



Community Conservation Planner

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NOTE: The SRRB is considering hiring two Community Conservation Planners for a one year period, with the possibility of extension. It is expected that each position will address distinct planning projects and activities, drawing on specific skills and expertise of successful candidates.

Position Description

The ʔehdzo Got'Inę Gots'ę Nákedı (Sahtú Renewable Resources Board – SRRB) is mandated to address objectives of the Sahtú Dene and Métis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement (SDMCLCA)¹ related to wildlife, habitat and harvesting. The Sahtú is blessed with rich cultural and ecological diversity, indicated by the diverse Dene dialects, histories and landscapes of the region. Accordingly, the scope of the SRRB's work is biocultural, addressing core SDMCLCA objectives, Article 8(j) of the international Convention on Biodiversity,² the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,³ and Calls to Action of Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission.⁴

The SRRB has adopted a community-led conservation planning (CCP) approach and works closely with harvesters, leadership organizations and youth in the five communities of the Sahtú Region, Northwest Territories to implement this mandate. CCP is an adaptation of the Healthy Country Planning model developed by Australian Indigenous peoples.⁵ The CCP system involves innovative cross-cultural, decolonizing/reconciliation, on the land and youth-centred approaches, and supports training, leadership development, and jobs for Sahtú beneficiaries. To date, three community conservation plans have been developed by Sahtú communities: Délıne's *Belare Wıle Gots'ę ʔekwé – Caribou for All Time* plan (2016), Colville's *Dehlá Got'Inę ʔada Plan*, and the *Nıo Nę P'ęnę Begháré Shúhta Goʔepę Narehǎá – Trails of the Mountain Caribou* plan that was forged

¹ www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1100100031147/1100100031164

² "Subject to national legislation, respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge innovations and practices." www.cbd.int/traditional

³ www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/declaration-on-the-rights-of-indigenous-peoples.html

⁴ www.trc.ca

⁵ www.natureunited.ca/what-we-do/our-priorities/investing-in-people/healthy-country-planning

through a partnership of Tulít'a, Norman Wells and neighbouring Tu Łidlini (Ross River) Dena (Yukon Territory).⁶

During 2020-2025, the centrepiece of CCP activities in the Sahtú region are a series of Public Listening (Hearing) Sessions on five “hot topics” addressing the central question, “What is the most effective way to conserve caribou?” The five sessions will address knowledge and conservation actions related to the three ecotypes of caribou that inhabit or travel through the Sahtú region: barren-ground, boreal and mountain caribou. For more information about the 2020 and 2021 Public Listening Sessions, see the SRRB’s public registry at www.srrb.nt.ca. The following are the five hot topics to be addressed:

- Harvest regulation (2020)
- Predators and competitors (2021)
- Knowledge about caribou and landscapes (2022)
- Wildfires and climate change (2023)
- Caribou and the mixed economy (2024)

The successful candidates will assist in community planning supports for the 2021-2024 Public Listening Sessions. This will entail providing forums for knowledge exchange, developing planning toolboxes for community use, and supporting consensus-building processes. It is expected that training support will be provided as part of the two CCP positions. Salary will be based on qualifications, ranging between \$77,435 and \$97,325, plus benefits and Northern Allowance.⁷

The position is located in the beautiful community of Tulít'a, “Where the Rivers Meet.” More information about the SRRB can be found at www.srrb.nt.ca, and further insights into interests and activities of the Board are at www.facebook.com/SahtuWildlife.

Major Duties

- Coordinate and facilitate collaborative CCP as well as related engagement and evaluation.
- Develop user-friendly toolboxes, including plain language literature reviews, map resources and other materials for supporting CCP processes.
- Liaise with CCP partners and facilitate participation of resource people as required.
- Provide technical support for CCP implementation, including support for research, monitoring, and stewardship activities.

⁶ These three plans are available on the SRRB’s public registry for the Colville 2020 Public Listening session at www.srrb.nt.ca.

⁷ Northern Allowance rates for Tulít'a may be found at <https://my.hr.gov.nt.ca/sites/myhr/files/2020-2021%20UNW%20Northern%20Allowance%20Rates.pdf>.

- Prepare proposals, reports, planning documents, correspondence, and public communication materials related to CCP.
- Train local CCP facilitators.
- Provide oversight and training of an SRRB Intern.
- Assist in developing a program and funding framework to support a sustainable CCP system in the Sahtú.
- Other duties as directed by the Executive Director from time to time.

Qualifications - Required

- Minimum of Master's Degree in a field relevant to the position, or an equivalent combination of education and experience
- Experience working with community organizations in cross-cultural contexts
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively and collaboratively with people of various backgrounds
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Well-organized, able to plan and work independently and in teams
- Sound understanding of environmental and Indigenous issues in the North
- Experience in facilitation

Qualifications - Assets

- Experience in mentoring, education or training
- Experience in research and/or monitoring, including but not limited to Indigenous research methodologies and protocols
- Experience working in the context of modern land claims and/or Indigenous co-management organizations
- Knowledge of best practices in Indigenous ecological stewardship
- Knowledge of the Sahtú Region, the Sahtú Dene and Métis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement, and North Slavey language
- Knowledge of data management protocols and skills
- Mapping and spatial analysis skills
- Database and data analysis skills