disappeared. And what often  
8 happens is, when large herds decrease like this,  
9 random events may occur, such as ice storms or  
10 something else, or the last few individuals just move  
11 off to -- to work with another -- or just to move into  
12 another herd.

13                   So it's an example of a decline. When  
14 a herd's not monitored, things like this could happen.  
15 And this -- this herd used to go down into Northern  
16 Saskatchewan. In the Akaitcho area, people used to  
17 hunt it, so it -- it was a fairly large loss.

18                   So I'm going to spend a minute or two  
19 (2) talking about just in general how I understand the  
20 caribou life history. And this is from the Porcupine  
21 Caribou Technical Committee. And it sort of  
22 illustrates the life history of the caribou as we  
23 understand it through one (1) over-wintering system  
24 right through about a year and a half. So this line  
25 here is January, February, March, April, May. It goes

1 right through.

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Colin...?

3 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: Yes?

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Could you please  
5 slow down just a little bit for the interpreters?

6 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: Sure.

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Masi.

8 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: So we start here  
9 with the over wintering, which is where we are at the  
10 moment. So ENR is going to be going out and doing  
11 their surveys here in the next couple of weeks.

12 Migration, calving, over summering, then this post-  
13 calving here is when the herd congregates to get away  
14 from insects and various things, the bulls and cows  
15 come together, the rut, over wintering, migration.

16 So the two (2) major parts, of course,  
17 are the two (2) calving seasons that are going on. So  
18 if you look at what the females go through, the  
19 critical thing for the females, of course, is calving.

20 And then they're going to be faced here with both  
21 lactation and the weight gain. They have to put on  
22 weight for the next winter to be able to get strong  
23 through the -- the winter and then for the following  
24 calving sea -- season.

25 And the calves have to do the same

1 thing. After they -- they're born they have to grow.  
2 And all of this is going to depend on -- on the  
3 quality of the range. If it's a good range, nice and  
4 productive, they put on a lot of weight and then  
5 they're -- they're going to be able to get a fairly --  
6 a good body size for over wintering and migration for  
7 next year.

8                   So what we do is we use several  
9 indicators, body condition, calf survival, cow/calf  
10 ratio. All these are basic indicators that are taken  
11 at various times through the life cycle. So ENR does  
12 post-calving surveys. They do -- they have post-  
13 calving or calving surveys. The -- during the rut and  
14 the over wintering, so this gives kind of a picture of  
15 what the composition is like through the year.

16                   So if we look at monitoring right now,  
17 the -- it's advanced a lot in the last ten  
18 (10)/fifteen (15) years with the use of better  
19 electronics and collars and -- and a clear statistical  
20 approach to how the -- the transects are run.

21                   You can see the large areas the caribou  
22 are scattered all over the place. There's a story  
23 from about -- back in the '50s people used to do  
24 really bad transects and counts when people first  
25 started getting airplanes in the north. There was a

1 fellow by the name of Rattan (phonetic) who wrote a --  
2 a stor -- or a -- a paper, just about a big mistake  
3 that occurred back in the '50s.

4                   They did the first survey. There was  
5 about seven hundred thousand (700,000) caribou. They  
6 went back three (3) years later there's about two  
7 hundred and fifty thousand (250,000) caribou. So they  
8 assumed that harvest was a hundred thousand (100,000)  
9 animals a year.

10                   So he went into the communities and  
11 there weren't caribou everywhere. There's just the --  
12 they'd made a mistake on that second survey and it was  
13 roughly the same as it was the previous three (3)  
14 years.

15                   So it's -- it's really easy to make  
16 these big mistakes. That -- those have been pretty  
17 much taken out of the system using the collars,  
18 collared females and males during calving, or post-  
19 calving, or during the rut.

20                   Each measurement gives a slightly  
21 different bit of information. And science suggests  
22 that there should be at least sixty (60) collars.  
23 Now, I understand it's a tradeoff. Communities aren't  
24 -- aren't happy about having the collars, but it does  
25 give a lot of information. The more collars you put

1 on the animals, the more information it does provide  
2 for things like female survival and that kind of  
3 thing.

4                   So as far as conclusions go for the --  
5 the caribou monitoring, the estimates of herd numbers  
6 and decline for the Blue -- Bluenose East are probably  
7 accurate and based on ENR surveys of herd composition.  
8 And this is a major part of this, a few years ago the  
9 Alberta Research Council did a review of the methods  
10 used by ENR.

11                   And I think it's a -- a critical part  
12 of the story, because essentially they went through  
13 and reviewed the -- the methods, the mathematical  
14 methods, how they did the counts in the -- in the --  
15 the field, and it was more or less an independent  
16 review of how they did things.

17                   And it confirmed the Bluenose West and  
18 Bluenose East are probably two (2) separate herds.  
19 They -- they have different migration routes. They  
20 have different calving grounds. They should be  
21 managed separately.

22                   I'll skip over the next one.

23                   And the decline in the herds, in their  
24 opinion based on the information they had in front of  
25 them, was the declines were real. The -- they weren't

1 from groups moving from one (1) group to another,  
2 because all the -- the groups -- all the herds seemed  
3 to be declining at the same rate. And they probably  
4 weren't missed dur -- during the counting programs.  
5 So the -- the numbers seemed to be pretty accurate.

6                   So in terms of harvest management,  
7 because of the urgency of having to slow down the  
8 decline that's going on now, managing the harvest is  
9 probably one (1) of the strongest controls to help  
10 slow down that decline. Total estimated harvest was  
11 probably about eighteen hundred (1,800) to thirty-five  
12 hundred (3,500) in those years.

13                   Currently recommending a harvest of  
14 nine hundred and fifty (950) bulls, and we've been  
15 talking about that the last couple of days, total  
16 allowable harvest based on discussion with Aboriginal  
17 partners, co-management boards, and Nunavut. Now,  
18 this is something obviously that's been under  
19 discussion for the last couple of days, so I made this  
20 slide up a few days ago before we had the discussions.

21                   So as far as habitat concerns go, we  
22 really have very little information. It's starting to  
23 come in now, but we have very little information in  
24 terms of what the Bluenose East herd habitat is like,  
25 if it's really supportive of the -- how much -- the

1 females, for example, have to put on the -- the weight  
2 from one year to the next. Provides protection from  
3 predators and space for -- escape for -- from biting  
4 flies when the -- they sometimes move up onto the  
5 coast to get into the windy conditions.

6           Chen et al used satellite data to show  
7 good habitat in one (1) year. It gives a good  
8 calf/cow ratio two (2) years later. Remember those  
9 lines I showed you a minute ago? If they eat well one  
10 year, there's a good chance they're going to have a  
11 productive -- the -- the calf two (2) years later is  
12 going to be a -- a good birth weight.

13           ENR's technical report for taking care  
14 of caribou says there's little information on the  
15 status of habitat in the range of the Bluenose East  
16 herd. Now the information is starting to come out.  
17 We had the drought index a couple of days ago. That's  
18 the kind of information probably is going to be useful  
19 for -- for knowing the productivity.

20           The other big question we have is fire  
21 damage on the range. It's a big question for Sahtu  
22 harvesters. Studies show that caribou avoid burn  
23 areas for the first year, and slowly move back in for  
24 subsequent years sort of -- if places that hadn't been  
25 as badly damaged from the fire where they feed on

1 grasses.

2                   But it -- it -- and there's a -- it  
3 takes decades for the lichen to come back, but it  
4 looks like the -- the caribou start moving -- using  
5 the -- the burn area just a little bit every year.

6                   Some more information is needed on the  
7 current habitat quality and range use by bulls and  
8 cows, and different age groups. And one (1) thing  
9 that might come out of that is that it might be able  
10 to protect areas in which the Bluenose East herd is  
11 most vulnerable. Like if calves -- or cows with  
12 calves are moving to certain areas, maybe it's easiest  
13 to -- to protect those areas rather than the larger  
14 part of the range.

15                   Predator control. We all know that  
16 predators, wolves, grizzly, and black bear. I like to  
17 point out the fact that it's bears plus wolves. Total  
18 losses from predation in the herd are -- are probably  
19 not known at the moment. And we don't know if they're  
20 equal to harvest, or -- or less than harvest, or more  
21 than harvest.

22                   In my view, losses to predation -- or -  
23 - there's a big gap in the management of the herd.  
24 Oh, shoot. Yeah, so the -- the point is -- and I  
25 don't think the -- the wolf control system that was

1 described a couple of days ago by ENR, I don't think  
2 is going to be as effective at controlling the  
3 predation in -- in the Bluenose East herd.

4                   It -- it sounds like it's more of a --  
5 a general wolf removal program, and I don't think it's  
6 -- it's focussed enough to be able to solve the  
7 problem of predation specifically. And having to deal  
8 with the grizzly bears is the other big question.

9                   Now, the other -- another question we  
10 get all the time, and we've had these discussions the  
11 last couple of days, is the -- the impact of industry  
12 -- development and industry. I'm going to talk a few  
13 minutes about Alaska. There's a lot of -- a lot of  
14 development and a lot of caribou.

15                   And in the readings that I've done,  
16 it's really hard to summarize the western -- from  
17 western science idea what the -- the impacts of -- of  
18 development are on caribou. This picture is actually  
19 taken by the -- and released by the oil and gas  
20 companies in Alaska, and apparently it's supposed to  
21 show that the -- the caribou are perfectly happy being  
22 close to an oil and gas facility.

23                   In fact, we now know that there are  
24 only some groups that go near the oil and gas, and  
25 that probably the females with the calves are probably

1 somewhere else.

2                   And the other thing is that when there  
3 -- there's a lot of insect harassment, they move up  
4 onto the air strips and the roads and the drilling  
5 wells just to get away from the flies.

6                   So another study in Europe showed that  
7 migrating herds, when they hit a road, there are  
8 certain individuals that won't go across that road.  
9 They'll go down the road and across, and they'll be  
10 days late getting back to the calving ground, but they  
11 won't cross that road.

12                   So there are very small, subtle effects  
13 like that that -- that might add up later.

14                   I'm going to talk a little bit about  
15 Alaska. There's a lot of development in the '90 --  
16 '80s and '90s. And this is a diagram from the World  
17 Wildlife Fund showing -- this is Prudhoe Bay up here.  
18 This is really out of focus.

19                   Anyway, this is Prudhoe Bay up here.  
20 So this is 1968, and this is the -- the amount of  
21 development thirty (30) years later. So you can see  
22 all the pipelines and roads and airstrips and  
23 exploratory wells.

24                   And there are three (3) caribou herds  
25 that are in this area. There's the Central Arctic,

1 there's the Western Arctic, and the Teshekpuk Lake  
2 group that are in here as well. So this is the amount  
3 of disturbance that's going on over that time.

4                   So as for the herds, the main one  
5 affected is the -- is the Cen -- Central Arctic. The  
6 -- the two (2) blobs up at the top there are the  
7 calving grounds that were back originally -- the date  
8 here -- looks like 1980.

9                   So this -- this is the Prudhoe Bay  
10 pipeline structure system sort of superimposed on  
11 where the calving ground is. And over the years, that  
12 calving ground is pushed further and further away from  
13 the oil and gas. So finally down here it's kind of  
14 lower.

15                   Problem is the herd was increasing a  
16 lot during that time. So it doesn't seem to be really  
17 heavily affected. And so despite the -- there were  
18 estimates that it was going to lose about 5 percent  
19 productivity every couple of years, which means fewer  
20 calves, smaller sized herd. But the herd kept on  
21 increasing.

22                   Now, we did this review in 2004, so  
23 that's why I've go that line there. And here's what  
24 happened after we did our review in 2004. Two (2) of  
25 those herds started decreasing right away. The

1 Central Arctic was still increasing, but the latest  
2 statistics we have, I think it's dropped down to about  
3 here. So it's started to decline.

4                   Whether or not this is a part of the  
5 natural cycle of these herds that they will go through  
6 sixty (60) or seventy (70) years, or if there's an  
7 actual impact from development. And in northern  
8 Alaska, there's a lot of development, helicopters  
9 going, trucks, ice road trucks, all -- whatever.

10                   So the other story here too is the  
11 Porcupine herd was declining at the time, and nobody  
12 knew why. And then it started to increase when all  
13 the others were decreasing. So there's some kind of a  
14 -- a pattern, maybe natural, maybe an effect of -- of  
15 development.

16                   So cumulative impacts are the result of  
17 small changes from several stresses from -- from  
18 larger impacts. Maybe it's disease and development, a  
19 bunch of small predators, a bunch of small things that  
20 all add up to put pressure on the herds to start  
21 decreasing.

22                   So for caribou, impacts may come from,  
23 okay, habitat, predation, development, disease.  
24 Changes add up to a loss of condition and  
25 productivity. Methods to reduce impact could be

1 timing of disruptive activities like flights. And so  
2 there are some controls.

3                   If development is actually impacting a  
4 herd, maybe you can just adjust some of the activities  
5 that the people are doing on -- for -- or going  
6 through for development.

7                   So there's a detailed assessment by  
8 Anne Gunn and co-workers for the Bathurst herd, but  
9 there's no similar information right now for the  
10 Bluenose East.

11                   And this again is the same idea. This  
12 zone of influence idea, this is actually from GLOBIO,  
13 United Nations environmental program which wasn't a  
14 very good program years ago. But they compiled a lot  
15 of data to show that ungulates -- so it's going to be  
16 caribou and -- and reindeer probably are the main  
17 ones.

18                   And there's a zone of influence near  
19 some of these activities up to 30 kilometres away that  
20 the -- the animals deflect around.

21                   Johnson and Russell, strongest  
22 avoidance by Porcupine herd to settlements, main roads  
23 and --and minor disturbances. And after a while,  
24 there's a bit of -- bit of habituation, which means  
25 that they're starting to get used to it.

1                   So all herds show a little, a -- a  
2 small proportion of animals showing disease. Research  
3 programs, University of Calgary recording incidence  
4 and prevalence of parasites, and also new parasites.  
5 There's a -- a change with the -- with climate change.  
6 The parasites are expected to increase in numbers just  
7 because transmission between animals is going to be  
8 easier with the warmer temperatures, especially ones  
9 with the intermediate hosts.

10                   Insect harassment from biting flies and  
11 mosquitos. This is something I probably should have  
12 showed on that -- that other slide with the graphics.  
13 That biting flies and mosquitos cause a lot of  
14 activity. They burn up -- the caribou burn up a lot  
15 of energy responding to biting flies and mosquitos.  
16 It makes it hard for the females to pack on weight  
17 during the summer. It causes them to aggregate and  
18 move to open windy areas when it's possible.

19                   And the current rates of disease in the  
20 Bluenose East herd really aren't expected to be higher  
21 than in the past, so it's -- it's something that --  
22 and -- and this is actually one (1) area that hunter -  
23 - or community-based programs is actually very, very  
24 useful, the -- the hunter kits. The -- the hunters  
25 turn in very valuable records of -- of things like

1 disease.

2                   So my conclusions. Bluenose East is  
3 actually in serious decline. I -- I'm kind of in  
4 agreement with the -- the idea -- whoops, with the  
5 idea that the herd certainly does seem to be in  
6 serious decline. We have good numbers.

7                   So I -- I think ENR is doing an  
8 excellent job in sort of monitoring the herd size and  
9 composition. Their methods have been checked  
10 independently. So I'm -- I'm sort of -- I agree with  
11 the -- the general status of the herd.

12                   Results of the study show that the  
13 Bluenose herd has declined by over 50 percent in five  
14 (5) years. Herds showing a low recruitment of calves  
15 in the population, a low survival of calves, and  
16 continues to decline. There's several gaps of  
17 information, things we don't know, continuing impact  
18 of climate change, for example, and the effect of --  
19 of habitat quality.

20                   So just to summarize, caribou numbers,  
21 do we have information? Yes, I think we do. The  
22 composition of the herd? Yes. Current harvest,  
23 predators? I'm going to put unknown, because I -- I  
24 don't think we have a good estimate for that.  
25 Industrial development, we have moderate. I don't

1 know. That tundra copper, I -- I didn't know about  
2 that until I got here this week. Just the idea of  
3 putting Tundra Copper in the middle of the -- the  
4 calving grounds just makes no sense to me whatsoever.  
5 Bless you.

6                   Habitat, pretty much unknown. Disease,  
7 parasites, I think we were expecting moderate, just a  
8 -- a regular -- we don't expect to have necessarily  
9 higher rates in the Bluenose East.

10                   So the management tools, things that we  
11 can control, control the harvest. We should be able  
12 to control the predators, if we get a good idea of --  
13 of where they're impacting the herd and how many  
14 numbers. Development and industry. Hopefully we can  
15 sort of slow down any kind of impacts that might be  
16 occurring against the herd.

17                   Protecting the calving grounds. This  
18 would have to be, of course, in conjunction with  
19 Nunavut and get rid of the Tundra Copper. Things we  
20 can't control, habitat. We really have no control  
21 over what we can do about that. We just have to be  
22 able to monitor it. Climate change is another one.

23                   Disease, parasites, and insect  
24 harassment. There's nothing we really can do about  
25 that. And the cumulative impacts we don't really have

1 much control over either.

2                   So that's -- that's my talk, and here  
3 we go. And well, I'd like to answer any questions,  
4 Mr. Chair, however you want to handle it.

5

6 QUESTION PERIOD:

7                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Okay, masi, Colin.  
8 Okay, the order -- the order for the questions to be  
9 forwarded to Colin MacDonald would be ENR. ENR would  
10 be the first ones to ask questions to Colin, and then  
11 -- and then Deline, and Colville Lake, and Tulita, and  
12 Good Hope. We're almost set. I wonder if we can put  
13 the lights back on, somebody.

14

15                                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

16

17                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    I wonder, do you  
18 need time, or do...

19

20                                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

21

22                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Okay. Jan...?

23                   DR. JAN ADAMCZEWSKI:    Yeah. Thank  
24 you, Mr. Chairman. Jan Adamczewski, with -- with ENR.  
25 First of all, thanks to -- to Colin for his -- for his

1 summary. And it appears in a number of areas that  
2 he's -- he feels our -- our information is fairly  
3 solid, so we -- we appreciate that.

4           There's a couple things I wanted to  
5 mention, and these are -- these are more, I guess,  
6 sort of just to indicate work that's perhaps -- that  
7 he may not be aware of, but that we either have  
8 underway, or work that's been done and reported  
9 elsewhere.

10           And if you'll allow me, I'll -- I'll  
11 maybe just mention a few of those things. The first  
12 point on -- on harvest, our statistician John  
13 Boulanger, who was here the -- the first two (2) days,  
14 he's actually done quite a lot of work for us on this  
15 area, looking at the effects of harvest with different  
16 herd size, different sex ratio in the harvest,  
17 different scale of harvest, different levels of cow  
18 survival, different levels of calf survival.

19           And there's -- there's a fairly long  
20 technical report on that. And so it's one (1) of the  
21 areas where we feel like, you know, we've done a fair  
22 bit of homework. And that report was actually made  
23 available in the fall of 2014 as part of the Bathurst  
24 and Bluenose East technical meetings. So it was made  
25 available to this Board and -- and a whole bunch of

1 other -- other organizations. So if Colin's  
2 interested, we can make that available, because it's  
3 an area where we've done a fair bit of work.

4 Cumulative effects is, as Colin pointed  
5 out, is -- is a difficult subject to try to address.  
6 We do have ongoing cumulative effects modelling. This  
7 is part of the range planning for the -- the Bathurst  
8 herd. And our focus has been the Bathurst herd  
9 initially, simply because it has way more development,  
10 way more active mines than -- than any other caribou  
11 herd. And certainly the -- the extent of development  
12 on the Bluenose East range is -- is quite a bit less.

13 But that modelling could be extended to  
14 other caribou herds, so we're kind of looking in that  
15 direction. There is an analysis that we've asked for  
16 from Don Russell on climate indices. So a few days  
17 ago, you saw the -- there's just one (1) example of  
18 the -- the drought index for the Bluenose East range,  
19 but there's actually something like twenty-five (25)  
20 different variables that they track, and we've asked  
21 for a summary for all of those for each of the caribou  
22 herds in the Northwest Territories, including Bluenose  
23 East. And that's -- I think given the interest,  
24 that's a report that we'll be happy to make available  
25 later this year when we have that.

1           I have one (1) question for Colin and  
2 it's on the subject of wolves and wolf management.  
3 And I think we've seen -- heard enough comments  
4 already at the meetings here that people have fairly  
5 strong views about that. I think a number of people  
6 have said that they really are not in favour of -- of  
7 going out and killing a bunch of wolves.

8           So my question to Colin would be: What  
9 -- what specifically would he recommend -- what --  
10 what sort of next steps might we take, or what would  
11 he suggest on -- in -- in this subject?

12           MR. COLIN MACDONALD: I guess -- if I  
13 can just sort of go through the -- the three (3) first  
14 points. The harvest data, I've kept an eye on that  
15 since 1998/'99, I think, when we started working with  
16 the -- the harvest data from the Sahtu, the Gwich'in.  
17 There were a couple of projects we worked on.

18           The -- and the -- the most recent  
19 numbers are very similar to the ones that were  
20 developed back then. So I -- and I was aware -- I got  
21 the -- the report from John, so the composition, the  
22 numbers, I -- I don't -- yeah, I'll -- I'll certainly  
23 go through that again and take a look at the -- the  
24 harvest numbers. It's -- they seem to be fairly  
25 consistent with the numbers we have from the -- the

1 early harvest surveys.

2                   The climate indices. It's great to --  
3 to hear that it's -- that's exactly the sort of work  
4 we should be using to sort of apply to habitat and --  
5 and the range --quality of the -- of the range. Any  
6 idea when that might be finished up though? I mean,  
7 is it that we're looking at the fall for something  
8 like that? Just -- I was just -- sorry, I can get the  
9 -- the answer later.

10                   As far as the wolves go, it -- it's --  
11 I was kind of frustrated going through all the  
12 background material because there were no estimates of  
13 the number of -- of caribou taken by wolves or grizzly  
14 bears, or wolverines, or eagles, or anything else. It  
15 just seems to me to be a gap in the information.

16                   I'm not supporting wolf control  
17 specifically, but it -- to me it's a -- it's a piece  
18 of information that you need to sort of understand  
19 what the pressures are on the herd. If you lose -- I  
20 think Don Russell's work shows they can lose seventy-  
21 six hundred (7,600) caribou a year on a herd of a  
22 hundred thousand (100,000). That's a fair number, and  
23 I think their -- their estimates show that even when  
24 the herd got small, that they were still taking about  
25 seventy-six hundred (7,600).

1                   Going from a hundred and fifty thousand  
2 (150,000) down to a hundred thousand (100,000) they  
3 were still taking roughly the same number. So that --  
4 that to me means there's a fairly large number of --  
5 of caribou, both calves and adults, that are being  
6 lost to predation. So bottom line is, I-- I think for  
7 your modelling and for the population models, that's  
8 the number that you should get a pretty good idea of.

9                   So it -- and based on that you make a  
10 decision of whether or not you should control wolves.  
11 So -- or bears, or eagles, or -- or whatever. So it's  
12 just that loss in the -- the herd that's -- what we  
13 have to put numbers on, so that -- as far as the wolf  
14 question goes that seems to be a gap that's been  
15 missing throughout most of the stuff that I've read  
16 from the ENR.

17                   So is that okay, Mr. Chair?

18                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Okay.  ENR...?

19                   DR. JAN ADAMCZEWSKI:    Thank you, Mr.  
20 Chairman.  Jan Adamczewski, with ENR.

21                   Just a little bit of follow up, Colin,  
22 on the subject of wolves and predators.  As we pointed  
23 out in our presentation, we are looking at doing a  
24 feasibility assessment on possible predator  
25 management.  I think the initial focus will probably

1 be the Bathurst herd, but we're sort of looking beyond  
2 that to -- to other herds. We have a template from  
3 Alaska Fish and Game. I mean, this is a fairly  
4 rigorous process that they go through if they're going  
5 to consider possible predator reduction.

6 I think part of that for us is going to  
7 be also getting a sense of what communities,  
8 Aboriginal governments, what might be acceptable  
9 because clearly there's a big difference between  
10 harvesters on the winter range and some trappers, and  
11 the other end of the scale, you know, with helicopters  
12 and that sort of thing. So we see that as part of it.

13 And I guess another part of it, we're  
14 trying to see if there are better ways to try to  
15 monitor wolf abundance. As it happens, they're one of  
16 the most difficult animals to try to count. And we do  
17 have some information from the Bathurst range which  
18 suggests that when that herd went through its big  
19 decline that wolf numbers also went down, and wolf  
20 productivity in terms of pup survival also went down.

21 But it does leave, as you point out,  
22 kind of an open question as to just how important is  
23 that with the herds at lower numbers. I think basic  
24 sort of predator/prey thinking would be there may be  
25 less wolves, but they're probably more important when

1 the herds are at low numbers or declining than when  
2 they're three hundred thousand (300,000) with, you  
3 know, great productivity.

4                   So we're trying to kind of beef up what  
5 we understand in that area. But it's a very difficult  
6 area. I mean, wolves are just one (1) of the most  
7 difficult animals to count.

8                   MR. COLIN MACDONALD: Mr. Chair?  
9 Yeah, I -- no, I understand the -- the problems. It's  
10 just the -- when we're dealing with a herd that's  
11 declining as quickly as it is, it just seems to me  
12 that there should be -- there are very few sort of  
13 levers that you can sort of move to -- to control the  
14 decline.

15                   And it just seems that -- that  
16 controlling predators, if that's seen to be a problem  
17 -- like I said, I -- I'm not recommending predator  
18 control because as we were talking about before, by  
19 taking out wolves, they actually have larger litters  
20 and they bounce back. And then you have more than you  
21 did before if you stop controlling them.

22                   So it's -- it's not a -- I'm not  
23 suggesting controlling it. I'm just -- we don't know  
24 how bad the problem is. It's -- it's where we stand  
25 right now.

1                   So I fully understand that it's -- it's  
2 difficult both politically within the communities and  
3 it's physically hard to do to -- to count the wolves  
4 and the ones that are actually interacting with the --  
5 the caribou.

6                   So I understand that, and I guess it's  
7 just a matter of moving forward. Just accept that and  
8 just move forward.

9                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.

10                  MR. JAN ADAMCZEWSKI: Jan Adamczewski,  
11 with ENR. I don't think at this point we have a whole  
12 -- you know, more questions for -- for Colin. I'm  
13 sort of think there -- there's -- there are a few  
14 things we'd like to mention, you know, other work that  
15 we have underway and -- and studies and things like  
16 that.

17                  And perhaps as a bit of a follow-up to  
18 Colin's technical report, we might -- we might come  
19 back with a -- a bit of a response to that in -- in  
20 the next little while.

21                  THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Masi, ENR.

22                  Right after Colin, we're going to start  
23 doing closing remarks. So you'll be given an  
24 opportunity to -- for closing remarks. Maybe that'd  
25 be the time.

1                   So, Colin, while you're still here, I  
2 don't know if Deline has any questions or concerns to  
3 Colin's report.

4                   Deline...? (NORTH SLAVEY SPOKEN).  
5 Walter...?

6                   MR. WALTER BAYHA:    Masi, Mr. Chair.  
7 The -- I have a quick question.  Every time -- and I  
8 guess this is -- comes -- it's outstanding, I guess.  
9 Between -- on the monitoring, 2011/'12, you had  
10 seventeen hundred (1,700) and -- so around eighteen  
11 hundred (1,800).  And then on 2009/'10, thirty-four  
12 (34) or thirty-five hundred (3,500).

13                   Is that -- was there any restricts  
14 things going on, or that's just a harvesting pattern?

15                   MR. COLIN MACDONALD:    I think those  
16 are just strict harvesting numbers.  I don't think  
17 there was a restriction going on.  Those were I  
18 believe taken from the report that Jan mentioned, and  
19 they were just taken strictly from -- that -- I just  
20 provided a range, a minimum and a maximum, for the --  
21 the five (5) year spread.

22                   MR. WALTER BAYHA:    That includes  
23 Nunavut, right?

24                   MR. COLIN MACDONALD:    I -- is that  
25 Nunavut?  Oh, okay.

1 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Masi, Colin.

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Morris...?

3 MR. MORRIS NEYELLE: Hi. My name's  
4 Morris. I guess it's been -- I know what you're  
5 talking about, and I've always been addressing --  
6 addressing it since day 1 because my mind keeps going  
7 back to this uranium mine that existed and the  
8 radioactive waste that was left behind, which I also  
9 talk about.

10 Port Radium's not the only place that's  
11 been abandoned. There's hundreds of them around that  
12 area. I know there's one (1) in Rayrock.

13

14 (BRIEF PAUSE)

15

16 MR. MORRIS NAYELLE: And in your  
17 report, I don't see anything -- anything that says  
18 that that study, the effects of radioactive waste that  
19 was left behind. I think people should know that.  
20 Which I also mentioned that the scientists that I've  
21 talked to said these radioactive wastes will be there  
22 for the next eight hundred thousand (800,000) years  
23 for half of it to go. My belief is that it's killing  
24 us silently.

25

1 (BRIEF PAUSE)

2

3 MR. MORRIS NAYELLE: And if it does --  
4 like I said before, if it does, what about the animals  
5 that are in grazing ground for all these barren-land  
6 caribou that goes through that area? It must have an  
7 effect on them. It has to.

8

9 (BRIEF PAUSE)

10

11 MR. MORRIS NAYELLE: But as a  
12 biologist or -- you've been involved with that. I'd  
13 like to know if it has an effect on the animals that  
14 go through there, not only the caribou, but the fish  
15 and all the animals that are there. That's what I  
16 want to hear. Thank you.

17 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: Yeah, I -- I  
18 think in my Information Request that I put together, I  
19 was asking about the amount of development in the --  
20 in the range of the Bluenose East. And it seems to me  
21 the answer was, there is no active development. But I  
22 know I've been -- I've stood on Port Radium. And I've  
23 seen caribou walking across the -- the waste rock at  
24 Port Radium.

25 Some of the deflect around it. Some of

1 them walk right across it. I -- I can't give you  
2 numbers and I can't -- I don't know how long they --  
3 they spend there. But I know there have been -- when  
4 I was out there with the guys from town here, we -- I  
5 think there are about five (5) or six (6) in a small  
6 herd of about twenty (20). And this was twenty (20)  
7 years ago that they hunted just sort of off the -- the  
8 herd is moving towards the -- the site, and they took  
9 about five (5) or six (6).

10                   So we know that the animals actually go  
11 over there. I've seen tracks. There were moose  
12 tracks, moose sign. I've been to the -- the mine site  
13 a bunch of times and seen wildlife every time I'm  
14 there. So I -- I can't say that -- that there are  
15 severe effects. They might move away from the site  
16 because they want to get off the waste rock, for one  
17 thing.

18                   Radioactivity. I think the numbers are  
19 still low enough that they're not going to be  
20 affected. But that -- I'm a scientist. You'd look at  
21 it differently, have a -- a different opinion. If --  
22 we might disagree with -- on that, but my numbers tell  
23 me that the numbers are low enough. They've not  
24 probably going to impacted. But if you think that the  
25 -- that that might be the case, then that -- that's

1 real.

2                   So I think that's -- but I've been out  
3 there and seen moose, and wolves, and -- or moose and  
4 caribou, a lot of other wildlife. That we -- we've  
5 shot rabbits and grouse right on the site itself and  
6 tested them. And they don't have any radioactivity in  
7 them, so.

8                   Anyway, that's -- I don't see that --  
9 that as affecting the whole Bluenose East herd.  
10 That's just, they'll spend a few minutes maybe walking  
11 across the site, but there are other mines out there,  
12 as well. And adding them all up, I don't know what  
13 the impact is of all those. You got Terra Mine. You  
14 got Colomac -- or sorry, Contact Lake. You got all  
15 those other mines over there, too. And you add them  
16 up, and I don't know what the -- the impact is on all  
17 those, so.

18                   MR. MORRIS NAYELLE:    Thanks for the  
19 information.

20

21                   (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

22

23                   MR. MORRIS NAYELLE:    I wanted to --  
24 the uranium is the one (1) that I'm discussing --  
25 asked Aboriginal people. And people go there and they

1 suffered, and people don't know that. That is why I'm  
2 saying this. It's going to be there for -- for -- to  
3 -- to diminish -- half of it to be diminished by eight  
4 hundred thousand (800,000) years.

5 He had told me myself. And -- and he  
6 said, From this point on, don't let your -- your  
7 family go there. This is our land. We live here. We  
8 eat from it. So as Aboriginal, we want to know  
9 something that -- something about it.

10 We wanted to create -- we want our own  
11 independent scien -- scientist so that we can -- he  
12 can actually give us the correct information. It is -  
13 - it is just in my opinion. Thank -- Masi, Colin.

14

15 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

16

17 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Morris. Okay.  
18 The next community, Fort Good Hope. Go ahead, to ask  
19 questions to Colin.

20 MR. FRANK T'SELEIE: Thank you, Mr.  
21 Chair. In the -- the presentation, I noticed that one  
22 (1) of the items that's listed as having an effect on  
23 herds, and -- and that's climate change. And -- and  
24 behind "climate change" it's written, "unknown".

25 I know it's a unknown, but is there an

1 expert being made to understand it more, either  
2 season-to-season or year-to-year? For instance, the  
3 Bluenose West this year, this winter has been really,  
4 really warm and the snow, like, the further you get  
5 away from the tree line, it seems to be harder, so it  
6 gets harder for the animals to reach their feed.

7           And -- and they're staying further out,  
8 where the snow's softer. You know, those kind of clim  
9 -- that -- I -- I see that as an effect of climate  
10 change. And -- and why isn't anymore effort being  
11 made to understand that more?

12           Surely there should be international  
13 bodies, like -- that are experiencing the same thing,  
14 and you know, you can't really have a -- a balanced  
15 approach without understanding it, given that the user  
16 is the first one to -- to know.

17           And at the same time, they are not  
18 resourced to make any sense about the information that  
19 they do gather. It seems that ENR or whomever uses  
20 this information just pick and choose. And that's my  
21 question on climate change.

22           MR. COLIN MACDONALD:    Mr. Chair.  
23 Colin Macdonald. Yeah, climate change is a huge  
24 issue, because it affects so many things in terms of -  
25 - of dryness of the range, the possibly increased

1 amount of moisture coming in, just based on the air  
2 temperature, the loss of sea ice might change weather  
3 patterns, which actually increase the amount of water  
4 coming in -- inland and the amount of snow.

5                   It's a huge, huge impact that's going  
6 to change a lot of different things. If the range  
7 dries out a little bit more, more fires, higher  
8 temperatures, it's drying up rivers, for example.  
9 There's -- there are a lot of big -- big changes that  
10 can occur.

11                   So the number of people that are  
12 studying it, I know the Arctic Council has people  
13 right across the Arctic that are trying to -- to  
14 understand what the impacts are. There are --  
15 Environment Canada now is Environment Canada and  
16 Climate Change, so they're looking specifically at --  
17 at changes that are occurring.

18                   So there are a lot of people working on  
19 it. It's just a matter of focusing, find out what's  
20 going on within the Sahtu, and maybe trying to find  
21 some way to react to -- some way to adapt to the  
22 changing conditions.

23                   So I know it's tough on the hunters  
24 because things like traditional trails they can't use  
25 any more, or they can -- have to use them different

1 times of year or something. It's tough on hunters.  
2 So it's -- it's a huge problem. It is being studied  
3 by some groups.

4 I don't if in the Sahtu who's working  
5 on it, but it's -- it's a huge, huge problem, and it's  
6 -- it's just a matter of reacting to the changes now  
7 and doing what we can to -- to help out wildlife and -  
8 - and caribou specifically.

9 MR. FRANK T'SELEIE: Then that's what  
10 your paper should state instead of 'unknown.'

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Frank. The  
12 next one, Colville Lake, the -- would you have a  
13 question for Colin? Yes, go ahead, Joseph.

14 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Thank you, Dr.  
15 Colins (sic) MacDonald. You did an analysis on a,  
16 kind of the trend or whatever is happened to -- to  
17 caribou. On your presentation you have a -- you  
18 showed a graph of that status of the Alaska herd in  
19 2014. And you're saying that here's four (4) herd in  
20 Alaska, and there's a decline in two (2) of the herds  
21 and there's a increase in two (2) of the herds.

22 So is it fair to say that where the  
23 caribou is declining it's going to the -- the area  
24 where it's increasing?

25 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: Okay. Yeah, the

1 -- actually the third herd -- I tried to make the  
2 point that -- I made the graph up to 2014, it looks  
3 like. The next year they showed a decline. So those  
4 -- of this graph here, these two (2) are declining,  
5 and the third one is declining now as well. So it's  
6 the Porcupine herd is increasing and it's doing well,  
7 but those -- those three (3) Arctic herds were  
8 actually declining.

9                   So it -- it's -- whether or not that's  
10 development or natural cycle, I think it's very  
11 difficult outsay right now.

12                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

13                   MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: You know, right  
14 now we're considering the -- the Bluenose East, and  
15 you're making a case to clarify why it -- the SSRB  
16 (sic) have to consider applying a total allowable  
17 harvest.

18                   See, we -- you know, as Aboriginal  
19 people we know how caribou move, and their shift  
20 sometimes. In our -- some of our -- our presentations  
21 we mentioned that caribou are like us. We're one of  
22 the same. I'm not sure if you've learned that in  
23 getting your PhD.

24                   For ourselves, at one time we were a  
25 nomadic people. Wherever the good food was was where

1 we travelled. Where -- wherever our appetite took us,  
2 depending on what the weather was like. So you're  
3 saying, you know, around the -- the major development  
4 area there's a big increase in the caribou.

5                   Maybe in the absence of development,  
6 way before then, maybe it was a good growth area. You  
7 know, for us we'll go back to wherever there's an  
8 abundance of food. All our people throughout the  
9 North, that's what we have done. We produce areas.  
10 Some of our people travel miles to travel to other  
11 areas, have a taste of other areas.

12                   So -- so that just giving you an  
13 insight of -- of some of your -- your presentations  
14 when you're talking about not too much on climate  
15 change, that type of stuff.

16                   Give you an example. One year, our  
17 caribou used to migrate, eat here and there. All of a  
18 sudden, they were eating in front of my house. We  
19 were wondering what's going on here, like eating all  
20 around muskegs around the community.

21                   But then we were thinking, Oh, shit, in  
22 the fall time, you know, like all the rain and  
23 everything, when it starts freezing up and it's still  
24 raining in some parts, so all the food were freezing  
25 up all over.

1                   But then I guess around the community,  
2 it didn't rain that much, so it -- it didn't have to  
3 work so hard to work on its food.

4                   So sometimes I -- you know, those are  
5 things that we -- we recollect this, what was  
6 happening to -- around that time of the month.

7                   So looking at your graphs, you know,  
8 the way you put them together, you're making a case to  
9 -- just giving you a little bit more insight to the  
10 Bluenose East West herd -- East herd. I just wanted  
11 to make sure that was clear, so thank you.

12                   THE CHAIRPERSON:   Colin, can you  
13 respond?

14                   MR. COLIN MACDONALD:   Yeah. Colin  
15 Macdonald.

16                   The -- it's -- in the last few years,  
17 there have been actually a couple of papers that --  
18 that go really nicely with the way I -- I probably see  
19 how -- I understand how traditional users use the --  
20 or -- or view the -- the effect of developments. Like  
21 they probably think that a town, caribou are going to  
22 avoid it.

23                   When I first started working on that  
24 project back in 2004, we had these big international  
25 meetings with oil and gas people there. And we

1 started talking about the effect of oil -- of just  
2 development in general on the Alaskan herds.

3                   They got really excited and said, There  
4 is no effect because we can go out in our trucks any  
5 time and the caribou are lined up down the highway,  
6 standing on the highway. They're on the airports,  
7 they're -- they're everywhere, and standing right next  
8 to the big oil facilities.

9                   And it's because they're trying to  
10 avoid the flies. That's -- that's why these -- these  
11 caribou are staying there, but they're convinced that  
12 there were no impacts from the oil and gas on these  
13 caribou.

14                   So we did some looking around, and we  
15 found a bunch of paper that show, yeah, it looks like  
16 the females with the calves are staying away from the  
17 oil facilities. But maybe some of the young bulls and  
18 -- and some of the other ones are going near them.

19                   So you get this splitting of the herd,  
20 but the oil industry was saying that there was no  
21 effect. I'm sorry, I'm sorry. Okay. Okay. So did  
22 you get any of that? Okay.

23                   Yeah. So the bottom line is the oil  
24 and gas industry swears there's no impact, but you can  
25 see where -- you can see where -- now where the -- the

1 females are split away from the males. And there are  
2 different groups that are being affected by  
3 development.

4                   So it's -- I think that -- that view  
5 sort of fits in with what people in the communities  
6 are seeing as well. Okay.

7                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi. Go ahead,  
8 Wilbert.

9                   CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON: A couple of  
10 questions. Chief Wilbert Kochon.

11                   Mr. Macdonald, or Dr. Macdonald I'm  
12 going to call you, I've seen your graphs. One (1) of  
13 the -- I kind of had a question. In the 1990s, you  
14 meant -- because you mentioned it in -- about the  
15 Porcupine. Around 1990, the peak seems pretty high.

16                   That's when the Porcupine used to come  
17 up to Colville, and we used to hunt that herd. That's  
18 early in the summer. We were hunting that herd at --  
19 at the -- it looks like the peak is really high then,  
20 even though we were hunting it in. And I think we  
21 hunt -- that Porcupine used to come up for about  
22 twenty (20) years.

23                   I don't know if you've known that.  
24 They come up -- right up to the Arbour Lake  
25 (phonetic), right up to Colville. That one year, they

1 came right into Colville in the summertime. But in  
2 that peak, it seems like it's high. But once it went  
3 away, it seems to have got low.

4                   And -- and another question I had was  
5 on the -- when you were talking about some of the  
6 things that I -- I seen before was on caribou, when  
7 you see a sick caribou, or even if it's a -- you do  
8 lots of studies on lungs and brains, all that stuff.  
9 See those lung worms, is that spread -- that spreads  
10 around quite a bit or is it just certain caribou?  
11 Masi.

12                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Colin...?

13                   MR. COLIN MACDONALD: Okay. Yeah,  
14 that was the -- yeah, the Porcupine -- that population  
15 -- I didn't realize they'd moved over as far as  
16 Colville Lake and the -- that's -- that's interesting.  
17 But the Porcupine herd they're really worried about  
18 because their calving grounds are in the oil and gas  
19 development area, ANWR.

20                   So they -- they track those very  
21 closely and they couldn't understand why the herd was  
22 declining for so many years, but now it seems to be  
23 bouncing back up again and I think it's up around two  
24 hundred thousand (200,000) individuals.

25                   But, yeah, the disease -- my wife was

1 actually a parasitologist, so I understand she did  
2 parasites in -- in moose, so she -- she keeps  
3 reminding me to -- to keep track of -- of some of the  
4 diseases that are going on.

5                   And the thing with climate change,  
6 they're -- some of these parasites are starting to  
7 increase in some of these herds and so that's  
8 something that they're going to have to keep track of.  
9 The new -- new species of parasites and some of them  
10 are actually increasing in numbers as well, so that's  
11 something to keep track of, so...

12                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Go ahead.

13                   CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON:    I was -- kind  
14 of wanted, for the record, I see in your graphs in  
15 1990 when we were hunting the herd, Porcupine herd, it  
16 seems pretty high even though we were killing caribou.  
17 But you see -- you see what I'm trying to talk about?

18                   And when they were gone it seems to  
19 have to decline, so. Those kind of patterns you  
20 should really look at. We look at things like that  
21 all the time, so. We have hunted that herd for over  
22 twenty (20) years in Colville in the summertime.

23                   It seemed like at that time the herd  
24 was healthy. So I'm just trying to help you out a  
25 little bit there, but I don't know if you can answer

1 me. Masi.

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Anymore -- Norm...?

3 MR. NORMAN BARICHELLO: Thank you, Mr.  
4 Chair. And I'll try to make it real brief. I have  
5 lots of questions, but I'll -- I'll stick to a few of  
6 them. Thank you, Colin, for your presentation.

7 The first question is given what I  
8 would say is pretty unanimous opposition to the  
9 deployment of radio collars based on ethics, what will  
10 your advice be to the Board regarding the  
11 recommendation to deploy more collars?

12 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: Yeah. I -- I  
13 personally don't like the idea of collars, but I see  
14 there is a benefit of -- of getting information from  
15 them. There have been two (2) or three (3) studies  
16 showing there should be for the size of the herd there  
17 should be sixty (60) or seventy (70) if they can be  
18 put on relatively -- so they don't harm the animal.

19 I don't have a problem with the -- the  
20 actual deployment of the collars themselves as long as  
21 they can be -- and if there's a -- a chance that they  
22 can get later and not do any damage to the animals  
23 themselves, I don't have a problem with it.

24 To me, getting that information on the  
25 condition of the herd is probably more important. If

1 there's another way we could do that I'd go for that,  
2 yes.

3 MR. NORMAN BARICHELLO: Norman  
4 Barichello. Again, my second -- second question is  
5 you indicated that you -- you've cited some research,  
6 I think, that indicated that caribou are moving back -  
7 - starting to move back into wildfire burned areas a  
8 year after the burn.

9 Do you -- do you think wildfires are a  
10 -- a contributing factor to the decline or impairing  
11 recovery of the herd at all?

12 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: I -- I can't  
13 say, because I don't know the extent of the fires and  
14 the range. And I don't know -- there would have to be  
15 an analysis of -- of how much damage was caused by the  
16 fires. And like 2014 I think was a fairly exceptional  
17 year.

18 I can't judge whether or not the --  
19 what the -- the impacts on the herd were, long-term,  
20 or -- if we don't know the -- the quality of the range  
21 before and after the burn, what the em -- possible  
22 impacts are, so I -- I'm going to have to waffle on  
23 that one and just say, I can't -- I can't give you a  
24 definite answer. I don't really know.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Go ahead, Norm.

1 MR. NORMAN BARICHELLO: Yeah, thank  
2 you, Mr. Chair. Just one (1) more. What -- what will  
3 your advice be to the Board on the question of  
4 development? It seemed like it wasn't real -- real  
5 precise. What -- what will your recommendation be  
6 regarding potential development, or even exploration  
7 activity, on the calving grounds and the proposed road  
8 that will slice the migration corridor in half? Thank  
9 you.

10 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: Yeah, my  
11 recommendation for the calving ground is no  
12 exploration or no -- no activity whatsoever if -- if  
13 it's possible to control that -- that sort of thing.  
14 The -- the chance of -- of having activity that can  
15 displace females from prime habitat or away from  
16 predator safe areas, it's just the risk is just too  
17 great.

18 It -- it's -- roads and increasing the  
19 amount of activity along the -- presumably you're  
20 building a road to be able to move a lot of material  
21 through it. That -- that just doesn't make any sense  
22 to me if you're trying to protect that herd.

23 So I would recommend whatever possible  
24 to -- to stop development from certainly in the  
25 calving grounds, okay?

1 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Okay, I think  
2 the next one is Tulita. I don't know if you would  
3 have any questions toward Colin, Frank. (NORTH SLAVEY  
4 LANGUAGE SPOKEN).

5 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Chief Frank  
6 Andrew, Tulita. Good day, Doctor. How are you doing?

7 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: I am well.  
8 Thank you.

9 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Good. We're  
10 talking about the population of the caribou. Right  
11 now, what's the population of this caribou, the one  
12 we're talking about, Bluenose East?

13 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: Thirty-five  
14 thousand (35,000). On the total population? I don't  
15 have the number in front of me.

16

17 (BRIEF PAUSE)

18

19 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: Thirty-eight  
20 (38) and a half thousand.

21 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Yeah, we had  
22 quite a bit of caribou back in the early days, about  
23 four hundred thousand (400,000) or something like that

24 --

25 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: Yeah.

1 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: -- back in 2000.  
2 And that's quite a bit of drop since then, you know.  
3 So looking at all the maps that we have here on the  
4 presentation from RWED, you know, there's different  
5 herds of caribou, Bathurst and Bluenose. And any --  
6 any of those you notice that the population is grown  
7 in one (1) of the other herds. Anything happening  
8 there?

9 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: Sorry, could you  
10 repeat the question?

11 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Any of the herds  
12 in the other herds are populating?

13 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: If -- if the  
14 question is are some of the herds moving to other  
15 herds, I think the -- the question is, no, they're --  
16 the -- the current evidence is they're not. The --  
17 all the herds -- the adjacent herds have all been sort  
18 of counted at the same. And they're fairly competent  
19 -- confident that they -- they haven't missed any  
20 groups outside the main herd and none of those groups  
21 have moved onto others because they've counted pretty  
22 the other herds at the same time.

23 So it -- it looks like it's -- each of  
24 these is sort of declining on its own, the Bathurst  
25 and the -- the Bluenose East and the Bluenose West and

1 the Cape Bathurst, so as a group they're all  
2 declining.

3 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Just looking at  
4 the status of the Alaska caribou herd 2014.

5 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: Yeah.

6 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: And the three (3)  
7 are all going down.

8 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: Yeah.

9 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: But the -- there  
10 was one (1) big jump one (1) -- one (1) place with the  
11 Porcupine caribou herd. What really happened there,  
12 you know?

13 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: No.

14 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Who knows about  
15 that?

16 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: And -- and  
17 they're worried about -- everybody is trying to  
18 explain why -- why three (3) of the big herds were  
19 increasing and the Porcupine was decreasing at the  
20 same time. And nobody could figure that out. And  
21 they thought maybe the Porcupine herd was that much  
22 different, maybe a different ecotype or something.  
23 There was something different about it.

24 And just when they seemed to have an  
25 explanation, then everything flipped over. So all the

1 -- the other three (3) started to de -- decrease. The  
2 Porcupines started to increase. So they -- they  
3 couldn't come up with a good answer for that.

4                   And -- and, like I said, Porcupine is  
5 what they're worried about because that's the calving  
6 ground in the ANWR, the -- the place they want to open  
7 up for oil drilling. So that's the one they're really  
8 worried about. And that -- frankly, the fact that  
9 they -- they couldn't really -- they didn't understand  
10 why it was decreasing was probably protecting the herd  
11 a little bit, so.

12                   CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: I'm just  
13 wondering how far this other three (3) is from this  
14 Porcupine herd. Are they far apart?

15                   MR. COLIN MACDONALD: Central Arctic I  
16 think is -- is close to the Porcupine. The Western  
17 Arctic is -- is over fairly far, and the Teshekpuk  
18 Lake, I think, is in the middle between the two (2).

19                   CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Okay. So when --  
20 when you see that graph here, the drop, and the  
21 declining, and the one that's increasing, the number  
22 just about the same. Don't you think they're coming  
23 over there?

24                   MR. COLIN MACDONALD: You mean they're  
25 combining, or --

1 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Yeah. Yeah.

2 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: Those -- those  
3 counting methods are done the same way as -- as  
4 they're done here. So I think they're -- they're  
5 probably -- they do have distinct calving grounds, and  
6 they're -- they're distinct herds. I can look into  
7 that though. I'm thinking -- but I'm -- I'm pretty  
8 sure that they're not moving between the -- the herds.

9 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Okay. Well,  
10 thank you.

11 MR. COLIN MACDONALD: Yeah. Thank  
12 you.

13 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Masi. Masi,  
14 everybody. And, Colin, thank you very much for your  
15 presentation. Okay. So we're -- right now we're  
16 going to four o'clock, and I think that's -- we've  
17 heard from everyone so far, from the panels, the  
18 public. So now we're in a closure mode for closing  
19 remarks.

20 So Colville Lake is going to be leaving  
21 soon. They'll be the first one to leave tonight, so I  
22 want to give the opportunity to Colville Lake to do  
23 their closing remarks. And I'm going to ask them if  
24 they're -- they're prepared to do that.

25 MR. DAVID CODZI: I'm getting used to

1 staying here.

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. So go ahead.  
3 I don't know who's -- Joseph? Okay, go ahead, Joseph.

4

5 CLOSING REMARKS BY COLVILLE LAKE:

6 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Thank you, Mr.  
7 Chair. Joseph Kochon, interim president for the  
8 Renewable Resource Council. For our closing remarks,  
9 I guess it's fair to say we'll just send you our  
10 message, and hopefully the Board can -- can fit it  
11 into the -- the deliberations.

12 We had a good time here. It was a good  
13 learning experience for us. And for -- for us, you  
14 know, when we went at it the first time it was kind of  
15 -- you know, we just picked up what we knew and ran  
16 with it. But then we didn't really make that impact,  
17 so this time around we wanted to make sure that we  
18 followed the law and -- and applied some of our  
19 questions and everything. So we thank the Board for  
20 that opportunity. Okay.

21

22 (BRIEF PAUSE)

23

24 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Okay. The purpose  
25 of this hearing was for the Board to consider harvest

1 management for the Bluenose East caribou, and a  
2 request by ENR to impose harvest limits on Sahtu Dene  
3 Metis participants. The Board has this power under  
4 the land claims under 13.5.2. The -- which says:

5 "The Board may in accordance with  
6 this chapter establish, modify, or  
7 remove total allowable harvest  
8 levels from time to time in the  
9 settlement area, but shall establish  
10 or modify such levels only if  
11 required for conservation and to the  
12 extent necessary to achieve conser -  
13 - conservation."

14 And there's another chapter that says  
15 under 13.5.4:

16 "The Board may establish the total  
17 allowable harvest and a Sahtu need  
18 level for a particular wildlife  
19 species or population applicable to  
20 the settlement area as a whole, or  
21 in particular, areas or  
22 communities."

23 So in this case, I guess it means

24 Deline:

25 "The Board may adjust such need --

1                   the Sahtu need level from time to  
2                   time."

3                   However, not one (1) Dene or Metis  
4 person in this hearing spoke in favour of establishing  
5 a total allowable harvest or a Sahtu basic need level.

6                   Such quota are foreign to us. This  
7 does not fit into our world view. It feels like an  
8 imposition. Such message -- methods are harsh. They  
9 remind me of residential schools. It's like we are  
10 being told that our way of life and teachings that has  
11 sustained us and the caribou for tens of thousands of  
12 years, through time of plenty and through time of  
13 hardship, aren't -- aren't good ways.

14                   You can't hear me? We are told to  
15 become modern, to become educated about conservation,  
16 and to follow your rules. We do not believe that the  
17 -- that ENR's proposal to use quotas to limit  
18 harvesting by Dene and Metis people at this time can  
19 be justified.

20                   There's both scientific uncertainty  
21 about what is happening on the land and the -- and to  
22 the caribou, the scientific uncertainty about whether  
23 or not a caribou quota would make any difference.

24                   We do not believe that the ENR proposal  
25 to use quota to limit harvesting by Sahtu Dene Metis

1 people can be justified on the basis of traditional  
2 knowledge.

3                   We don't want to have what happened to  
4 us in 2007 to happen again. Our knowledge was taken  
5 from us and used against us. Our estimates of caribou  
6 in our area was taken out of context and used to  
7 justify a harvesting limit that we still don't  
8 recognize as a legitimate.

9                   We also appreciate the difficult  
10 position the Board is in. We are here because we know  
11 that everything depends on everything else. That is  
12 the basis of everything we -- we are taught.

13                   If you take us out of the picture, it  
14 will have impacts. The people and the caribou are in  
15 a relationship. We need to sustain that relationship.  
16 That is what the Board is here for, to help us sustain  
17 that relationship.

18                   The Board has been asked to look into  
19 the -- into the future and find the right path.  
20 You're hearing different things from different sides.  
21 We came here to remind the Board that it does not have  
22 to do this alone.

23                   The land claim contains other tools  
24 that -- than harvesting quotas. Section 13.8.23(c)  
25 states:

1                   "The Board has the power to approve  
2                   plans for the management and  
3                   protection of particular wildlife  
4                   population, like the Bluenose  
5                   caribou."

6                   We want the Board to work with all of  
7 us to develop those plans, meaning the whole Sahtu.

8

9                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

10

11                   MR. JOSEPH KOCHON:    We are here  
12 because we respect everyone and we need to work  
13 together. We want to work with the Board, the ENR and  
14 with all of the Sahtu communities, hunters, Elders,  
15 and other users to find the right way forward, and we  
16 are prepared to do that.

17                   We want the Board to make decisions  
18 that will allow us all to move forward in a good way,  
19 and make the following specific recommendations: That  
20 the Board decide that the establishment of a harvest  
21 quota is not required for conservation because there  
22 are other more effective and culturally appropriate  
23 measures that can be achieved under a caribou plan.

24                   Number 2, that the Board direct the  
25 SSRB (sic) staff and the ENR to work with all of the

1 Sahtu communities to bring forward a caribou plan for  
2 the region that is supported by all the communities.

3                   Number 3, that the Board acknowledges  
4 and make recommendations to remedy the significant  
5 gaps in capacity and support to the RRCs.

6                   Number 4, that the Board and ENR take  
7 immediate steps to directly involve RRCs, councils,  
8 and participant harvesters in research and harvesting  
9 studies to the greatest extent possible in accordance  
10 with Sahtu Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement Chapter  
11 13.8.4.

12                   So those are our closing comments to  
13 you. We hope you can take it as our closing comments.  
14 So I don't know if anybody else has any comment --  
15 comments, so. Masi.

16                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Joseph.  
17 Wilbert...?

18                   CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON: Chief Wilbert  
19 Kochon. I just wanted to say some words and say masi  
20 to Deline for holding this hearing. It's important  
21 for all the people to hear, ENR, all the people around  
22 the table. Masi to Chief Leonard and all these  
23 people, all the cooks.

24                   I just wanted to make reference to the  
25 land claims and what is said -- what it was intended

1 for, because some people seem to ask that a lot of  
2 things put in there -- it's for us. The intention was  
3 -- they put tools in there for us to use it the way  
4 it's best for us, because the reason why we did that  
5 land claim, or the people before us, all the leaders  
6 ahead of us. That's what -- that's what it was  
7 intended for. That's a question we always ask.

8                   And a lot of times, Colville have used  
9 that tools to make deals. And we use it the best we  
10 can, how best fits us. We can't tell people what --  
11 how it fits them. And you referred to Horton Lake.  
12 The reason why Horton Lake is under Deline district is  
13 because there was too much water in their district, so  
14 we accept it, saying that we'll put Horton Lake with  
15 Deline so all the lands would be the same; otherwise,  
16 it would have too much water and not enough lands.

17                   And -- and the way I said the district  
18 lines were for economic reasons, not for wildlife  
19 management. So that's why I'm making reference to the  
20 land claims and for the record. Those questions were  
21 asked, so I'm -- I'm talking about it. Now I  
22 remembered it. I didn't remember right away, but I  
23 was on the land corporation for the past eighteen (18)  
24 years, and I've learned a lot from that and a lot of  
25 the tools that were used.

1 I'm saying that a lot of things weren't  
2 implemented, but we're using it now and it triggers  
3 off some stuff when you use some of their tools. Some  
4 are really good tools.

5 Like the Chiefs before us, I know that  
6 they didn't use to do their land claims or their self-  
7 governments in '93. So those kind of tools, that  
8 we're using ourselves too, like I said before, you're  
9 going to use it the best way it suits your community.

10 I mean, it's all in there. If you look  
11 at all the land claim book, it looks like a small  
12 book, but it's -- it's like a Bible, it's a guide.  
13 And -- and so that's what we're using. And then,  
14 like, we always seem to be arguing about certain  
15 stuff, but we always come to a conclusion at the end.  
16 We're not saying we don't like ENR or anything like  
17 that. We want to work with you.

18 And hopefully that more of your people  
19 will come out. Right now, I know officers are at  
20 Colville and they feel -- they feel uncomfortable,  
21 because they feel like they're spying on us. That  
22 shouldn't be the case. They should feel welcome.

23 But it's because they were told to be  
24 there to see how much caribou was shot up, see -- see  
25 what people shoot. And they're upset that -- and

1 that's why I'm bringing it into this. It shouldn't be  
2 like that.

3 I think whoever sent them there should  
4 tell them to talk to us, it's what they're really  
5 doing there, not being there as spies. So I wanted to  
6 bring that out. It's kind of bothering me, so -- and  
7 I think they want it to be out in the open, because  
8 this is a public forum, and you're talking about  
9 caribou.

10 And I think certain people are  
11 following that, even though we didn't -- we didn't  
12 agree with that quota, and we'll never agree with that  
13 quota unless we work it some way -- we're doing things  
14 already that's going to help everybody, all ourselves,  
15 ENR, and people around that want to hunt around us.

16 A lot of First Nations are calling to  
17 come hunt with us, but we really can't say yes,  
18 because there's too much of them. And everything is -  
19 - they don't really know our land. We can't just  
20 allow them to go out on our land. Like Joseph said  
21 before, a lot of dangerous places on our land that  
22 they don't know.

23 So the safety of the people we're  
24 worried about, that's why we don't allow them to go on  
25 our land. And we're not saying no, but would want to

1 work on something that would help everybody,  
2 accommodate everybody.

3                   And I feel better, lov -- like right  
4 now, because I've said what -- we have said what we  
5 want to say for the record. And I hope this -- I hope  
6 that the Board will make the right decision going  
7 forward. If you want to do something like a quota  
8 system, I think you have to come to all the peoples,  
9 first the leaders, and how to respect -- we -- like,  
10 it's -- it's always said that you never tell other  
11 people what to do, but sometimes we have to ask  
12 questions.

13                   And just before, I went to visit my  
14 grandma, she's buried here, and I spoke to her. And I  
15 feel a lot better just by standing there and talking  
16 to her. I think -- I know she died way back when  
17 we're out in the land, and that's my mother's side.  
18 Her name is Dora Gully.

19                   As you can see, the health centre is  
20 named after her, but I -- I feel good to visit. And  
21 her house is still standing up. So we have some  
22 history here, and just to say masi to the Deline  
23 people for not throwing her house down. You -- I  
24 don't know what they -- what's going to be done with  
25 it, but I want to say masi.

1                   And for where we're staying, to the  
2 young girl that we're staying with, and -- it's good  
3 and we sleep good. Nobody bothers us, good food.  
4 Thanks to Elders for speaking and listening. We  
5 really need your words and wisdom. That's what makes  
6 us stronger.

7

8                   (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

9

10                   CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON: We listened to  
11 the Elders, and they have given us very strong words.  
12 And -- and because of you, we are strong. And if we  
13 haven't then we won't be that strong. As Elders when  
14 you speak you -- it is like the word of God. And so  
15 it's right here with me. And then -- and all my  
16 brothers and sisters are all -- and he understands,  
17 David do understand but he can speak but -- and he has  
18 lived among us, and he does understand but he doesn't  
19 speak the language.

20                   I would really love to say thank you,  
21 and he is part of this team, a very important part of  
22 the team. And they -- and they -- all live in -- up  
23 and in to Colville Lake, and -- and they're talking  
24 about the caribou. And so this is one of the reasons  
25 why we are here.

1                   It is all for us. It is all for us.  
2 We cannot say 'no' to our people. And we're basically  
3 about -- all our words are the same, and Elders are --  
4 I just wanted you to know we are going to keep your  
5 word with us. And even though Jonas Kenny, even  
6 though he has just spoken very few, even just small,  
7 it's like the writing of the pen. It is -- even just  
8 writing to the pen, it's scary.

9                   And so -- so I was wondering if you did  
10 listen when you hold it in with you. And -- and I  
11 hope that we all -- even though he had said very few,  
12 he -- he spoke very well. And when Elders speak, even  
13 -- even if they speak long, they speak very short, and  
14 I'd like to thank Barthe, too. And we do gather your  
15 information for us. And some people here, they have  
16 written everything. They -- they write things for us.

17                   And also I would like to thank our  
18 lawyers, and they have -- and our Elders. We probably  
19 won't be able to do it without them. I would like to  
20 say thank you for the people around the table. And  
21 also when you travel back home, I hope you get there  
22 safely. And pray for each other, and hope that all  
23 goes well for us in the future. And so that we don't  
24 go away anger.

25                   And Walter and Leonard, I would like to

1 say thank you, all of you. And -- and I know that you  
2 work really well for your people. And Morris, I thank  
3 you very, very much. And I know that you want to do  
4 this by yourself, and you've done it that way. And  
5 I'm not going to say very much. This -- we're going  
6 to go, so -- soon and I want to run to the store, so  
7 thank you.

8

9 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

10

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Go ahead, David.

12 MR. DAVID CODZI: I just want to say  
13 thank you -- thank you for the opportunity for being  
14 here, talking. You know, getting our issues out. We  
15 -- this doesn't end where we are right now. We're  
16 still moving forward. As we're evolving into the  
17 future, many of our people are getting the education.  
18 They're all getting this knowledge that they're --  
19 that we have with ourselves now.

20 You know, we're -- we're evolving.  
21 We're coming to know who we are, and how that works in  
22 our world right now. So, you know, as in the past we  
23 used to give somebody the responsibility to do the  
24 things for us, but right now we're -- it's not like  
25 that anymore. We're starting to get those things done

1 ourselves, and we have to be mindful of that.

2 All of us are on the table of -- over  
3 the years I've listened to many Elders talk and the  
4 leaders talk around the table, and that's what they  
5 were aiming towards, you know, making sure that the  
6 rights that are kept and making sure that the youth  
7 are out there learning how to -- to use them.

8 So when we come to this point in our  
9 history where that's where we're going, and when we  
10 talk about these co-management systems it's that we  
11 have to be able to equally handle the other side of  
12 it, you know.

13 Sometimes we're operating from the  
14 other side of the pendulum, but it's not because we're  
15 -- we want to argue. We want to make sure that it's  
16 working right for ourselves as well.

17 You know, it's -- it's a lifestyle.  
18 It's a -- it's a life. It's not a job. It's -- you  
19 know. The way I'm talking now, it doesn't end at five  
20 o'clock. So I just want to make sure that -- I really  
21 appreciate being here. Thank you for all, you know,  
22 allowing us to come here and talk. Thanks for housing  
23 us, yeah. Thank you.

24 Oh, yeah. I just want to -- in  
25 closing, we're going to be taking off at five o'clock

1 and we're going to be getting out of here. So we  
2 might not listen to all of your closing remarks, but  
3 we've got two (2) guys at the end of the -- the table  
4 there. They have their own plane. They'll be here.  
5 Thank you.

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Masi,  
7 Colville Lake. Masi to Colville Lake.

8 We're closing remarks, so Good Hope's  
9 going to get a chance. And you wanted to go right  
10 now? Closing remarks. Okay.

11 MR. HARRY HARRIS: Yeah, yeah. We're  
12 -- we're leaving with Colville Lake, so --

13 THE CHAIRPERSON: Oh. I didn't know  
14 that.

15 MR. HARRY HARRIS: -- so I was hoping -  
16 - I was hoping --

17 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Please. I'm  
18 sorry, Harry. Didn't -- why don't you guys go ahead,  
19 please, with your closing remarks. Masi.

20

21 CLOSING REMARKS BY FORT GOOD HOPE:

22 MR. HARRY HARRIS: Yeah. I wanted to  
23 say thank you very much for -- for all -- all the  
24 people here, the spectators. And just thank you very  
25 much.

1 I'll just talk a little bit in my  
2 language. I just want to give a -- say something in  
3 my language.

4

5 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY TO ENGLISH)

6

7 MR. HARRY HARRIS: We came -- we  
8 assembled here and we talked about something that is  
9 very, very important to us. This is our food that we  
10 were talking about. It is a way that we sustain  
11 ourselves with.

12 And so we gathered here to all work  
13 together for the future for -- for our people to be  
14 able to hunt in the future. And for that I am very  
15 happy and grateful.

16 When I first came onto the -- to  
17 represent our people, just like -- it felt like we  
18 weren't really working on things.

19 And as -- and when I -- and now in  
20 retrospect, it feels like we've really, really stepped  
21 forward in terms of the responsibilities and work that  
22 we are currently working on, and to take a look at the  
23 wolf and -- and how they live, and to watch -- watch  
24 them.

25 And I feel that if we work together

1 within the Sahtu district, we'll be working very --  
2 very powerful. And what I wanted to talk about is --  
3 address is the -- the big fires that have been here as  
4 -- I saw -- I saw the fires and the -- there's a  
5 depletion of all animals as a result of that fire.

6 I walk around in the bush and I see  
7 things, and it wasn't -- it -- the -- the depletion of  
8 animals is so noticeable now. And when I was -- when  
9 I was out on the boats and that, and travelling on the  
10 -- the river for ducks and all kinds of -- and since  
11 1980, '80, '85, '86, and since then, just like  
12 everything start disappearing.

13 And I've been really thinking seriously  
14 about this. And I've been sitting on the trapping --  
15 trapping association, and I still look around and  
16 watch everything.

17 And I feel like everything is going to  
18 be moving forward now as a result of this meeting.  
19 And so I feel really thankful for that and happy.  
20 Masi.

21

22 (BRIEF PAUSE)

23

24 MR. FRANK T'SELEIE: I want to thank  
25 everyone. Every -- it -- it feels like everybody

1 talked to -- about everything already. And it feel --  
2 and the Elders have been really, really helpful  
3 towards us with their assistance of words and wisdom,  
4 and I feel grateful for that.

5                   And since we put our signatures on the  
6 -- on the land claims and this is the first time that  
7 I've been able to address the Board as a result of the  
8 -- the -- what was stated in the -- in the agreement,  
9 we -- we are attending this for the first time. And  
10 so we didn't prepare anything in a sense. But -- but  
11 I've been working on things -- other things.

12                   And -- but, however, the -- the  
13 importance of the -- the caribou cannot be  
14 understated. And he said that the caribou is  
15 something that we carry along with us as we keep going  
16 forward into the -- the future.

17                   He said that Harry said that it's like  
18 for the first time we feel like we're moving forward,  
19 and that's exactly how I feel, as well. I agree with  
20 him.

21                   And when we get home to our community  
22 we will -- we will be telling our communities what was  
23 heard here and -- and tell them what -- what occurred  
24 and the things that were said. And the -- and the ENR  
25 and the RRSVs (phonetic) and -- and the -- the Board,

1 we haven't been able to see all the -- all the -- the  
2 writings and their own research and that.

3                   And we haven't had anybody from our  
4 community who's going to be working with them so that  
5 we are not very clear on who is going to be  
6 representing our ideas and that. And -- and so now we  
7 sit around and we understood what everybody was  
8 saying. And -- and so it feels like we can push it in  
9 the direction that is -- as a result of this meeting,  
10 it feels like we can push it in the direction that we  
11 want things to go.

12                   And he said we'd like to tell Michael  
13 that we're very pleased that he was able to give his  
14 bedroom up for us. And -- and we'd like to thank all  
15 the people that are -- that have been presenting us  
16 with all the food and -- and how -- how well our food  
17 was prepared for us.

18                   And he said I would like to say -- I'd  
19 like say this for this -- this much for this meeting.  
20 But in the future, when people get together for -- for  
21 future meetings, then we will be able to support the  
22 decisions and -- and put forth our own ideas. Masi.

23

24                   (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

25

1 (NOT SWITCHED BACK TO ENGLISH CHANNEL)

2

3 ELDER BARTHE KOTCHILLI:

4

5 (SWITCHED BACK TO ENGLISH CHANNEL)

6

7 ELDER BARTHE KOTCHILLI: ...get it and  
8 be happy with it. I don't need nothing. I just need  
9 my lunch. That's the only thing I need. I don't have  
10 no parents. I don't have no nothing, no brothers, no  
11 sisters. I'm living by myself. But I like to see  
12 other people. When they talk about something I like  
13 to see them because it -- it makes me feel happy to  
14 have something for their parent or their family.

15 There is a lot of people here. I want  
16 to thank everyone -- I want to thank everyone here and  
17 wish them a good trip back home. Okay.

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi. Masi, Good  
19 Hope.

20 Okay. Tulita, Frank? (NORTH SLAVEY  
21 LANGUAGE SPOKEN)

22 Joe...? Go ahead.

23

24 (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM

25 NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

1 CLOSING REMARKS BY TULITA:

2 ELDER JOSEPH BERNARD:

3

4 (SWITCHED TO NORTH SLAVEY CHANNEL)

5

6 ELDER JOSEPH BERNARD:

7

8 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

9

10 ELDER JOE BERNARD: How is it going  
11 down he's saying in -- in regards to the studies that  
12 were done, the -- the research that was done. And he  
13 said, look around here and there's a lot of young  
14 people here and they are -- all these young people  
15 they come almost like white people.

16 They are -- they drink a lot and -- and  
17 then -- the family is -- and he said it's just like  
18 they went -- he said that those are the place -- he  
19 said that there's almost a jail for the caribou. This  
20 is the same way. This is the way our young people.  
21 You guys don't look and hunt anywhere. You fly around  
22 and -- in heli -- in -- in helicopters and you follow  
23 them all over the place. You all put nets on them.

24 And even when we travel and hunt for  
25 our caribou we don't even use skidoos to chase them.

1 And he says that the methods that you use, that -- and  
2 he said that metal around their necks can go hot --  
3 hot and cold. And when they travel on their own it  
4 doesn't happen to them.

5 He said, there was a person that I  
6 worked with and he was working with -- he -- he was  
7 working with the -- the caribou and he says -- he told  
8 me that it was very, very scary to work with caribou -  
9 - with helicopters. And he said, as far as I'm  
10 concerned, it really is destroying the -- the caribou  
11 and -- and scaring the caribou.

12 And he said that somebody is saying  
13 that this caribou collar -- in reference to the  
14 caribou collars, do you have any idea how much they  
15 weigh? 7 pounds ontala (phonetic). It's got a 10  
16 pounds onsana (phonetic).

17

18 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

19

20 (NOT SWITCHED BACK TO ENGLISH CHANNEL)

21

22 THE CHAIRPERSON:

23

24 (TRANSLATED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

25

1 ELDER JOE BERNARD: He said -- he -- 1  
2 pound --

3

4 (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM  
5 NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

6

7 ELDER JOE BERNARD:

8

9 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

10

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Lynda...? Okay.

12

13 ELDER JOE BERNARD: I was -- I was  
14 working with Norman Simmons

15

16 (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM  
17 NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

18

19 THE CHAIRPERSON:

20

21 (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM  
22 NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

23

24 ELDER JOE BERNARD:

25

1 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

2

3 ELDER JOE BERNARD: It doesn't matter  
4 whether it's 1 pound or not. He says that it's still  
5 -- it's -- it's on its neck. And for me it really --  
6 as far as -- as far as I'm concerned when it's moving  
7 around the energy it uses enables the -- the neck of  
8 these animals to get thick and that. And what those  
9 things are around these animals neck and it's not a  
10 very -- it's not a comfort.

11 He said, I'm not here to tell -- to get  
12 angry with you guys. He said, I'm not joking. I'm  
13 tell -- here to tell you the truth. He said...

14

15 (SWITCHED TO NORTH SLAVEY CHANNEL)

16

17 ELDER JOE BERNARD:

18

19 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

20

21 ELDER JOE BERNARD: Leonard, Michael,  
22 I'd like to say thank you to them, and I'd -- I'd like  
23 to say even though those people have left us already,  
24 we'd like to know -- let them know that a lot of the  
25 things that are -- they are said have been very great.

1 And I haven't been involved in a lot of meetings, but  
2 I -- I really enjoyed this meeting. And -- and I've  
3 never attended any meeting, and I have never been --  
4 and at -- at -- I have never attended a meeting about  
5 caribou that is as large as this forum has been.

6                   And -- and he says that as far as I'm  
7 concerned, the meeting is not very long, but we can  
8 share with you the fact that we as people have been  
9 from -- we have sustained ourselves from the land. We  
10 came from the land. And we've worked on the land.  
11 And that is how we can support you with you -- and I  
12 feel very, very happy and grateful that I've been  
13 here.

14                   I was travelling with -- he said I just  
15 wanted to say thank you, because Vonnie (phonetic) is  
16 going home, so and -- and my wife just left for -- and  
17 the -- the -- he's -- he was -- he -- she flew off to  
18 Tulita -- to Yellowknife.

19                   And so we are now experiencing a lot of  
20 illnesses around here. And he said I've talked to  
21 her, but I have -- she has no idea, but what she said  
22 is that -- he said that because you've cost so much  
23 there -- you're -- you might have had a -- a very  
24 strong muscle spasm, and then so my daughter is the  
25 one that escorted her out to Yellowknife.

1                   And my dedino (phonetic) -- Bella said  
2 today -- Bella said that the -- he said my father is  
3 going down because my -- my father is not eating very  
4 well. And he said that is in reference to Charlie  
5 Barnaby. He said I was very, very -- he was a very  
6 good brother-in-law for me, and he gave me a lot of  
7 really good -- good thoughts and wisdom -- words of  
8 wisdoms.

9                   And so now he's in a position where --  
10 like, he's very sick. And so we might take the time  
11 at this time to go out and -- and visit him, and just  
12 being here, I didn't realize that I was that sick.  
13 And so -- it -- so it's really almost impossible to  
14 say I'm going to do this and do that, because you  
15 never know what's going to happen.

16                   And we've been here attending very good  
17 meetings, and I had really good meals. And I feel  
18 really good about the kind of information that was  
19 shared here. And in the future, when this is -- this  
20 kind of meeting is going to take place, we would like  
21 to have preliminary meetings so that we can prepare  
22 ourselves to attend these meetings prepared. And so  
23 some people may -- may have known about these  
24 meetings, but we did not know the meetings that were  
25 going to take -- that were going to take place here,

1 and so there -- there might be words that are not  
2 totally in line with each other, and -- but however,  
3 I'd like to thank everybody for being able to attend  
4 this meeting.

5

6 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

7

8 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. The next --  
9 the next party to do the closing prayer -- closing  
10 remarks here is ENR.

11

12 CLOSING REMARKS BY ENR:

13 MS. LYNDA YONGE: Thank you, Mr.  
14 Chair. Lynda Yonge, for ENR. I feel like that's a  
15 hard act to follow. We -- we want to thank the Board  
16 and the community of Deline, and Chief Leonard Kenny  
17 from Deline for holding these hearings and for giving  
18 everybody a chance to speak, and for welcoming --  
19 welcoming us here.

20 We're all here for the same reason, and  
21 that's to help the caribou and to give the Board the  
22 information they need to make good recommendations and  
23 good decisions. The evidence that we've seen indicate  
24 that the Bluenose East herd is declining, and  
25 declining very quickly. It's now declined to just

1 over thirty-eight thousand (38,000) animals. It's  
2 decreased by 50 percent between 2013 and 2015, in just  
3 two (2) years.

4                   During that time, we saw a decrease of  
5 50 percent of the breeding cows. These are really  
6 scary numbers. The cow survival rate, the calf  
7 recruitment rate, and the pregnancy rate have all been  
8 low in recent years. So this herd is likely to  
9 decline into the near future. This is also scary.

10                   It's very, very similar to what we saw  
11 in the Bathurst herd over the last several years.  
12 Now, for the Bathurst herd, the Tlicho Government and  
13 other government -- other Aboriginal organizations  
14 that harvest that herd have chosen to stop harvesting  
15 that herd because the numbers are so low.

16                   With the Bathur -- with the Bluenose  
17 East herd, there's a chance to take action now so  
18 hopefully it doesn't go -- the same thing doesn't  
19 happen.

20                   So we've heard a lot of good ideas over  
21 the last three (3) days about how actions could be  
22 taken for the Bluenose East herd, ways that we can  
23 help that herd recover.

24                   One (1) of the things we've heard over  
25 and over again over the past three (3) days is the

1 importance of working together. And we're very much  
2 in support of that, and interested in -- in doing  
3 that, not only with all the communities in the Sahtu,  
4 but this herd is harvested by a lot of other people as  
5 well. It's harvested by people in the Akaitcho, and  
6 the Tlicho, the Inuvialuit, the Dehcho, Nunavut.

7                   So what happens here has an impact on  
8 other people as well. So it's important that we all  
9 work together to find ways of -- of managing and  
10 helping this herd.

11                   So the Board has heard a lot of good  
12 information. It's up to them now to think about  
13 everything that they've heard so they can make some  
14 recommendations. And we look forward to hearing those  
15 recommendations from the Board.

16                   We thank you all, and thank you to  
17 everybody who participated and shared their views.

18                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Masi, ENR.

19                   I know we have the Youth -- Sahtu Youth  
20 Connection that made presentations here. I wonder if  
21 you -- you would like to make a final comment, Jordan?  
22 Okay. There's a mic right there.

23

24 CLOSING REMARKS BY SAHTU YOUTH CONNECTION:

25                   MR. JORDAN LENNIE: Jordan Lennie,

1 with the Sahtu Youth Connection. I have a few things  
2 to say. First of all, I wanted to apologize to  
3 Colville Lake for missing their presentation  
4 yesterday. I'm told it was very interesting. But I  
5 will be looking at the transcripts once they become  
6 available.

7                   The second thing I'd like to mention is  
8 why we couldn't present for anyone today. The other  
9 members of the Sahtu Youth Connection were simply not  
10 available, and that would leave me alone to present.

11                   And this brings me to my third point.  
12 Whether or not my organization members were here, I  
13 would not present. I feel like I have been patronized  
14 and treated like a child the past few days, and I just  
15 find it disrespectful.

16                   I, as a member of an organization with  
17 party status, should have been treated as an equal.  
18 Instead, I feel I was discriminated against because of  
19 my age.

20                   When I asked questions to parties, I  
21 expected answers that would help me and the rest of  
22 the people in the room understand their plans a bit  
23 better. Instead, I was given complicated answers  
24 that, after a quick analysis, weren't answers at all.

25                   If you want youth to come to these

1 meetings and voice their concerns, quit coddling them  
2 and start treating them as more than children.

3                   This concludes my closing remarks. I'd  
4 like to thank the Board for allowing me to speak at  
5 this hearing, and I'd also like to thank the community  
6 of Deline for hosting me and others from outside of  
7 the community.

8                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi. Masi, Jordan.

9                   Okay. Next we have Deline. Deline  
10 closing remarks.

11

12 CLOSING REMARKS BY DELINE:

13                   MR. WALTER BAYHA: Yeah, masi,  
14 Michael. The -- I -- I -- all I'm going to do is say  
15 thank you to everybody that's -- that's come here.  
16 It's a long three (3) days. We've -- it's a lot of  
17 information. And I'm really thankful that we had a  
18 chance to present our belowequesaqua (phonetic).

19                   It's just the beginning. And -- and I  
20 -- I think I'm probably -- where's Jordan? I'm  
21 probably -- probably one (1) of the ones that, you  
22 know, basically skimmed over the parts that we have  
23 for youth. I think sometimes my mind is at the -- the  
24 core of our plans, and a lot of the peripheral stuff  
25 and the details, I -- I don't pay much attention to.

1                   But the plan is open for our youth.  
2 We're going to continue and -- and make sure that they  
3 are part of it. In fact, they're the ones that are  
4 going to be harvesting, so they are the plan.

5                   I had a number of delegations with me.  
6 I know Morris is down there. I wonder -- you -- you  
7 don't want to add anything? I'm going to turn it over  
8 to our Elder Alfred to close. Okay. I thank  
9 everybody. I think that was a -- a good two (2) days  
10 for me. I've learned a lot.

11

12                   (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO  
13 ENGLISH)

14

15                   MR. WALTER BAYHA:

16

17                   (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

18

19                   (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

20

21                   ELDER ALFRED TANETON: Thank you.  
22 This is the Elder Alfred Taneton, from Deline. Some  
23 of the things that is -- they're very, very important.  
24 Us Elders, where we're from -- and -- and some of you  
25 have -- from other communities have given the

1 information from us Elders.

2                   Us Elders, we did not come -- come with  
3 paper. When we think about our past, it's there. We  
4 -- we still carry their words with us. And so with  
5 this kind of issue, when an Elder wants to speak, you  
6 have to allow them to speak. And so I'm just going to  
7 say a few -- I'm glad that you have given me the  
8 chance to speak for a few -- few minutes.

9                   And when I got this up this morning, I  
10 talked to -- talked to my grandfather. And I talked  
11 to them, and I cried. I wondered why we're talking --  
12 why we're talking about this. It's something that is  
13 very, very, very sacred. Why it is so difficult that  
14 we are -- we are at this point. And the tears came  
15 down my face.

16                   And I've talked to him. I have a  
17 picture of him in my house. Every now and then I will  
18 talk to him. You -- we were holding on to your words.  
19 We seem to not to be doing that. We have to keep it -  
20 - we -- if they -- if they have taken away -- it will  
21 not die. Your words will not die. We -- we're going  
22 to have to use it.

23                   It doesn't -- and -- and now, what he  
24 had said, it -- I told him that all of what you said  
25 is been disappearing. And I cried to the picture.

1 And so I have talked to you yesterday. I am -- I am -  
2 - in a couple of days, I'm going to be eighty-five  
3 (85). I am very grateful. I -- I thank my Creator  
4 and my mother and father for giving me the wisdom.

5                   My mother and father had spoke to me.  
6 I've kept it. And that is how -- how long I've  
7 survived. If the words are really good, it is  
8 something that is very sacred. When we talk to each  
9 other, we talk to each other to listen to each other.  
10 When the words are very true, then you would be really  
11 -- and things that are not very good, then we do not  
12 listen to that.

13                   And so I know you have been here for  
14 three (3) -- we've been here for three (3) days, and  
15 you've been talking and talking. Ask Dene people. We  
16 are very strong. If we are together, we become very  
17 strong. We -- and peoples come to say, You do this  
18 and you do that. As Aboriginal people, we stand  
19 together. We are very strong people.

20                   As non-Aboriginal peop -- people, they  
21 -- they have given -- they are here. My mother had  
22 told me, they are here. She had told me that they --  
23 if they tell you something, do not -- do not listen to  
24 them, do not hear it. And when I went to school --  
25 and when I went to school, I went to school twice.

1                   And I came back from school, my mother  
2 had talk to me. And I said, this is not what you do  
3 that -- and I -- you are there -- here to look after  
4 me and you have to go out in the bush and you have to  
5 help me. And my mother had told me that. And so I  
6 left school.

7                   And I am -- even though I have not went  
8 to school, my mother and father, my ancestors, and our  
9 forefathers, they were our educators. They had  
10 beautiful words. Their strong knowledge. Their words  
11 are strong. And they spoke their own language. And  
12 they were very, very strong.

13                   Those -- those people that say to --  
14 things to each other, listen. They say -- they always  
15 say you are right. And when you say that, and you say  
16 masi, and thank you, and you're correct, and you are  
17 right, and all -- and when we say masi, it's something  
18 that's sacred. And you also -- when you say you're  
19 correct, when you say positive things, it is -- it's -  
20 - things turns out.

21                   And we've been here for the last few  
22 days. All the things that we -- or all this life  
23 about wildlife and we have never have heard of people  
24 talking about. And for me, I've come from -- to this  
25 age. I have done what I want on this land. I wanted

1 to kill some -- so many wildlife. I do that. I go  
2 trapping and I go out -- I trap a lot of furs. I --  
3 that is how we live.

4                   We are people from a very, very cold  
5 land. For us all when we are from the cold land, we  
6 are -- we don't live here being farmers, growing  
7 things. All the wildlife -- all the wildlife on this  
8 land, we are -- it is there for us to -- to survive  
9 on, to live on. And also our ancestors had -- had  
10 survived by it and they have raised us that way. And  
11 also, I've raised my children that way.

12                   And so it is something that is very,  
13 very important that you're talking about right now.  
14 As Aboriginal people, we are not that rich. This is  
15 what we eat. We live and survive by this land. And  
16 sometimes when people come and talk to us about it,  
17 it's very difficult to listen to. And when people  
18 come to our land and tell us, and now it has become  
19 huge. And I've told you about the Prophet's message.

20                   Once he talks and say something, he  
21 only says it once. That's what my mother told me. He  
22 say it once, and you don't say it twice. If you say  
23 it twice, it becomes bigger and it become a bit  
24 difficult.

25                   This is what happening here right now.

1 The non-Aboriginal people are bothering these  
2 wildlife. That's why things have become very  
3 difficult. Now it become really big. It -- it's  
4 huge. And we -- and we don't know if it's going to be  
5 -- get -- get any better.

6           If you are there to help us, please  
7 help us. And be courteous. As Aboriginal people, we  
8 pray for it. And it is -- it's -- it is our -- we  
9 live by this. And it becomes very hard, and if you --  
10 if we don't argue among each other, it would be great.

11           A lot of people have spoken. My --  
12 and my brother Joe had spoken, and he had spoke the  
13 way he -- he says that's how he -- you should speak.  
14 When we speak like that, we -- nobody can move us.  
15 When you speak about -- about something, you can't be  
16 shy from it. You have to say what you need to say.

17           And so right now, I -- I'm -- you know  
18 that I have -- I am -- I am very -- I -- it's very  
19 difficult for me. Sometimes it's hard for me, because  
20 I -- what has happened to me. And I see my friends  
21 now. We hold our hands. We laugh together. I'm  
22 thankful for that. I will never know when we're going  
23 to meet again.

24           And so I -- I am -- I am very thankful  
25 that all of you have come to see us, and things that

1 are happen -- things that are happening here, it's  
2 hard. Since -- I've been working since 1955 with all  
3 the people. I have never had -- say an angry word to  
4 a person. And when I come from a meeting, I don't go  
5 anywhere -- I sit there and listen, because I want to  
6 hear what they have to say.

7                   I am now -- I have -- at this age, it's  
8 difficult for me. Once you become old, things become  
9 difficult for us. What we're going to do. Even  
10 though our -- we are strong people, sometimes it's  
11 hard. My father was right. Now it has -- I -- all  
12 the people that are talking about -- about the  
13 wildlife, talking about it.

14                   And our children are going to take care  
15 of this for us. And it -- this is for the future of  
16 our grandchildren. And I hope that if you would come  
17 and be working together, and that you help each other,  
18 it will be great.

19                   The late George Cortican (phonetic) had  
20 said, he was a Chief, he -- he said, this -- stand on  
21 your land. All the -- the wildlife are there. This  
22 is what's going to happen, so just -- just stand and  
23 be -- and be strong, and let it -- and be -- work  
24 together and come -- and he said this is what is  
25 happening right now, and what he had said. This is

1 happening today. And -- and the Prophet said, People  
2 will be talking and talking and talking, and  
3 discussing things. And now it's had -- and every --  
4 everything that is the -- to discuss about, they talk  
5 about. That's what he said. That's what's happening  
6 now.

7                   And so we shouldn't over-discuss  
8 things. And let's not -- the -- the Elders have said,  
9 Don't talk about the caribou too much. And so there  
10 are -- people are going to leave, so I am -- I am  
11 thankful for the people that live in Deline, and the  
12 Elders. We're all leaving, so I -- I've been -- since  
13 1955, we've been working with people, and we still  
14 are.

15                   And our children, they are trying to  
16 come up with a solution. They -- they are the ones  
17 that are talking about it, and with you. And if you  
18 want to think about it, think about it. We have -- if  
19 you think about it, it's -- it's a good sign. And I'm  
20 thankful. All my friends, all the non-Aboriginal  
21 people that come to visit us here, thank you for  
22 coming.

23                   If you say some -- say thank you, like  
24 they say masi, it's great. And when -- I hope that  
25 you get home cor -- safely. I thank all of you, and

1 people here in Deline. And also everybody -- and also  
2 the interpreters. I'm really thankful. Fibbie was my  
3 -- my girl, but she was interpreting for me. Thank  
4 you. She's standing behind.

5

6 (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM  
7 NORTH SLAVEY TO ENGLISH)

8

9 THE CHAIRPERSON:

10

11 (SWITCHED TO THE NORTH SLAVEY CHANNEL)

12

13 THE CHAIRPERSON:

14

15 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

16

17 THE CHAIRPERSON: It's -- we're done  
18 now.

19

20 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

21

22 CLOSING REMARKS BY THE BOARD:

23 THE CHAIRPERSON: I'm going to give  
24 the closing remarks on behalf of the Board.

25

1 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY TO ENGLISH)

2

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: My name is Michael  
4 Neyelle. I am the Chair for the SRRB, and I'd like to  
5 thank all the people that have been -- spoke here for  
6 the last few days. And it's -- we talk a lot of  
7 things, and a lot of people talked to each other  
8 respect -- having respect is -- respect is something  
9 that's very important.

10 We have talked about -- about the  
11 caribou, ekwe, and for the respect, and also respect  
12 for the the people and the communities and our friends  
13 and our -- our friends from the Tlicho.

14 And as Dene people, it's very  
15 important. Not only that, and the people from the  
16 Renewable Resources. It is -- we have talked among  
17 each other. I am very happy about it.

18 It has become very -- it is very  
19 difficult at times, and because of it, our -- there  
20 are several things that are -- are different:  
21 culture, language, dialects, several others, and also  
22 in the science area. It -- it is hard.

23 Now things are going really, really --  
24 really changing in our environment, and also in our --  
25 our social con -- conditions. There's -- there's a

1 lot of things that are in our way: alcohol and all  
2 the things that we do not need.

3                   Maybe because of that, we don't care  
4 about caribou very well. We are here among each  
5 other. We want to work together -- to work together.  
6 And -- and we can look after it. We can become  
7 strong.

8                   And for those that are sitting at the  
9 Board and the decision that must be made -- could be  
10 make. This hearing that we had, this is the first one  
11 that we have come with -- there's -- there's two (2) -  
12 - two (2) solu -- two (2) things, proposals that are  
13 here. And one (1) is in the Renewable Resources and  
14 Deline, Deline's plan. And that is how we have to  
15 work together.

16                   And also, I -- as well, there were  
17 larger collaborative process with the Wek'eezhii  
18 Renewable Resource. This is the kind of collaborative  
19 approach. It's almost -- it's also a -- a first. And  
20 also -- and when they're -- and they will be also  
21 having a hearing also.

22                   And a third is -- first, in addition to  
23 the Sahtu Youth Connection to the hearing as a party,  
24 although the youth -- the youth delegate noted that  
25 there are not enough youth involved, it is important

1 to recognize that -- the value of their contribu --  
2 contribution made by the formal -- a formal con --  
3 contributions of youth at this hearing.

4           And this, the formal structure can be  
5 frustrating at times. It is -- it's a legal structure  
6 raising -- rising from the land claims agreement that  
7 it is not a -- not the approach of the Dene Metis are  
8 used for their working -- for working as issues to get  
9 in order to address this.

10           The Board has a much -- much flexible-  
11 approach candidate. And those that spoke English --  
12 and we are going to -- going to be -- we'll put it  
13 together. We're going to come up with a recording,  
14 transcript, and we're going to be radio -- the  
15 community radio. And also everybody is going to hear  
16 what we had said.

17           And so the Elders would like to thank  
18 the Elders from Colville Lake, Tulita, Deline, Good  
19 Hope. And I would like to thank all of them because  
20 it is very important that to -- to get guidance from  
21 them, and also my Board.

22           I would like to -- and the special  
23 advisors and our friend, Leon. It is -- sometimes  
24 it's very hard. And I am -- when I want to say  
25 something about Deline, I -- I worked on the Deline

1 plan, so I couldn't -- I couldn't work -- I couldn't  
2 say anything.

3                   When you sit on these things it gets  
4 difficult. And they have to do this -- okay and if  
5 the ENR are okay about it. And for me, I can't say  
6 anything, and the same with Leonard. And, also, the  
7 same with ENR. If they are going -- and, also, he  
8 cannot speak about certain issues.

9                   And this becomes very difficult when  
10 you're -- when you are on a Board. It sounds like we  
11 were sitting on both sides like Leonard. He sits  
12 here. And he's also a chief. For that it becomes  
13 very hard.

14                   But when we are here, we are here to --  
15 to work with each other. We can't say -- we can't say  
16 this is good, this is bad, as -- as Board members. We  
17 have to listen to people. And we think about what is  
18 important, what is important. And -- and when we --  
19 and we -- we want to work with this caribou for our  
20 children. And that is -- we want to make it very,  
21 very strong.

22                   So -- so I would like to say thank you.  
23 We've been here for three (3) days. It's been really,  
24 really hard, but -- for the Sahtu region. There are  
25 five (5) communities. There are only pla -- one (1) -

1 - one (1) group had not been in. The Tlicho are here.  
2 I would like to say thank you. They've been sitting  
3 here listening to us.

4 Not only that, also the ENR and also  
5 the Renewable Resources Board and Deline, and also the  
6 people -- everybody that spoke. We do listen. We do  
7 listen and understand what you are trying to say. And  
8 for the -- Deline and Colville, for everybody we will  
9 make a plan. And you have to be maybe thinking of it  
10 because it's going to be strong.

11 A lot of people will be saying they --  
12 they don't like the -- the collars for the caribou.  
13 They -- and we do hear you. Not only that, we heard  
14 strong messages from the people in the community that  
15 they have -- they -- they do not accept the idea of  
16 the quota imposed on them from the outside.

17 We heard lots of questions about what  
18 is happening on the land that is affecting the  
19 caribou, fires, changing, and other species showing up  
20 -- up out there, changes in where animals are moving,  
21 climate change, change in land conditions and the  
22 tundra, choppers and other projects that could affect  
23 the calving grounds and other caribou habitats.

24 We heard evidence from ENR about what  
25 they are seeing in the airplane surveys and about

1 their understanding that the Bluenose East caribou  
2 herd is declining. And they're -- and they're  
3 suggesting -- suggestions for what they do about with  
4 harvesting restrictions and -- and predator control  
5 program. And they said that they have -- are counting  
6 them. It is important. And we know that it is -- it  
7 is going down.

8                   So they said there was also a strong  
9 mess -- a message throughout the hearing about a role  
10 of communities and -- and also talking about the wolf  
11 issue. And when we talk about the reason why we're  
12 here, so that we don't want to -- to be lessened. And  
13 there are also a strong message throughout about the  
14 role of communities and -- and also the Board -- and  
15 to conserve and the need to support the roles as  
16 defined in the land claims.

17                   And there have been a lot of questions  
18 about the role of the Board and then the role of ENR.  
19 It will be a priority to address the issues of  
20 governance as it has been discussed.

21                   And the Board will think -- think about  
22 how to deal of those message and questions. Our --  
23 our final report and we will commit to tracking our  
24 responses to the message on the key issues that we  
25 have already list before the hearing and to the

1 additional issues that have come up during the meeting  
2 or that they may come up with after the hearing.

3 I want to -- to clear and emphasize one  
4 (1) thing on the scope of this hearing, that the  
5 trigger for this hearing was on the land claims -- and  
6 they said that the -- the requirement to hold the  
7 Board to consider about the total of allowable  
8 harvest.

9 However, the Board is aware that the  
10 scope of the caribou cons -- conservation must account  
11 for the full spectrum of the issues that had been  
12 discussed and that they affect the caribou. The Board  
13 is committed to considering all the factors and  
14 options for caribou conservation.

15 And the list of the key emerging from  
16 this issue is shared -- shared with the parties before  
17 the hearing imposed on the register -- public register  
18 and discussed at the pre-hearing -- pre-hearing  
19 conference. We have distributed the print copies of  
20 this list that we have distributed to the parties  
21 posted on the public registry and discussed at the  
22 pre-hearing conference on February 19th.

23 And for the Sahtu region about  
24 January/February we -- only then the winter road is  
25 here, so that's why we wanted them to come and the

1 winter road is -- so it's only till March, so -- and -  
2 - and so they would be travelling about -- they have  
3 travelled a ways, so the -- they travelled. That --  
4 that's why a lot of people are not here, because  
5 they're out on the winter road.

6                   So for those that are not been --  
7 having not been here, if they want to give us some  
8 information they can send us a letter and -- and the  
9 deadline for the final submission by two (2)  
10 components, our deadline is April 1st.

11                   And the deadline for the final  
12 submission by other parties and members of the public  
13 is March 29th. The reason -- the reason is the  
14 deadline is sooner is so that ENR and Deline have a  
15 chance to review all the information before they make  
16 the final submissions.

17                   The Board members will take it away  
18 into information we'll hear for three (3) days, but  
19 all written materials are given to us. We shall also  
20 have an opportunity to sit with the Tlicho people  
21 April 6 to 8 in Behchoko to hear what they have to  
22 say.

23                   Though this is a collaborative hearing  
24 with the WRRB, when we make our decision it will be  
25 decisions through (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE SPOKEN) and

1 about Sahtu region. The deadline -- he -- and so for  
2 that the deadline that would be set for our decision  
3 will be May 16th.

4                   The Board will meet -- the Board will  
5 be meeting and -- and -- all the decisions we make  
6 will go to the Minister. We're about to be finished,  
7 so we -- the Board will be meeting tomorrow to review  
8 the discussion on the hearing. We will -- we also be  
9 looking at the timeline, and we'll inform all the  
10 parties if there is a change in the deadline or in the  
11 schedule.

12                   I have to thank -- I have to thank all  
13 the participants in the hearing by the Board and the  
14 parties, community members, and I also have a long  
15 list of people to thank, and all their work they have  
16 -- that have made this hearing a success. I -- I know  
17 that the most popular people are the ones that are  
18 really in the background who are working hard to  
19 support this big group -- a big group.

20                   With logistics, Joe Hanlin (phonetic),  
21 and Lori Ann, Daniel -- I'd like to say thank you, Joe  
22 and Lori Ann. They -- we really, really -- they are -  
23 - they have become experts. They've become  
24 organizing, and over the past few years they were the  
25 key at making everything run smoothly.

1 Daniel has -- has joined the Board,  
2 Daniel T'seleie joined the Board member -- Board team  
3 for the short -- short while before -- living in Fort  
4 Good Hope, and coordinating the youth caribou work  
5 shop here over the weekend. A big hand to him.

6 I also like to say -- con -- the legal  
7 counsel, Lorraine Land, who has worked tirelessly to  
8 prepare the Board for this hearing, and to advise us  
9 during the hearing. That I have the feeling that we  
10 will be keeping her -- keeping her hard work for a  
11 long time to come.

12 And I'd also like to -- the lady that  
13 gathers information for us, Joanne (phonetic). He --  
14 he would be the -- they were the communication  
15 specialists. This is the hearing. They help us -- on  
16 whoever they wanted Good Hope, and whoever they want  
17 to put it on they will -- they will make copies for  
18 the -- and CBQ (phonetic) will be -- will play it on  
19 the radio so.

20 And I'd also like to thank Laura  
21 Tutcho, Fibbie, James, Violet. Those interpreters.  
22 They have been interpreting really hard for us, so I'd  
23 like to thank them. And in March -- this March, March  
24 is Aboriginal language month. And so this is the  
25 Aboriginal language month in the territories, and when

1 we speak our language it's very important.

2 I would like to -- Norbert Poitras to  
3 thank -- to thank him. And -- and he is recording  
4 everything. And -- and also Bob over there. He's  
5 transcribing, and everything that they say he will --  
6 he will record it. And his work is really -- really  
7 important to us.

8 And so -- and in the evening on  
9 Tuesday/Wednesday when we were here, all the people  
10 that in the evening I'd like to thank them. And they  
11 -- and also the cooks. I'd like to say thank you to  
12 the cooks, Maureen Makenzo (phonetic), Nakita Makenzo  
13 (phonetic), Bertha Kenny (phonetic), Barbara Yukon  
14 (phonetic), Ashley Modest (phonetic), and -- and also  
15 the -- the caterer in the kitchen at the break Karen  
16 Fertinand (phonetic) and Geordy Doctor (phonetic). I  
17 would like to thank them.

18

19 (BRIEF PAUSE)

20

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Jody Tocho  
22 (phonetic). Hey, Jody. The other people that I would  
23 like to thank is Paul Modeste (phonetic), the driver.  
24 I would like to say thank you. The -- he's our driver  
25 peop -- get -- getting people here and there. He's

1 our George Jones. Thank you, Paul.

2 I thank you all. And those people that  
3 I have lived in their homes, I thank you for opening  
4 the doors to your visitors. And for talking about the  
5 caribou, and all the Boards that are here, I thank  
6 you. And I would like to thank the -- he is a Chief.  
7 He is a Board member, and from the bottom of my heart,  
8 I would like thank him and the people of Deline.

9 And so this is -- oh, we are done now,  
10 so -- so if it's done, then maybe the Chief would like  
11 to say something, and then we will be done.

12

13 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

14

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: With that, Leonard,  
16 go ahead.

17 CHIEF LEONARD KENNY: I'm going to  
18 speak to you as a Chief.

19

20 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY TO ENGLISH)

21

22 CLOSING REMARKS BY CHIEF LEONARD KENNY:

23 CHIEF LEONARD KENNY: Thank you, my  
24 people. We've been here for three (3) days, and when  
25 we talk about caribou -- when we talk about caribou,

1 it is very hard. It's -- it's come to this point now  
2 -- nowadays. And everybody -- we know that they --  
3 they're -- everybody's saying that the caribou is  
4 diminishing.

5                   And so what are we going to do? We  
6 don't want to take too much. They're making decisions  
7 on it. This is why we're here for the last three (3)  
8 days.

9                   For us in Deline, we wanted to come up  
10 with a plan, so for -- for tomorrow, for the -- for  
11 the future, and tomorrow for the children, we have to  
12 think about those.

13                   And we -- if there's no caribou, as  
14 Dene people, it's going to be -- become very difficult  
15 for us. That is what our Elders have told us. We  
16 have to look after the caribou.

17                   So for us that have been here for three  
18 (3) days, I would like to thank all of you. When we  
19 talk with each other and discuss issue with each  
20 other, and -- we come up with a solution. We don't --  
21 if we don't sit like this together, we can't fix  
22 anything.

23                   From the bottom of my heart, I thank  
24 you and the Tlicho people. They have come here from a  
25 distance, and they've been here for the three (3)

1 days. And I also say -- thank Jody Pellissey. She's  
2 with them.

3                   And in April, they will be gathering  
4 same -- same thing as here. They -- they -- when --  
5 they will -- also would be talking about caribou April  
6 -- in April. And so we will go over there and visit  
7 with them. We will listen to them. We won't say  
8 anything.

9                   But Michael had mentioned everybody and  
10 thank everybody, so I am not going to say very much.  
11 I would just like to say thank you, all of you. We  
12 have -- I've already said -- last week -- we've been  
13 here for four (4) days. And we had handgames, and  
14 then people left and everybody caught the flu.

15                   And -- and people are here, the people  
16 that are coughing. So if you get home, to take care  
17 of yourself. And you -- and you -- and when you're  
18 going home, you -- land, whatever, by plane, by truck,  
19 I hope you arrive home safely.

20                   And also people in Colville Lake, I  
21 would like to thank them. I -- they are really,  
22 really are talking about the caribou issue. And so if  
23 they closed it for us -- us Dene people, it -- it's  
24 going to be -- become very hard for us.

25                   We have to eat. We can't eat modern

1 food. It's expensive, and we live in Canada, that big  
2 of a land. They are saying that there is -- there is  
3 less in food, there no money. We have to -- and no  
4 jobs. And -- and we -- we have to work in order to  
5 buy food.

6                   When we -- when we go hunting, we don't  
7 pay for it. We eat well, our children eat, our whole  
8 family eat. That is the things that we have to think  
9 about.

10                   And our Elders, I would like to thank  
11 them for being here, and -- and Jonas, I would like to  
12 thank him and everybody that had been here. And also  
13 the interpreters. Sometimes we speak really, really  
14 fast. And even though we go way ahead of them,  
15 they're still talking. And I'll -- I'll thank  
16 Michael. He's been Chair -- SRRB Board.

17

18                   (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

19

20                   CHIEF LEONARD KENNY: On behalf of  
21 Deline, I want to thank everybody for coming. And  
22 it's been a very interesting three (3) days. I  
23 learned a lot. You know, a lot of information to  
24 absorb. And I haven't said much because I'm a Board  
25 member, and I have to listen more.

1                   But I'm -- I want to thank Walter Bayha  
2 for speaking for Deline, Morris Neyelle, Gina Dolphus  
3 and my Elders, Alfred and Leon. And -- and that's  
4 about it, I think. Michael pretty well thanked  
5 everybody. And -- and let's -- let's think about  
6 tomorrow.

7                   My message to everyone here is that we  
8 have to think about tomorrow. Let's -- I ask the  
9 Creator to also help us to make the right decision for  
10 the caribou. We have to speak for the caribou. Masi  
11 cho.

12                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Okay, masi.

13

14                   (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM  
15                   NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

16

17

18                   THE CHAIRPERSON:

19

20                   (CLOSING PRAYER)

21

22                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Masi. Masi. We  
23 should all try and shake each other's hand before  
24 everybody leaves. Let's shake -- let's shake hands  
25 with each other. Masi.

1 --- Upon adjourning at 5:11 p.m.

2

3

4 Certificate of Transcript

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9 Robert Keelaghan, Mr.

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-	158:17	<b>12:30</b> 112:2	<b>1990</b> 103:17	236:9
- 49:8	159:1	<b>12:35</b> 112:7	111:22	<b>2:20</b> 135:15
228:17	163:6	<b>120,000</b>	178:15	<b>2:26</b> 135:16
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