



“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 2, 2016

Day 2 of 3

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19	Morris Neyelle	)
20	Walter Bayha	)
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22	Wilbert Kochon	) Colville Lake
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3 Hychinthe Kochon )

4 Jennifer Duncan ) counsel

5 Larry Innes ) counsel

6

7 Chief Frank Andrew ) Tulita Panel

8

9 Jordan Lennie ) Sahtu Youth Connection

10

11 Barry Harris ) Fort Good Hope

12 Bella T'seleie )

13 Frank T'seleie )

14

15 Leon Modeste ) Member of Public

16

17

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EXHIBITS

1	EXHIBIT NO.	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO.
2			
3	2	List of family names and	
4		individuals supplied by	
5		Walter Baya	62
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1	LIST OF UNDERTAKINGS		
2	NO.	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO.
3	1	Deline to Collville Lake. To provide responses to the following questions:	
4		1. Is D asking to establish a TAH for D as a whole that reflects what is written in the Code?	
5		2. With respect to s. 7 of the Deline plan which refers to	
6		harvesting 150 BNE and BNW - is	
7		Deline asking the Board to make a locally applicable harvest for D	
8		or a locally applicable TAH of those numbers of caribou within	
9		the D district as a whole?	
10		3. If D is requesting a TAH established through the community	
11		of D or within the D district,	
12		is D requesting that the harvest can only be carried out within	
13		the D district; must that quota of caribou only be harvested in the	
14		D district or does it travel with	
15		the D participant to other areas	
16		of the Sahtu?	

LIST OF UNDERTAKINGS (Con't)		
NO.	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO.
1 (Con't)	4. Regarding other Sahtu beneficiaries - is D requesting the Board to limit the rights of Sahtu participants to harvest any caribou in addition to the 150 BNE and 50 BNW caribou in the D district?	
	5. Is D requesting the Board to limit the exercise of rights on the part of D participants to harvest BNE and BNW only in the D district?	159
2	ENR to Deline: To provide information about the current status of Species at Risk processes dealing with caribou	191
3	Deline to Sahtu Youth Connection: To provide information about how Deline defines the area of "the locations where Deline has traditionally harvested in the Bluenose West area" as referenced on page 30 of the Deline Plan	218

1	LIST OF UNDERTAKINGS (Con't)	
2 NO.	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NO.
3 4	ENR to provide information about the end date of the commercial harvest	232
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1 --- Upon commencing at 9:07 a.m.

2

3 (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM  
4 NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

5

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. I'll just  
7 explain to them what's happening to them today.

8

9 (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM  
10 NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

11

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: I was just saying  
13 that today's will be the Deline plan, and then  
14 questions will be asked by ENR, and the rest of the  
15 Sahtu communities.

16 Okay, before we get started, Hyacinthe  
17 -- Hyacinthe (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE SPOKEN) opening  
18 prayer. Hyancinth...?

19

20 (OPENING PRAYER)

21

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi.

23

24 (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM  
25 NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

1                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Okay.  I'll just say  
2 that in English anyways.  So I'm going to be turning  
3 my chair -- chairmanship over to Paul, my Vice-Chair  
4 here for the proceeding with the Deline Caribou  
5 Conservation Plan.  So this is what -- me and Leonard  
6 are going to be stepping aside.  We're just going to  
7 sit on the side and listen and not question.

8                   We're just going to sit around.  So I'm  
9 going to hand over the -- the Chair to Mr. Paul Latour  
10 to take over.  So, Masi.  Paul...?

11

12                   (THE CHAIRPERSON STANDS DOWN)

13

14                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON:    Good morning.  
15 Thank you, Michael.  My name is Paul Latour.  As  
16 Michael mentioned, I'm acting as the Vice Chair for  
17 the Deline panel presentation this morning and the  
18 subsequent questions.  So I don't really need to say  
19 much more, I don't think.  I'll just turn it over to  
20 the Deline panel.  Thank you.

21

22 PRESENTATION BY DELINE:

23                   MR. WALTER BAYHA:    Masi, Paul.  I have  
24 here -- my name is Walter Bayha.  I'm sort of the lead  
25 on this plan.  And I also have Morris Nayelle sitting

1 on the other end here, and Gina Dolphus will be also  
2 part of the delegation for Deline.

3 But before I -- I start, I just want to  
4 say good morning to everybody.

5

6 (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM  
7 NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

8

9 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

10

11 MR. WALTER BAYHA: It said -- this is  
12 my grandfather -- used to say that the --

13

14 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

15

16 MR. WALTER BAYHA: We have a -- a  
17 biosphere here -- here in Deline called Tsa Tsu  
18 Biosphere Reserve. It's on the news a lot now.  
19 Michael tells me it's approved. And they've got one  
20 (1) more hur -- hurdle to -- to go through, which is  
21 Peru, which is a world gathering where it -- it'll be  
22 approved, so Deline is very happy about that.

23

24 Before I -- I get into the plan, and  
25 please, you know, when -- I would love to do this in  
my own language, but I -- with so many people here, I

1 -- I can't. But I will -- during my presentation, I'm  
2 going to use as much as the -- the lan -- my language  
3 as I can. I have a brother here, Morris, that tells  
4 me all -- every day that in order for us, the Dene  
5 people here -- that live here to be strong we must use  
6 our language.

7                   But before I get into it, it's -- it's  
8 so important -- it's very important what this hearing  
9 is about. It's very important for our people to know  
10 a little bit about the background about the hearing.  
11 So just quickly, the hearing -- the mandate for this  
12 hearing comes from your land claims. The Sahtu Dene  
13 and Metis Comprehensive Land Claims.

14                   It is written in there. We have done a  
15 lot of work, and one of things we use we say, The  
16 harvesting part, the gathering, the hunting, that part  
17 of the land claims is the heart of our land claims.  
18 So and you've heard many, many times about how -- how  
19 important this is to our people. The land is  
20 important.

21                   I'm reminded every day. This morning,  
22 Hyacinthe talked in his own language. And he said  
23 like this, he said, The land raised us. I have to  
24 learn to talk like that. And I think that leads into  
25 a lot of the highlights in the -- in the plan.

1                   But the Board is -- is mandated by your  
2 land claims, and they have the authority to make a  
3 decision after the three (3) days. The decision after  
4 letting everybody have their say. Now, sometimes  
5 that's confusing because I hear lots. You know,  
6 yesterday I wrote notes after notes, and people -- a  
7 lot of our people still think that the government is  
8 going to make a decision.

9                   The government is not making the  
10 decision. Those people up there that are sitting  
11 there, the Board of the SSRB (sic) are going to make a  
12 decision. And it's law. Their decision is law. Yes,  
13 the government can say a lot of things with the -- the  
14 department that handles their wildlife, but it's the  
15 Board, the co-management Board in Sahtu. The Sahtu  
16 settlement area is your Board that's going to make a  
17 decision.

18                   Now, we're going to have to live with  
19 it after, and this is why it's so important the Deline  
20 brings their plan. And I'm -- I'm not going to get  
21 any more further in that. I think you've heard --  
22 Ethel talked about the relation that SSI has with  
23 these Boards, and the responsibilities as they have as  
24 the main people that implement the land claims.

25                   Yesterday I -- I was reviewing my notes

1 and, you know, I'm -- I'm changing a lot of things all  
2 the time as we go along, and one of the things I'm  
3 realizing, this is an implementation. This plan you  
4 can look at it as an implementation of the land  
5 claims. It's one more step the Deline is taking.

6                   And all it is -- all it is -- all we  
7 said, How did our grandfathers hunt? How did they  
8 harvest? Where did they harvest, and why did they do  
9 certain things? Why did they pass down so many things  
10 to us as a people? And I think one of the biggest  
11 reasons is that we have grandfathers the Deline is  
12 guided by.

13                   Everything that Deline has done, and  
14 I'm talking about everything since the land claims, or  
15 maybe you can even go back to the treaty days, or even  
16 before contact. Deline had good grandfathers.  
17 Grandfathers that left a huge legacy. The songs that  
18 we have here from our grandfathers are incredible.

19                   Ehtsee's name comes -- come out a lot.  
20 And one of the things that's so important, and it's in  
21 our plan, he said, If you don't take care of caribou,  
22 they're not going to be around. We have people here,  
23 the grandsons of ehtsee here. You know, we -- ehtsee  
24 is buried here. He lives just -- the graveyard is not  
25 very far from here.

1                   I think that's all I'm going to say for  
2 the introduction. One (1) of the biggest thing that -  
3 - that is very important to me, as a person that lives  
4 on the -- or near Great Bear Lake, we have a lot of  
5 grandfathers. And I encourage every hunter, every  
6 harvester, to remind themselves that they have  
7 grandfathers and to remind themselves that we must  
8 hunt like them.

9                   I'm not talking about bringing bows and  
10 arrows back. I'm talking about the way they had the  
11 relation with -- with land, wildlife and water. I'm  
12 going to start off with my own grandfathers because I  
13 -- I would love to hear about other people's  
14 grandfathers.

15                   I had three (3) main grandfathers. My  
16 fa -- my grandfather -- my biological grandfathers,  
17 ehtsee Bial (phonetic), he's probably one of the --  
18 the main person that all -- a lot of the things I talk  
19 about comes from his knowledge. I can't talk about  
20 somebody else's grandfather.

21                   One (1) of the biggest Dene law is you  
22 can't tell other people what to do. You don't go to  
23 somebody and say, This is the way you should do  
24 things. That has never happened when I lived on the  
25 land with my grandfather. And I think this plan would

1 show that.

2                   My grandfather had a father by the name  
3 of Tatti (phonetic). He comes from a place called  
4 Kutsoshee (phonetic) in the mountains. Shutotenow  
5 (phonetic), he'd say, true mountain Indian.

6                   His father died in 1928, probably part  
7 of the influenza, the flu that -- that killed of our  
8 Elders during that time. He said Tatti made it as far  
9 as Ducha (phonetic). He came as far as Bennett Field,  
10 and that's where he's buried today. He married one  
11 (1) of ehtsee's daughters. That's where ehtsee Rosie  
12 (phonetic) comes in. She was there. And -- and both  
13 the parents died there.

14                   They say it must have been a long --  
15 maybe -- I'm guessing, but 1928, around twelve (12)  
16 years old. Ehtsee Rosie was still breastfeeding.  
17 Both their parents died in 1928.

18                   So one (1) -- it leads to my other  
19 grandfather, my other grandfather that I know very  
20 well till I was about ten (10). He died in 1962.  
21 He's buried in -- in Salmo Bay (phonetic). His name  
22 is ehtsee Etsa (phonetic). Ehtsee Etsa picked up my  
23 grandfather and his sister and he raised them as his  
24 own.

25                   Ehtsee Etsa Tlicho deneda (phonetic),

1 ehtsee Etsa. His father, Deneabazee Etsa Benchohady  
2 (phonetic), in the 1850s ooyae (phonetic) around  
3 Yellowknife they lived. And ehtsee moved up this way.  
4 And he made his home around -- there's a place called  
5 the watershed, a big watershed of Deline -- or of  
6 Sahtu called Johnny Ho.

7 I do a lot of research about trying to  
8 find why names are like that and place names. So in  
9 our language, it's called tagachoday (phonetic).  
10 Johnny Ho is something that's on the map so people use  
11 it. But I think it means johneo (phonetic), not  
12 Johnny Ho.

13 So I think what -- what they're  
14 referring to, actually, if people -- somebody know,  
15 ehtsee Etsa's name might have been Johnny. I don't  
16 know. I didn't see his -- his old age pension. I  
17 knew him. As I say, I didn't -- I didn't even use his  
18 name ehtsee Etsa. Like, ehtsee was ehtsee, and that -  
19 - that was the end of that.

20 So I have -- I have three (3)  
21 grandfathers, one (1) Tlichu, one (1) Sahtu -- or  
22 Sahtu Dene. And I also have one (1) more that's a big  
23 influence in my life because my -- that's my mother's  
24 father, and I'd say Joe Kenny (phonetic). So I -- I  
25 have to thank them for many, many things that they

1 taught me. But I'm going to mention all of our  
2 grandfathers. Please, let me know if I miss somebody,  
3 or you think I should add somebody's name.

4                   When I talk today, when I talk about  
5 the plan, it's our grandfathers' plan. I'm going to  
6 say to myself, Is my grand -- are my grandfathers  
7 happy with the plan that we have today? Are we going  
8 in the right direction? Are we doing the things that  
9 they want us to do?

10                   So our grandfathers that lived here:  
11 ehtsee ke, Ehtsee Andre, Ehtsee Naedzo, Ehtsee Modeya,  
12 Ehtsee Zuzie cho, Ehtsee Kenny, Ehtsee Ferdinand,  
13 Ehtsee Zusie Kwi, Ehtsee Suszie. (NORTH SLAVEY  
14 LANGUAGE SPOKEN). Ehtsee Gule. (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE  
15 SPOKEN) around 1950s.

16                   Setaa Isadore Yukon, Ehtsee Alibere,  
17 Menacho family, the Taneton family, Ehtsee Lue, Ehtsee  
18 Patri ta, the Tetso family, Ehtsee Blondin, big family  
19 here in Deline. (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE SPOKEN).  
20 Ehtsee Junaota, the Takazo family. (NORTH SLAVEY  
21 LANGUAGE SPOKEN).

22                   Ehtsee Tutcho, Suse, Ehtsee Zuzie,  
23 Ehtsee Beyonnie, Sata, Chief Ilaya (phonetic) and  
24 Gorakin. (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE SPOKEN).

25                   Victor -- Victor Dolphus, Ehtsee Edua,

1 Blondin family, Vitalke. (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE  
2 SPOKEN). Sata ferasue, Tatti.

3 MR. WALTER BAYHA: So as you -- as you  
4 know here, even when I'm talking here, I never used  
5 those names before. They're all ehtsee to me. And I  
6 think one (1) of the things I learned as we say -- say  
7 out of respect, we never use their names. And it's  
8 only now that I'm learning.

9 So I'd like to thank all of my  
10 grandfathers. And I'm going to start summarizing.  
11 There is a -- we have a lot of pamphlets there. We  
12 have a lot of -- our plan is written. And all we did  
13 -- all we did -- I talk to the news all the time about  
14 this, and all we did, we took our grandfathers'  
15 knowledge, you know, through ourselves as -- as we  
16 know it, and we put it on paper.

17 And that's probably one (1) of the most  
18 challenging tasks that I ever had to do. I say today,  
19 I don't put the science and our knowledge together. I  
20 stopped doing that many years ago, because it doesn't  
21 work. It doesn't work because I could show you many  
22 literature, many studies where our knowledge would  
23 disappear in the science.

24 So what we've done, and I think I --  
25 I'm going to remind people that we -- it has worked

1 other places. We have -- we have the territorial  
2 SARA, Species at Risk, legislation, where we took the  
3 knowledge of our people and had it separate from the  
4 knowledge of the science. And it has worked.

5                   And I'm really glad that I did that,  
6 because at the beginning, I was a little sceptical. I  
7 didn't think it was going to work, but it does work.

8                   So in this plan, this is what we --  
9 this is what we -- what we did. We tried to -- to put  
10 all of our grandfathers' knowledge on paper. And --  
11 and there's a lot.

12                   And I think some of the things we were  
13 just talking this morning about the translation up  
14 there about memories and time, gowere got'se  
15 kenats'edi. Well I come from, Deline, and I would say  
16 hini (phonetic) kenats'edi.

17                   So even our language is changing, and  
18 one (1) of the things I'm learning is I need to be  
19 aware that everything is changing all the time. Our  
20 languages. But a big thing is to understand what  
21 they're talking about, to understand what this plan is  
22 about.

23                   You know, many of the things that we  
24 start out with, a lot of the ways our people pass on  
25 knowledge from one generation to the other for -- for

1 -- from my grandfather to me is through stories. And  
2 a lot of the things that I've learned is from the  
3 land. You learn when you're out on the land. I don't  
4 know if any of you have ever heard of -- the phrase:  
5 Our history is written on the land. It is.

6                   We're going to talk about some of the -  
7 - the way the translators e'a. I think we say -- in  
8 the plan, it's called laws and principles. And again,  
9 it goes back to our grandfathers. So when we did this  
10 plan, we had to make sure that not only our harvesters  
11 here in Deline support the plan, but also our  
12 leadership.

13                   You'll see in the plan that our  
14 leadership have signed the document, the plan that we  
15 have. And we're going to call that belarewile gotse  
16 ekwe. And it does -- it doesn't mean caribou forever.  
17 Not in the eyes of the Dene people. Those are the  
18 translation from the English version.

19                   So we have our Chief Leonard Kenny  
20 signed it. Our president of our land corporation, the  
21 main implementation people who are land claims, Gina  
22 Dolphus signed it. And we had Jimmy Dillon, the vice  
23 president of the Deline Renewable Resources Council  
24 signed it also.

25                   And even if we -- we do it, and -- and

1 as we go, this has been going on for almost two (2)  
2 years, maybe even longer. We have a lot of people  
3 that want to understand, that want to -- to be part of  
4 the plan, but when you take the -- the land claims and  
5 you take a lot of the other rights that they have, it  
6 becomes very confusing as what to -- what Deline is  
7 doing.

8                   The -- the plan, like I said, it -- I'm  
9 going to try to summarize all of it -- much as I -- as  
10 I go through it. But I'm going to emphasize one (1)  
11 thing about the plan right at the beginning. So  
12 important to any plan, any belarewile gotse ekwe plan  
13 that we have is you have to have your leadership  
14 supported.

15                   I know this is a huge thing that -- you  
16 know, across the territories. I -- you know, it is --  
17 it is very difficult to make a stand and say, This is  
18 what we're going to do. So I think I want the -- the  
19 public here to realize our leadership took a lot of  
20 flack at the beginning to support the plan, because as  
21 soon as we say this plan, as soon as we say, Okay,  
22 we're going to -- we didn't say we're going to abide  
23 by the quota, but as soon as the leadership supported  
24 the way things are going, the question comes up, and  
25 yesterday you heard a young man by the name of Gordon

1 Taneton talk about it.

2                   You know, when you said, When you take  
3 food away from your table, that is a huge issue here  
4 in Deline. But a plan doesn't do that. The plan is a  
5 guide. The plan is a way that we've always harvested  
6 in Deline or around Sahtu.

7                   There's certain things that we all have  
8 learned over the years about caribou, and we call it  
9 caribou laws, but I want you to refer -- read the  
10 story. There's a story told by Charlie at one (1) of  
11 our meetings. And he talks about ekwe. He talks  
12 about there's a story about ekwe and how ekwe became -  
13 - or a -- a Dene person became ekwe.

14                   The story is simple. I don't think you  
15 can say the story is confusing. So there's your  
16 connection. The story tells you that we relate to  
17 caribou as we do ourselves, our own brothers and  
18 sisters. It's a very different way of looking at it,  
19 I mean, for a lot of people, but I think for a true  
20 Dene, that is truly the way that our grandfathers have  
21 looked at caribou.

22                   You know when -- you can ask more  
23 questions about what these stories mean, and we'll --  
24 we'll try to accommodate you, because it doesn't  
25 matter how many times you read the story, you are

1 going to learn new things.

2                   The first time I saw that story was in  
3 the -- a book called -- or a -- a document called Dene  
4 kede that was written many, many years ago. In fact,  
5 Fibbie is one (1) of the -- the architects of those.  
6 And they talk about -- that was the first time I seen  
7 where they try to interpret stories so that they can  
8 find what the meaning of these stories are. That is  
9 how we started off.

10                   The plan came about over a period of  
11 probably two (2) years. Like everything else in  
12 Deline, we have -- we -- everyday here in Deline, we  
13 have things that are happening here from outside.  
14 Deline is not resisting, but Deline is saying, Let us  
15 do our plan. Let us make our own decisions here in  
16 Deline.

17                   And I think everything that you see  
18 uphill now, starting with our -- the treaty of 1921,  
19 the land claims, self-government today, this plan.  
20 There's one (1) common theme in all of them. Deline  
21 is saying, Let us make our own decisions.

22                   Let us make our own decisions the way  
23 our grandfathers would have -- would have done. Let  
24 us make a decision that our grandfathers would be  
25 proud of. So over a period of two (2) years, we had a

1 series of meetings, many meetings, and I think the  
2 theme is, again, we have to rebuild those  
3 relationships we had with our ekwe the way our  
4 grandfathers had.

5                   And a beautiful thing came of that,  
6 because Deline is -- also has a vision. The ten (10)  
7 year vision we call it here in this plan, but it's no  
8 different than the vision that we have overall in  
9 Deline. That vision guides us.

10

11                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

12

13                   MR. WALTER BAYHA: You know, many --  
14 many people -- and I'm going to try to quote as many  
15 people as I can in the plan. Raymond Tutcho, I'm  
16 looking at his quote here. It's:

17                   "What we're putting in this plan is  
18                   for our future."

19                   I think one (1) of the things I said  
20 there in -- in this section is that ekwe and ourselves  
21 as people, we're free to do what we want. Many times  
22 you hear our elders here talking about ekwe edets'e  
23 k'aots'ereve. They go where they want. We have no  
24 control over that. Ownership -- ownership of the plan  
25 of -- of caribou doesn't come to my head. I don't own

1 caribou. They make up their own minds through -- a  
2 true Dene.

3                   So I think it's important here  
4 highlighting what it says up there about the ten (10)  
5 vision. Deninu Kue are free to main their relation  
6 through their own aya (phonetic), our own laws, our  
7 own history, the way our grandfather's always do --  
8 been doing things. I think that is very important.  
9 That doesn't change. That doesn't change because we  
10 have a quota. That doesn't change because we have  
11 other people talking about their rights to hunt.

12                   That doesn't change because, if you  
13 look at the history of our people, they have always  
14 maintained their relations with -- with other  
15 communities, other bands, other people, as well, and I  
16 think we -- we have to remember that.

17

18                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

19

20                   MR. WALTER BAYHA: Every input -- and  
21 there's another story that we all know here. We've  
22 said that so many times. The story, I think it came  
23 out yesterday. I think Alfred or somebody was talking  
24 about it yesterday, or Leon. Leon Modeste was talking  
25 about it. Degahakwe (phonetic) they had a meeting

1 that day. The first time I heard it was from William  
2 Suey (phonetic).

3                   And I urge people to try to understand  
4 what that meeting was all about. That was a meeting  
5 between the deguy (phonetic). Deguy didn't want ekwe  
6 around. But I think eventually the story goes that  
7 ekwe speaks out. And they said: We -- what have we  
8 done to you? Why don't you want us to be around?

9                   But all them -- stories that the -- the  
10 rest of the cohorts of the wolves, they eventually  
11 said: Ekwe has done nothing for us, except provide us  
12 with food. And they will be part of our lives. They  
13 will be part of the land.

14                   So read the story. I think it's an  
15 excellent story. The story goes back many, many, many  
16 years.

17                   I'm on page 4. Who's my technical  
18 advisor? If you can get page 4 up there. I have -- I  
19 remind again please read the stories. They're so  
20 important.

21                   If people -- if people come to me today  
22 and say, here's the story that my grandfather told and  
23 I think this is what it means, I would love it. Those  
24 stories are not that different with all Aboriginal  
25 across, not only the territories, but across North

1 America.

2 I want to spend some times on the  
3 principles and the laws that we have that are so  
4 important to -- to me. I'm going to start. And  
5 remember I said I'm talking me. I would love it when  
6 all of our people here can talk about their own  
7 grandfathers because I come from a certain area. And  
8 I'll tell you at the end of the -- the plan why that  
9 is so important.

10 The first one (1) is I hear it almost  
11 every day today. And I think Charlie -- the other  
12 day, Charlie reminded us about the first principle  
13 that we used in this plan. And I think the -- the --  
14 Charlie told the story, and I think Morris knows that  
15 very well. And I hope -- I -- I hope Morris mentions  
16 that story.

17 The story is that you don't talk about  
18 caribou or wildlife. I always wondered before, when I  
19 -- first time I came here as a wildlife officer I  
20 said, What was the reasons for that. Well, it is very  
21 simple. The first thing I learn is talk about me, me  
22 harvesting. The caribou doesn't have an issue, we do.

23 So I said, Talk about harvesting, what  
24 do we do, the great rule of many of our hunters, many  
25 of our grandfathers. And then probably one of the

1 greatest principle that I learned as a human being, as  
2 a Dene, and you hear it every day, even though -- even  
3 the people that don't speak our language. There's  
4 going to be Elders today or people talking about in  
5 their own language, including the Tlicho and Gahcho  
6 Dene here and the Shutaw (phonetic) Dene, they're  
7 going to say (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE SPOKEN).

8                   I always wondered what that meant as a  
9 child. When I first came out of one (1) of the  
10 institutions called Groyer Hall (phonetic), I was a  
11 teenager. I was about sixteen (16) years old.

12                   And this is why my grandfather said --  
13 we were out trapping out on the land and having  
14 supper. And he said (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE SPOKEN).  
15 He was talking about one (1) of my cousins, and in my  
16 head I'm thinking like this: Why didn't he just say  
17 that he's bad and he's in prison all the time and he's  
18 not very good? That's the way I was thinking.

19                   He wasn't saying that. He was saying,  
20 He's not a Dene. That's why he's doing that. So I  
21 asked a Dene question. I said, Well, if he's not a  
22 Dene, who is a Dene? That's the right question in my  
23 head. And then I think all of the things that, to be  
24 a true Dene, comes out.

25                   To be a true Dene is that you have to

1 have a good relationship with your wildlife and your  
2 land and -- and mother earth. You have to have some  
3 kind of relation with the Creator. And I think  
4 throughout your life, those things are important to  
5 you. You balance them out. You make those decisions  
6 balancing those things that are important to you.

7           The other -- the third principle I have  
8 here that is very important as well, Deline, I just  
9 talked about our grandfathers. And if you went back  
10 two (2) generations, there might be six (6)  
11 grandfathers.

12           So in a lot of ways, we come from one  
13 (1) family. We're not from -- from different  
14 families. Of -- of course our families have come here  
15 from other areas. But basically, the word that my  
16 grandfather used, (NORTH SLAVEY SPOKEN), one (1)  
17 family.

18           And then the third principle -- or the  
19 fourth principle I have on here that's so important to  
20 the plan: Hunt like your grandfather. I do. I make  
21 fire like my grandfather. I probably skin caribou  
22 like my grandfather. I probably cook like my  
23 grandfather out on the land. Those are very  
24 important. Our grandfathers are important.

25           I just want to check with the

1 translators. You guys are all okay back there? The  
2 transla -- good? Let me know if I go too fast here.

3                   You know, one (1) of the things that's  
4 so important to our grandfathers is being healthy. I  
5 never really thought about it that much until we were  
6 doing this plan. Being healthy is important to our  
7 grandfathers. Being healthy today is important. So  
8 we ask ourselves in this plan: What makes people,  
9 enekwee (phonetic), healthy?

10                   Probably one (1) of the ones that we're  
11 talk about a lot is the sharing, the sharing  
12 relationship. Yesterday you heard it three (3) or  
13 four (4) times from people that spoke. We're a  
14 sharing people, a sharing nation. And that's part of  
15 being Dene Ts'ili.

16                   A big one that's going to come up all  
17 the time is governance, datse koutsewee (phonetic).  
18 You decide. And the one that I like here that I never  
19 really appreciated that much until I -- I left the  
20 territories to go to school and come back. You travel  
21 freely on your land. No one is going to tell you what  
22 to do on your land.

23                   And the big one out today we talk about  
24 is living with caribou. Us, as a people. There's  
25 huge pop -- population cycles. I see it as a child

1 growing up out on the land. Huge numbers of rabbits  
2 some years. Some years there are -- there are none.  
3 The same with the ptarmigan. The same with fish. We  
4 have to accept that.

5 I love this phrase here -- we have  
6 here, Keeping the land healthy. It is such beautiful  
7 words when you say that. Keeping the land healthy.  
8 It is really up to us. You've heard it many times of  
9 the impacts that we have as people on -- on our own  
10 land.

11 And then this one that I heard for --  
12 for hundreds and hundreds of days, and -- and my whole  
13 career as a -- as a wildlife officer, Asii kats'iniwe.  
14 They're talking about food, and not just caribou, all  
15 food. And Deline is renowned for the lake. That  
16 means that we eat a lot fish. (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE  
17 SPOKEN). That means that we have to eat all the  
18 different foods we have around Bear Lake to keep  
19 healthy.

20 And then the next page of -- of -- I  
21 don't know if some of you are following but we've also  
22 wrote it down so that you can -- you cannot only read  
23 it but follow it, but I want to communicate. I want  
24 to make sure that you know what this plan is about.

25 There's three (3) things that we looked

1 at when we were looking at the plan, or developing the  
2 plan. We need to make sure that we have consensus in  
3 the community, and we do follow the visions of our  
4 grandfathers, that the Plan is real, and that supports  
5 the vision. We can't have a plan that we can't --  
6 that's not real that we can't make it work. It's got  
7 to be real. It's got to be practical.

8                   And I think one of the things the Plan  
9 does very well is that the approach to conservation is  
10 not only for Deline here as a community and our  
11 watershed here around Bear Lake, but within the region  
12 as well as the -- the Northwest Territories. And  
13 national, if -- if that helps.

14                   I think that is so important. People  
15 have to learn to differentiate between a plan like  
16 this -- I heard this morning from a number of people  
17 already again, people have to learn that this is  
18 Deline's plan, and -- and nobody else's plan. And  
19 then we -- it -- that goes down to the individuals,  
20 and this is the land that they harvest on and they  
21 hunt on, and they fish on.

22                   You know, we were at a meeting, Leonard  
23 and I, the last meeting we were at territorial wide  
24 when they were talking about a quota. And I was at  
25 that meeting and I was telling myself, Why don't we

1 talk about where we harvest caribou?

2                   Why are we talking about the nine  
3 hundred and fifty (950) quota? What -- what -- that  
4 doesn't make any sense to me. I'm sitting there. It  
5 doesn't make any sense from somebody from the Fort  
6 Smith region, quibatcha (phonetic) region, to be  
7 talking about hunting caribou in the -- the Bluenose  
8 herd. It didn't make sense to me.

9                   But they wouldn't talk about it. They  
10 wouldn't talk about where they harvest. They're going  
11 to talk about this quota that's sitting there in front  
12 of them, how much I can get from that.

13                   I think sometimes you -- you have to  
14 remember that. It's not a matter of how much you can  
15 get from that. The Dene way is to tell you -- tell  
16 about where they harvest. The Dene never talked about  
17 a quota in the past. That never even comes to their  
18 mind.

19                   So I think that -- that tells you how -  
20 - how we confuse the way we should be doing things  
21 with a lot of things that happens at the nat -- at the  
22 regional or national level.

23                   The plan -- one (1) of the things that  
24 we have to -- to look at in this plan is how are we  
25 going to make our plan work. Well, I know by now you

1 have, and a lot of people confuse these plans, at --  
2 not only at the national level, or at the -- at the  
3 territorial level, with regional action plans that we  
4 have and the caribou management plans. I hear it all  
5 the time.

6                   And one (1) of the people that really  
7 talks about those kinds of things is the news people.  
8 How does your plan relate to the caribou management  
9 plan that you have, that the ACCWM put out? I think  
10 they went -- the ENR has gone through that.

11                   If you look at those plans, the Deline  
12 plans fits in with those plans. There's one (1) at  
13 the territorial level. There's one (1) at the  
14 regional level. You all must -- you all -- you must  
15 remember that the -- and this is why at the beginning  
16 I talked about Sahtu Renewable Resources Board, they  
17 are the main instrument of wildlife management in  
18 Sahtu. Nobody makes a plan without their approval.

19                   And today this is why I'm talking to  
20 them. I'm talking to them so that they accept our  
21 plan. They accept Deline's wishes. We also have  
22 other legislation that may affect our plan. My -- I'm  
23 not sure at this time, but there's other legislation  
24 that deal with caribou called Species at Risk.

25                   They go through a process themselves.

1 Eventually, maybe, I don't know how long it's going to  
2 take, ten (10) years from now they're going to say,  
3 Well, this is what we think should happen with caribou  
4 and these are the legislation we're going to put in.

5                   One (1) of the things that -- that is  
6 very -- so important as well is that we need -- and  
7 somebody talked about it, about education, about  
8 telling people about, you know, how -- how we harvest,  
9 what do we do here in Deline, in the Deline district.

10                   We must also relate to the other  
11 communities that are in Sahtu. So there was a number  
12 of meetings that happened during this development of  
13 this plan. We had a gathering in -- probably one (1)  
14 of the first time we had a gathering in Colville Lake  
15 in -- I think it was last year in April, where there  
16 was all of the main organizations that -- that -- like  
17 the RRC, the SSI, the Land Corporations.

18                   That was one (1) time in our history  
19 where they were all there in one (1) place and they  
20 talked about the harvesting. That happened only once  
21 in our history of our land claims and they made all  
22 these resolutions. And it's wonderful to see  
23 resolutions. It's wonderful to see, like Ethel talked  
24 about yesterday, that we need fundings for the RRCs.

25                   The average funds that the RRCs get is

1 probably one hundred (100) k, not even enough to run  
2 an office. So during even the development of this  
3 plan, this is why we needed the -- the support of the  
4 leadership, because a lot of the money has to come  
5 from them as well.

6

7

(BRIEF PAUSE)

8

9 MR. WALTER BAYHA: The -- the approach  
10 that -- I'm going to get -- this is probably the --  
11 the crux of the -- of the Plan. Now, we need to -- to  
12 talk about what we're going to do.

13 Now, one of the things that's so  
14 important, it doesn't matter what you do or what --  
15 what kind of project you have, you must -- the Plan  
16 has to have people that trust it. And it has to be  
17 able to be flexible enough so that we can change a few  
18 things if we have to. And I -- and I wish one day the  
19 Plan is in our own language only, the concepts and the  
20 language. That is so important.

21 That is so important because many,  
22 many, many years ago I've learned that if you don't  
23 have a language you don't have a culture. So like the  
24 -- like the -- the intelligent person I am, I thought  
25 to myself, Well, I don't speak the -- if I don't speak

1 the language then I don't have no culture.

2                   And then one of the things I should  
3 mention here while this -- when -- when we're  
4 developing this plan, we had -- because -- you know,  
5 one of Dora's quote in here, Dora Blondin (phonetic),  
6 said, We've never had a plan like this before. And I  
7 think he -- she's thinking about we -- yeah, we never  
8 put a plan like this on paper. That's what she's  
9 saying.

10                   But in -- in her quote she said, If we  
11 do make one we all have to abide by it. And this is  
12 coming from one of our traditional ladies here in  
13 Deline. But when we developed this plan, we had to do  
14 it in a way that -- that we -- we do come out with a  
15 plan. We don't just keep talking about it.

16                   So Michael -- Michael Nacelle, and  
17 myself, we went to a course where we're -- we were  
18 taught by people that make conservation plans. There  
19 was a guy there that we got really close to by the  
20 name of Stuart Cowell, and he made plans with  
21 Aboriginal people. Not here, but in Australia.

22                   And I think we learned a lot about --  
23 about the kind of things that -- that you have to do  
24 as a facilitator to get a plan done. And one of the  
25 things I learned during the five (5) day really

1 intensive course, halfway through the course they  
2 said, The best facilitators are the people that know  
3 nothing about the sub -- the -- the topic that the  
4 conservation plan is for. And that's very true  
5 because the facilitator then concentrates on other  
6 people, not his knowledge. Is getting the -- the  
7 people to agree, and to put things on paper.

8                   But anyway this is where I'm getting  
9 into the -- the way that the conservation plans, the  
10 way they recommended that the -- the plan work. And  
11 we started off with the program areas, the health,  
12 Dene ekwe neni (phonetic), we have it down here.

13                   Because the way we use land and the  
14 areas, and -- and yesterday we talk about areas of  
15 habitat, they are linked. They are linked into ways  
16 that affect ekwe. Another program area is we have  
17 here nutzazii (phonetic), and I think they're talking  
18 mainly about (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE SPOKEN), and more  
19 like any predators could be. (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE  
20 SPOKEN).

21

22                   (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

23

24                   MR. WALTER BAYHA: We talked about it  
25 yesterday, how -- what we're going to do with the

1 wolf. The wildlife officers, they said that they'll  
2 help us, if you're going to look for it, we're going  
3 to pay you this much. Us Dene people would -- never  
4 said anything yet. For the future, we have to take a  
5 look at it.

6                   And, also, when we talk about programs,  
7 as governance, we are the ones who are to make the  
8 decisions in our -- our own laws. That way, we can  
9 have a future in the...

10                   And, also, our culture and -- and our  
11 knowledge, it includes -- and talk to each other. In  
12 the past, Morris and I really know about our history,  
13 how we...

14

15                   (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

16

17                   MR. WALTER BAYHA: At the time that we  
18 grew up there was always leadership in harvesting.  
19 There's only certain people that harvest all the time,  
20 certain families that had the best area sometimes, but  
21 again, those -- all of those things go in cycles. But  
22 there was leadership. There was people once a year  
23 that came here to Deline and said, This is happening  
24 and this is what we should do.

25                   So here the conservation plan also has

1 -- has steps that we talked about. We talked about  
2 the steps in the process. We talked about the  
3 history. We talked about the history in terms of old-  
4 time Dene way, ekwe diga. They had a meeting. We  
5 talked about that. We talked about governance. We  
6 talk about the land claims. We talk about self-  
7 government, what does it look in the future. And then  
8 we added the stories.

9                   You have it up there. Those steps are  
10 so important. We looked at what the issue was. We  
11 had a bit of a plan. And now it's time to act. Maybe  
12 next year we'll monitor. Maybe think, if this doesn't  
13 work, then we go -- we do something else. And then we  
14 share here in Deline what we learn, not of anybody  
15 else, for us, as a people here.

16                   We talked about the way our -- our  
17 knowledge is going to work. We said, It stays here.  
18 You put your grandfather's name on there and somebody  
19 wants to use it, they go ask your grandfather or  
20 yourself.

21                   Some of the things that came out during  
22 the -- when we were going through the process, some of  
23 the challenges we have -- and we deal with that almost  
24 every day. We hear these things. The land is drier.

25                   You know, when Morris was telling me

1 about the story about one (1) of his grandfathers, I  
2 think it was in -- in-laws, about how dry the land is,  
3 I -- I couldn't believe it at first because that's the  
4 first thing I look at. I say, Well, look at how many  
5 lakes we have, how many rivers. We got water  
6 everywhere here. But our Elders have said, No, the  
7 land is dry.

8                   Yesterday, you looked at a map, a map  
9 of all of the fires in -- in the territories, a little  
10 bit of history of where the fires... They mentioned  
11 that 2014 was a year where they have a lot of fires.  
12 And we'll bring up that map. I think we're going to  
13 use that. But we do have a lot more fires today, and  
14 they're probably directly related to the -- to the  
15 land, of how dry it is.

16                   One (1) of the other things, I came --  
17 I said, We have a lot more vegetation. It might  
18 relate to the reason that we have -- it's warmer.  
19 Look at our temperature outside today. This morning I  
20 think it was minus 17. This is -- this is February,  
21 you know, March. We're just -- you don't hear that  
22 thirty (30) years ago.

23                   I think one (1) of the things our  
24 Elders talk about all the time is the -- the  
25 development, development of all of our -- not only in

1 our area certainly, but all through the path of -- of  
2 ekwe, of the migration routes.

3                   And then I think one (1) of the things  
4 that came out in our plan that's very important,  
5 that's going to be part of the plan, is a good home,  
6 good habitat.

7                   A few years ago, we -- we had -- we --  
8 we followed weather here. And probably one (1) of the  
9 most important one that comes out with our -- our  
10 knowledge and our Elders is when it rains in November  
11 or just before winter, when that happens, it covers  
12 this ice on the food of caribou.

13                   And imagine you -- you going out there  
14 and trying to get your food through ice. It's  
15 difficult. I don't know how we're going to look at  
16 it, but it'd be nice to know how often that happens,  
17 how much of an area it covers, and how much of an  
18 impact it has on caribou.

19                   And then one (1) of the things that we  
20 looked at that's always through because of our divi --  
21 we follow divisions. I was telling you about our  
22 grandfather, especially Ehtsee Ayha. But in the  
23 future, the ecological and the cultural, you know,  
24 world that we have here would be at risk. There's  
25 going to be big impacts to that.

1                   You know, I -- I think I've -- I've  
2 gone through a lot of the things that are in the plan.  
3 A lot of the -- the rest of the stuff is detailing it  
4 again and coming up with action plans.

5                   So I'm going to try to -- try to -- to  
6 wind down here a little bit. One (1) of the biggest  
7 part of this plan is our youth. Our youth must know  
8 about our plan. Our youth must know about how the  
9 grandfathers hunted and what the big issue is today  
10 about caribou.

11                   Many of them are probably wondering why  
12 we're talking so much about it. I think simply here  
13 all -- all we want for them is we want our children to  
14 hunt like their grandfathers.

15                   You know, I -- we -- we go through this  
16 plan and -- and talk about many, many, many things.  
17 And one (1) of the things that -- that's so  
18 interesting when I talk about it is the Dene people  
19 historically have always appreciated their best  
20 hunters.

21                   You know, I -- I don't know how many of  
22 you know the story about the first hunt of a -- of a  
23 Dene child. You know, by the time I was seven (7),  
24 eight (8) years old, I can hunt animals, especially  
25 the little -- you know, the -- the snowshoe hare.

1                   And in our history, that is -- the day  
2 that you hunt something, that you kill an animal that  
3 you're going to eat, the Dene people celebrate it.  
4 Then they made sure you remember, and they do it by  
5 tearing your clothes off so that you remember that  
6 first day that you hunted. You killed an animal.

7                   A human being does not kill animals.  
8 You're taught to do that. But when they teach you to  
9 do that and you actually do it, they rip your clothes  
10 off so that you remember that day forever.

11                   I wanted to do that to my brother, and  
12 my grandmothers and mothers, they said no. They were  
13 -- they were horrified. My grandfather didn't say  
14 anything. I -- I think he appreciated. I don't know  
15 if we're going to do that today.

16                   But -- but anyway, the way we're going  
17 to celebrate that, because I don't think we're going  
18 to -- when somebody shoots their first animal, we're  
19 not going to rip their clothes apart.

20                   I think we have a tradition that --  
21 where the first hunt -- and I think somebody was doing  
22 that not too long ago -- they shared all of their food  
23 to make sure all of our grandfathers, our Elders here  
24 know that they have hunted an animal.

25                   But one (1) of the way we're going to

1 do it here in this plan is -- we call it a Dene ts'ili  
2 award. We're going to appreciate those people that  
3 follow our grandfather laws, that have a good  
4 relationship with -- with our land, with water, that  
5 carry on the traditions of our people.

6                   You can read the -- the plans. The  
7 award is in the brochure. I think we have some --  
8 some guidelines that we put down where we're going to  
9 use to evaluate who gets the award. But I think all  
10 it is to appreciate those people that do that.

11                   And then probably one (1) of the  
12 biggest ones that -- in the plan that we -- we -- and  
13 -- and it's all there -- sometimes I wish we can do  
14 these plans in -- in the way that our people have  
15 done, in the way our grandfathers done, but we can't.  
16 We -- we live in a -- a world today that we have to  
17 accept things the way they are today.

18                   And one (1) of the things that we have  
19 to consider is the -- the compliance with this plan,  
20 with this process. So we sat down and say, Here, this  
21 is how we're going to do it, and there's nothing  
22 different from many, many -- our history. That's the  
23 way the Dene people have always done things.

24                   Historically, when I was growing up, if  
25 I made a -- if I did something our elders didn't like,

1 or the community, they asked the family to deal with  
2 it. That tradition has been lost. You don't see that  
3 very much. And today I'm going to bring it back, and  
4 I'm going to say, Here, talk about your area, talk  
5 about your harvesting, talk about your grandfather.

6 I'm going to talk about this area, but  
7 I'm -- I grew up in this area, not here. So the  
8 family has that responsibility. The family has issues  
9 with it, and they can't move on it, then it goes to  
10 the RRC. The RRCs would pick somebody. They might  
11 pick a -- a leader. They might decide they want, you  
12 know, two (2) people, three (3) people, and they're  
13 going to deal with these issues, whatever a harvester  
14 is doing and -- and not complying with this plan.

15 And then if there's -- we -- you always  
16 have a -- a third step where you are going to involve  
17 the actual laws that are there already, because this  
18 plan would be part of it. And if you -- if you want  
19 to know where the connection is, it would probably be  
20 through the -- the -- I think Morris mentioned that  
21 yesterday, the -- the quotas.

22 You know, I hate to say that the --  
23 they're going to be there or -- they are -- they are  
24 going to be there, because Deline is only a -- a very  
25 small part of the overall management of caribou in the

1 territories. So we'll have an officer, probably a  
2 member of the DRC (sic), and probably one (1) more  
3 Elder in there that would make the final decision as  
4 they may decide that, you know, this person would have  
5 to be charged, if that is the case, but there's a  
6 process.

7                   And hopefully we resolve a lot of those  
8 things before it gets to the courts. Because from our  
9 history here in Deline, the courts haven't helped us  
10 very much. Laws don't help us very much. Maybe, you  
11 know, maybe some things you see benefits, you know,  
12 from the land claims in 1993 to today when we have a -  
13 - a caribou plan, maybe there's a benefit, but it  
14 takes a long time with these laws.

15                   And the present laws that we have does  
16 not, you know, comply with the way the Dene people  
17 have always been doing things.

18                   Paul, you -- you want a break? I know  
19 that...

20                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: It's up to you,  
21 Walter.

22                   MR. WALTER BAYHA: Well, I --

23                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: If you're  
24 getting close, we can -- we can go there, or if you  
25 want to have a break right now, I -- it's -- it's --

1 if you're feeling you need a rest, for sure.

2 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Well, I think --  
3 yeah, we need a break, plus I want to get into the --  
4 talk about our history of harvesting for my family so  
5 that you know what I'm talking about.

6 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

7 MR. WALTER BAYHA: So I need to set  
8 up, anyway.

9 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Then --

10 MR. WALTER BAYHA: And the  
11 interpreters probably need a break, too, yeah.

12 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Yeah, good  
13 point. Okay. We'll take a fifteen (15) minute break.  
14 Back at 10:30. Thank you.

15

16 --- Upon recessing at 10:17 a.m.

17 --- Upon resuming at 10:41 a.m.

18

19 THE VICE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. We're  
20 going to resume the Deline panel's presentation. Any  
21 time you're ready, Walter and gang.

22

23 (BRIEF PAUSE)

24

25 MR. WALTER BAYHA: It's all George's

1 fault, he said. Anyhow, probably one (1) of the most  
2 important part of -- or very important part of  
3 decision-making for Deline -- and I sort of skipped  
4 over, because I -- I want to talk about where my  
5 family harvests.

6 I mean, that is very important because,  
7 you know, here we're talking about one (1) species.  
8 Deline people -- I hope everybody can see that map.  
9 Bear Lake doesn't look like Bear Lake, but I think you  
10 could see it.

11 Here's Bear Lake, and then you've got -  
12 - you can see -- Tutcho would be down here, Isatu  
13 (phonetic) Tutcho. Now you know where the -- the name  
14 Tutcho comes from. It's not Tutcho. It's Tut Cho  
15 (phonetic).

16 Anyway, my family -- I told you about  
17 my grandfather. Here's the Johnny Ho, Tekacho De  
18 (phonetic). Goes all the way like this. Here's  
19 Keller Lake. That's in Tlichu area, and their border  
20 -- something goes like this here. So this whole  
21 watershed here, this is where I grew up, around here.  
22 And that name is named after one (1) of my  
23 grandfathers.

24 So typically in August, a lot of our  
25 people would be all in Tulita trading, usually in the

1 summertime, they'd -- and by August, they'd be going  
2 back to their -- their areas where they -- and this is  
3 the area that my family grew up in, mainly the  
4 Kotekins (phonetic) too, as well, but there's a whole  
5 -- we have a list of all the families, where they come  
6 from, where their grandfathers -- that's how you  
7 start.

8                   So generally in the fall time, you  
9 would harvest what? What do you think people harvest?  
10 These days, today and for the last ten (10) years,  
11 it's been caribou. We do a lot of hunting on the  
12 north shore here. But historically, when I grew up,  
13 when I was only ten (10) years old, it's fish -- fish  
14 in the fall time.

15                   Fish here is incredible in the fall  
16 time, in -- in August, and whitefish. Johnny Ho  
17 River, huge watershed, huge. Historically, people  
18 were all through here, especially the Tlicho people.  
19 This is all their country when I -- in the days when I  
20 grew up.

21                   So fish. We would -- we would hung --  
22 we'd hang lots and lots of whitefish, good whitefish,  
23 and moose. We didn't -- at the time, until -- I think  
24 until I came here, when I was a game warden, '83, I  
25 don't remember harvesting caribou that much. Maybe

1 once in a while I went to my grandfather in the fall  
2 time here.

3                   The last seven (7), eight (8) years --  
4 and, Morris, correct me if I'm wrong -- we don't --  
5 there's nothing. There's no caribou here any more.  
6 Two (2) years ago, Raymond Tutcho went out. He  
7 harvested five (5) here in the fall time. That was  
8 it.

9                   So we say to ourselves, We're not going  
10 to spend any energy if we're not getting much. Five  
11 (5) caribou for the whole community is -- is really --  
12 is very poor, so we're not going to do that anymore.  
13 We're going to go after the resources that are around.  
14 This -- this is the reason why I'm telling you the  
15 history of the cycle.

16                   So in the fall time, moose, then fish,  
17 okay? So the cycle goes. And you -- those days, you  
18 harvested wild furs, so there'll be trapping in this  
19 area. And then, around December, you know, you have  
20 to go back to pick up some supplies, Deline or Tulita,  
21 and then a -- a bit more trapping.

22                   But in January, February, that's the  
23 coldest part of -- of the year. And people depended  
24 on fish. We depended on fish. And so we learned that  
25 very well when I was growing up, where those locations

1 are. You couldn't -- you know, when I came back in  
2 '83, I thought, Gee, you know, you can put a net  
3 anywhere. We'll -- we'll just try this spot here.

4                   My grandfather always told me that  
5 there's no fish there in -- in January and February.  
6 But me working for the -- the wildlife service, I  
7 said, Well, I got to check it out. So 8 -- 6 -- 8  
8 feet of ice, me and Chrissy (phonetic) were out there  
9 with a Bombardier making the holes. And we spent  
10 three (3) days there.

11                   And finally, we got a net there. The  
12 next day we went out, there was nothing, no fish. If  
13 I listened to my grandfather, I wouldn't be doing  
14 that, but I guess I needed to find out for myself.  
15 Anyway, it was good exercise, I think.

16                   So January, there's certain places you  
17 put a net, and Treenlay (phonetic) is one of them.  
18 Bitzumay (phonetic) -- there's a place called  
19 Bitzumay, a huge fishery area, but you got to know  
20 where to put the net. You're not going to catch any  
21 fish by putting a net anywhere on Bear Lake.

22                   So I think part of the -- the plan here  
23 is to reintroduce our food sources, our major food  
24 sources. And I'm talking about only this part of Bear  
25 Lake. You got families that live here. You got

1 families that are here Titatone (phonetic), Tsia  
2 (phonetic) Titatone, Nitiga (phonetic), Dinela  
3 (phonetic), even here, ewei (phonetic).

4                   If you go back a hundred years, and we  
5 had people there, Ewegotinay (phonetic) Sayutineay  
6 (phonetic), Trelutenay (phonetic). So this is why  
7 it's important that people -- our people learn that  
8 when -- although we say, Dedlenotany (phonetic),  
9 Dedlenotany Government, well, no, it should be Sahtu -  
10 - Sahtu Government, because we're talking about the  
11 whole lake.

12                   So part of the -- the plan is to -- to  
13 do that. We have in April, a big fishery. We -- we  
14 haven't fished -- too bad the Tutcho family are not  
15 here, Raymond and John, the one that comes in here all  
16 the time. He fishes all the time. That's what he do  
17 -- or -- or Jimmy's (phonetic) over here, he's Tutcho.  
18 They grew up in here, all of his brothers, all twelve  
19 (12) of them, because of the fish.

20                   There's always fish. There's --  
21 there's always food there. And that's so important  
22 today for Deline, because we're saying, Okay, the  
23 families that go there, they can go with us and we --  
24 we'll get those food sources. I think that would make  
25 a big difference in terms of -- in terms of if the

1 plan is going to work.

2                   And one (1) of the biggest ones that we  
3 still the last two (2), three (3) years have been  
4 talking, we have to get the fish in October. I don't  
5 know. You know, there's Colville Lake people here.  
6 What is so important in October for fish? What  
7 happens in October with fish? What does people eat?  
8 I'm talking about food. What do they eat in October  
9 that's so important to the Dene people?

10                   Who said fish eggs? Fish eggs. Me.  
11 And I think the only time I ate fish egg is when one  
12 (1) of the Kochon boys brought in some fish, you know,  
13 from October that had the eggs in there. But in  
14 October, and this is the challenge here, we want to go  
15 here in October, but we can't. The lake is too rough.  
16

17                   So we're trying to find other ways.  
18 We're trying to get people to stay there. Or maybe  
19 there's a way that we can get out there. There's a  
20 huge cost of getting out there, but we want that fish.  
21 We want those fish eggs in the fall time.

22                   Imagine people eating fish eggs in the  
23 -- in October. They're not going to be worried about  
24 eating caribou. Why would you? I want to shoot  
25 caribou in October. Why wouldn't I want to shoot

1 caribou in October? It tastes funny. So you'd stay  
2 away from them in October anyway.

3                   So that's what we're going to do, and  
4 this is what's so important about food alternatives.  
5 We have a lot of food. Fish here, fish here, fish  
6 here. Bear Lake last -- I think it was last year --  
7 Leonard was there, you know, we had one (1) day of  
8 fish derby, eh.

9                   You know, who was that -- Frederick,  
10 over here he said: No, my brother, Peter. He said he  
11 set some nets, or -- or fish hooks. I didn't catch  
12 anything. Well, last year in -- I think it was in May  
13 we had a big fishing derby. In a nine (9) hour  
14 period, there was something like a hundred and ten  
15 (110) people fishing, we got what, how many fish we  
16 get, Leonard, a hundred and twenty (120)? There was  
17 so -- you should see the fish. They're all there  
18 sitting. We've got photos. You should see it. It's  
19 wonderful to see that.

20                   And yet it almost seemed like the fish  
21 are not there. They are there. You know, I fished  
22 out there for nine (9) hours. I caught fourteen (14)  
23 fish. I took -- I took out everything. I went, I  
24 took out my Coleman stove. I took out -- well  
25 actually, Leonard, you stopped there. I -- I was

1 cooking out there while I'm fishing. I said, I'm  
2 going to fish for nine (9) hours. I have to make sure  
3 I catch a big fish, and I did.

4                   But I think it's -- a lot of things  
5 we're learning, you have -- you have to have not only  
6 patience but again the big thing with the Plan, go to  
7 your grandfathers. All your grandfathers talk about  
8 when they tell you stories. How they hunted. Where  
9 they fished. It's stories but that's -- they're  
10 telling you that. They're telling you exactly where  
11 to get the fish.

12                   So I think those would be very  
13 interesting or a lot of our young people. And I think  
14 a big part of the -- of learning about your own  
15 history and the whole pattern of how our grandfathers  
16 have harvested adds to -- to the -- not only to our  
17 knowledge but certainly, you know, to -- to learning  
18 about -- about your country.

19                   So this is twulelee (phonetic). So  
20 often, you know, I -- I bet you I can ask right now  
21 about how many people now where -- or how many people  
22 will know pic acho de (phonetic)? How many people now  
23 that pic acho de is all -- we had all kinds of pic  
24 acho de. We got one (1) here. One (1) in the river.  
25 Johnny Ho. We got another one over here.

1                   Well, I'm learning. Me, I'm -- I'm  
2 sixty-two (62) years old and I'm learning a lot of the  
3 -- some of the things that they're talking about. I  
4 say, quit et teta (phonetic). Those are land forms.  
5 They're not only talking about the place but they're  
6 talking about a land form. So I'm learning a lot for  
7 my own education in -- in forestry and wildlife.

8                   I also -- and that's to do -- that's  
9 the last part of the -- the presentation on the  
10 harvesting. And I think part of the Plan is to get  
11 everybody to talk about their harvesting areas, and to  
12 tell us about all of the good places -- George Blondin  
13 (phonetic) used to tell me about the best fish in the  
14 world he said is Tulita.

15                   And I don't know how many people tasted  
16 fish from Tulita but they are good fish. And I'm  
17 talking about that's in December/November, I guess.  
18 So we'll have to -- we'll have to get some of that  
19 fish, and share it with the other communities, as  
20 well.

21                   So that's all part of the Plan. The --  
22 I also have -- I also have a list of all the people  
23 that live in Deline that would require caribou. It's  
24 something that we had to grapple with. It says right  
25 here, a hundred and seventy-one (171) active

1 households. I think I'll -- that'll be part of the  
2 presentation that we -- this is actually new. We  
3 don't have it in our plan. I'll -- I'll give it to  
4 the -- to the Board, as well.

5                   And I call that Deline needs, but I  
6 don't know, I might -- I guess you can relate it to  
7 the needs -- whatever we call it in the land claims.  
8 I have -- I'm not going to say very much more. I  
9 think that you can read about it. You can ask me  
10 questions. And like I said, I wish I was doing it in  
11 my own language. It -- you know, that gives me a lot  
12 of practice as well.

13                   But the last thing is we do all this  
14 stuff. We go through the Plan. We -- we know where  
15 the harvesting is. We try to harvest as much food as  
16 we can throughout the -- the year, and that's almost  
17 the same kind of cycle that our grandfathers have gone  
18 through.

19                   And let's say it doesn't work, and  
20 Morris was just telling me that there is people that  
21 are not going to listen to us. I mean, we know that.  
22 I mean, 100 percent of our people aren't going to say,  
23 Oh gosh, great plan. We'll all go join you. No.

24                   But the big thing that we have with the  
25 leadership, the leadership is saying, Let's go fishing

1 here. We'll provide you with money, we'll -- we'll  
2 support you. Historically, that's the way thing were.  
3 It -- it wasn't the way it is now. And it think every  
4 year too often we -- we look at all of -- the only  
5 thing we follow on the yearly basis is caribou.

6 I don't think last year I heard anybody  
7 talk about, Oh boy, you know, there's good fis --  
8 well, there's always good fish, so we talked about  
9 fish there, and we -- they did bring some, but very  
10 minimal. I don't think you're going to get more than  
11 twenty (20) fish in -- in the fall time and in this  
12 time of the year, none.

13 So I think the -- the plan -- I think  
14 you get the gist of the plan and all of this stuff  
15 doesn't work -- do you know what we're going to do if  
16 -- if it doesn't work? What do you think we're going  
17 to do if our plan doesn't work? What do you think the  
18 Chief is going to say to all of us?

19 Like a true grandfather he's going to  
20 say, Ask the caribou. Talk to them. The Dene people  
21 have always done that. You know, when I first came  
22 out of forestry school in 1976 -- or '78, I -- I had  
23 no idea what people were doing, the people that were  
24 hugging trees, or talking to trees, or talking to  
25 plants or animals, and yet it was in my culture.

1                   That's one (1) of the things my  
2 grandfather said. I said what -- Go talk to them.  
3 They're out there. Go ask them. If things don't work  
4 for you, go -- go talk to them. And I think too often  
5 we forget that part of our relationship with caribou.

6                   I think I'll give this document to --  
7 to the Board. And I think I've got two (2) other  
8 members that would want to add. Morris, you -- if you  
9 have -- Gina, you wanted to add a few more things?  
10 Either that or write it down for me and I'll make sure  
11 the Board gets it. You'll have to use that one, I  
12 guess.

13                   So Gina is part of a very -- very  
14 provide -- Gina provides a lot of very good leadership  
15 to a lot of these plans and Morris as well. Masi. So  
16 I'll go outside and go talk to the caribou and I'll  
17 tell you what they tell me.

18                   Ha ha. That is all. Masi.

19                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Excuse me,  
20 Walter. Walter, we're -- just for the record, you're  
21 supplying a list of the -- the names, the family names  
22 and the individuals. That'll be Exhibit 2 in the  
23 proceedings here, so just for the record. Yep. Thank  
24 you.

25

1 --- EXHIBIT NO. 2: List of family names and  
2 individuals supplied by  
3 Walter Baya  
4

5 THE VICE CHAIRMAN: Carry on, Deline,  
6 if there's more in your presentation. Gina...?

7 MS. GINA DOLPHUS: Good morning. My  
8 name is Gina Dolphus. I'm here for Deline Land  
9 Corporation and the community. I'm here to support my  
10 two (2) colleagues who are making a presentation on  
11 behalf of the community of Deline.

12 And they have wonderful stories and  
13 it's very supported by leadership in the community,  
14 myself and the Chief, and also the plan -- the plan is  
15 supported and it comes from the community. We have  
16 signed it and it came from the public meeting too with  
17 the motion, so they're speaking on the plan.

18 But I just want to make a comment on  
19 what Walter said in tradition. Tradition, where a  
20 first time person, a young gentleman shoots a caribou,  
21 what the elders, like especially the elderly woman, do  
22 to their shirt.

23 I have a son, Christian Dolphus. And  
24 he shot his first caribou. It was with my dad, Leon  
25 Modeste at my mom's house. And my son came home. And

1 he says, Mom, you wouldn't believe what happened to  
2 me. My grandma tore my best shirt I had, he said.  
3 That was my late mom. And I said -- I had to explain  
4 to him why they do that with their first shooting of a  
5 caribou.

6                   And we've come from a community where  
7 we depend on our country food, our fish, our caribou.  
8 And we've been eating it -- I've been eating it over  
9 sixty (60) years. My dad hunts. My grandpa hunts,  
10 all the family members. And as of why -- and the  
11 grandmother, I prepare. I make dry meat. I prepare  
12 the food. I do handicrafts. I sew with the hide.  
13 But we can't do that now every day; it's hard.

14                   And we -- in Deline we have a plan  
15 where the community worked on -- and Walter just did a  
16 great job explaining what we've gone through. And I'm  
17 here supporting my two (2) colleagues, making  
18 presentation on behalf of Deline. Masi.

19                   MR. MORRIS NAYELLE:    Masi.

20

21                   (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

22

23                   MR. MORRIS NAYELLE:    I'm going to do  
24 it in En -- in Slavey. My name is Morris Nayelle.  
25 We're talking about caribou. We probably are not the

1 only one that's thinking about it. Maybe the Tlicho,  
2 the Chipewyan people and everybody thinks about it.  
3 We live by it ever since this land is here.

4 Everything that's alive, we don't want it to go away.

5                   So the decisions that have been made,  
6 we have to work with it. Our Elders, we -- we follow  
7 our Elders' wording. A lot of our Elders have gone  
8 now, have passed on. Who are we going to talk to? It  
9 is -- it is -- for us here, that become very difficult  
10 for -- yesterday I've mentioned it.

11                   And because of uranium mine, a lot of  
12 our Elders have passed away because of that. Now, us,  
13 we have to gather words. We have to write it down now  
14 for us to go into the future. The -- the caribou plan  
15 that they have made here in Deline, it -- I told  
16 Walter that it is good.

17                   As leaders, sometimes people don't  
18 agree with it. For those that are -- the -- the plan  
19 that is correct, we have to work with it. We have to  
20 work to think about the future. That is why we have  
21 to work with it. That is how we are taught by our  
22 grandfathers.

23                   We had four (4) prophets. We know what  
24 happened in the past and what's going to happen in the  
25 present and what's going to happen in the future.

1 They gave us all that information. This is how we  
2 live by it.

3                   For me, I think about myself. I think  
4 about what's going to happen in the future. I know  
5 that it was prophesized. When they say this is what's  
6 going to happen, this is what we do and that is how  
7 we're going to do it.

8                   About the caribou, in 1950, he said  
9 that when the caribou is gone and it comes back here -  
10 - and when the -- the caribou is gone, it's going to  
11 be gone for a while. When it comes back until -- and  
12 when that happens we know when the end is going to  
13 come. That was 1950 the caribou have gone. They went  
14 back to the barren lands. After thirty-three (33)  
15 years it had not come here.

16                   Some people say they have lived by  
17 rabbits, ptarmigan, moose, and especially for fish.  
18 It helped us to survive, even though it was very,  
19 very difficult around -- around 1950s/'60s.

20                   It had gone past to thirty-three (33)  
21 years. Around 1983 we saw caribou again and they --  
22 they said that is what our prophet -- what was  
23 prophesied by our -- our prophets. And we know that  
24 it's going to happen. I think about it. It's been  
25 thirty-three years (33), 1983, and it came, and now

1 2016, and it's thirty-three (33) years later the --  
2 the caribou are -- are disappearing.

3                   And in the end when all our food is  
4 gone, maybe we have to concentrate on what's  
5 happening. It's difficult to talk about caribou. We  
6 didn't make it. We didn't create it. It -- it is a -  
7 - it has a song and when you look after it you have to  
8 take care of it. You can't sell it. We can't make  
9 money from it. The same with fish. All wildlife is  
10 like that including water.

11                   That is why our ancestors have said to  
12 us, that's how they worked. But nowadays we are  
13 living in modern ways now. That is how are children  
14 are raised. Even Walter had mentioned it. They -- we  
15 -- also we came back from school and my grandfather  
16 told me to talk to a -- a tree and I was wondering  
17 why. That's what he said.

18                   So we have to help each other. The  
19 people from Gwich'in, Chipewyan, Shuet (phonetic)  
20 Mountain people, Tlicho, all Dehcho people. We have  
21 to be together if we're going to help each other. If  
22 we do it by ourselves it becomes very, very, very  
23 difficult. Caribou goes everywhere.

24                   However it want to travel, it travels.  
25 That's the way the Creator has created it. It can't -

1 - we cannot change it. We also have to teach our  
2 children, because it is for the future. That is what  
3 we're talking about.

4                   And Walter mentioned that we can  
5 survive by the fish. There's lots of moose. There's  
6 lots of -- the musk ox, with the maybe -- buffalos  
7 maybe we can survive. If we -- if there's no caribou,  
8 as Dene people it's going to be really difficult for  
9 us.

10                   It is for all of us that it is -- it  
11 gives us clothes. It gives us food. We also have  
12 tools. And also -- it als -- we also make songs from  
13 the hide. If we -- if we went into some -- another  
14 person's house, a non-Aboriginal's house, they won't  
15 give it to us, we went -- if they -- if we do we might  
16 as well pay for it. No, we don't do that.

17

18                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

19

20                   MR. MORRIS NAYELLE: My father is  
21 Mountain -- Mountain Indian (phonetic) from -- from  
22 Wrigley, from -- mountain Indian from there. He came  
23 here to marry my mother in the '50s. He is a hunter,  
24 a great hunter. He -- he is a great hunter and he  
25 hunted for moose and in 1950s, or maybe in 1980, and

1 he had hunted until then. He -- altogether, he had  
2 killed five hundred (500) moose.

3 He didn't did (sic) it for himself. He  
4 did it for the community. When he -- may -- maybe  
5 when he shoots a moose, he would -- it would last two  
6 (2) days, through two (2) or three (3) days to go to  
7 the communities. Then he'll go back out hunting again  
8 in snowshoes.

9 He had written it down, about six  
10 hundred (60). He -- he -- I also have my father's  
11 diary. He also took -- took very good care of it, and  
12 my mother spoke about him. When your father comes  
13 home from a hunt and he has that many moose, and he  
14 never came into the house with blood on his foot.

15 Today is not like this. We don't teach  
16 our children that way. When they come back into the  
17 house, they blood on their foot -- on their boots.  
18 That is the kind of things that we're supposed to be  
19 preparing them for, and we don't -- don't do that.

20 And so when we made this plan, things  
21 that are not -- we don't agree with, we can fix us  
22 later. All of us has grand -- grandchildren. What  
23 are we going to leave for them? Maybe ten (10) years  
24 from here, maybe twenty-five (25) years, are we -- are  
25 we -- are they going to be hunting. It is to prepare

1 them for -- this for them.

2                   We have to listen to each other. Our  
3 people are different. We are the ones that were here  
4 first. So that is for one (1) reason that we are  
5 called the original people.

6                   As Aboriginal people, we all have  
7 different laws. We know that the caribou are dim --  
8 diminishing, and we know that we also have to think  
9 about -- there's going to be a lot of people. The  
10 population is going to get great. A lot of people are  
11 going to come this way. How are we going to provide  
12 for them? What are we going to do?

13                   Our prophet had said, Even though this  
14 lake is that big, and he said the boat -- the boat  
15 would come to this lake, and the boat with so many  
16 boats that it would not be able to move anywhere even  
17 though this lake is so big because the -- the people  
18 are going to come to us.

19

20                                           (BRIEF PAUSE)

21

22                   MR. MORRIS NAYELLE: So we know that  
23 we have made a great -- good plan. And we also had  
24 put in their ancestors' information, and those are --  
25 are the -- some of things that we have to think about.

1 (NOT SWITCHED BACK TO ENGLISH CHANNEL)

2

3 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON:

4

5 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

6

7 MR. MORRIS NAYELLE: And so I wanted  
8 to say a little bit more on this. And Walter had gave  
9 you all the information, and all the information that  
10 I've given, and I am very thankful for what Walter had  
11 mentioned.

12 Just recently, about three (3) years  
13 ago we went to Coal Lake. I wanted to mention this,  
14 and then that is all I'm going to say. We went to  
15 Coal Lake. We took a charter to Coal Lake. That's  
16 where some of the Aboriginal people live, and they're  
17 like Chipewyan people.

18 And there was an Elder there that was  
19 about nine (9) -- ninety-five (95) years old. He --  
20 he starts speaking to us in his language, and some of  
21 the Elders understood him. And he had spoken to us  
22 very well. And when we said -- we thank him and when  
23 we were leaving, I want to give you one thing, he told  
24 them.

25 I want to give you one information. He

1 lives on the reserve. What I -- what you people are  
2 doing, however you going to do it, it's your land,  
3 don't leave it, he told us. And hold onto it, he told  
4 us. That is all what I am going to give you, he -- he  
5 had told them.

6                   And so I wanted -- there's a lot of  
7 stories and information that I can give you, and our  
8 forefathers have mentioned -- our Prophet Ayah had  
9 mentioned, When -- when you are going to come up with  
10 a great plan do it as one. Help each other. If you  
11 do it as one and united, nobody can move it or change  
12 it. And that is what we wanted to say to work  
13 together. We have to stand together.

14                   When we stand together it will not  
15 change. It will be strong. And when we're alone, it  
16 is -- that's when it's difficult. That is why I  
17 wanted to say this. I am very, very much thankful for  
18 giving this information to you, and also all of you --  
19 to thank all of you.

20                   We -- we're not saying that we know all  
21 this information, and -- and all your -- your other  
22 people have all this information, and all -- it came  
23 from all of our ancestors. It is -- those are the  
24 ones that are really important, is our grandchildren  
25 and our grandfathers. And when you gather their

1 information, don't let it go.

2 I would thank you very much, and I -- I  
3 do list -- I'm here listening. I still have another  
4 day, so that is all what I'm going to say. Masi cho.

5

6 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

7

8 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very  
9 much, Deline panel. If -- if that brings us to the  
10 end of your presentation, then we can proceed with  
11 questioning.

12 But before we do that, I would like to  
13 -- we have delegates from the Fort Good Hope panel  
14 that have arrived, and I would like to invite them to  
15 come to the -- the main table here, assuming there's a  
16 table.

17

18 (BRIEF PAUSE)

19

20 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: We'll have to  
21 make an inner circle.

22

23 (BRIEF PAUSE)

24

25 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: So if we could

1 resume. And I would ask Fort Good Hope to take your  
2 places up here. You're welcome at the table here,  
3 please. Thank you very much.

4

5

(BRIEF PAUSE)

6

7 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Okay. I think  
8 we're ready to resume, here. Before we do that, I  
9 would ask the Fort Good Hope representatives to  
10 introduce themselves.

11 MR. HARRY HARRIS: My -- my name is  
12 Harry Harris. I sit on the Fort Good Hope Renewable  
13 Resource Council. Yesterday, we had some trouble at  
14 the office, so we could -- we couldn't make it  
15 yesterday. We just set up the plane for this morning.  
16 I just wanted to say that.

17 I apologize for the -- you know, being  
18 late for the community. And I'll just pass the mic on  
19 to -- to introduce themselves. Yeah.

20

21 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY TO ENGLISH)

22

23 MS. BELLA T'SELEIE: Bella T'seleie.  
24 I'm from Fort -- Bella.

25

1 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

2

3 MR. FRANK T'SELEIE: Hello. I'm Frank  
4 T'seleie, and I'm also assisting the RRC, Fort Good  
5 Hope. Masi.

6

7 QUESTION PERIOD:

8 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. And  
9 I would just like to let you know that the Chair of  
10 the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board is Michael  
11 Neyelle. But because he and another one (1) of our  
12 members, Leonard Kenny, had a association with the  
13 Deline Caribou Management Plan in -- in its  
14 preparation, in order to maintain that distance for  
15 the Deline topic or presentation that we're dealing  
16 with right now, I'm serving as the Vice-Chair. So  
17 that's why you see me here instead of the regular  
18 Chair.

19 So with that, I would like to turn it  
20 over to questioning for the -- the Deline panel. And  
21 I believe we're starting with Environment and Natural  
22 Resources. So I would just turn it over to you now.  
23 Thank you.

24 MS. LYNDA YONGE: Thank you, Mr.  
25 Chair. Lynda Yonge, for Environment and Natural

1 Resources. First, I'd really like to thank the Deline  
2 folks for -- Walter, and Gina, and Morris, for your  
3 presentation. It was an excellent presentation.

4 And we'd also like to -- to thank you  
5 and congratulate you on your plan. I think it shows  
6 tremendous leadership, and we're actually very excited  
7 about working with the people in Deline on -- on the  
8 plan.

9 So that leads me to my first question.  
10 We're just wondering -- it's very clear it's a Deline  
11 plan and for Deline people. And you will be  
12 implementing the plan with your people.

13 So we're wondering if you see any role  
14 for ENR in some ways that we may be able to help  
15 support you in that implementation. There are some  
16 places in the plan that ENR does figure in, like in  
17 the sentencing circle and some of the areas. But  
18 we're wondering just more generally if there are ways  
19 -- a role that you can see for ENR to help support  
20 this plan.

21 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Masi. Here, I  
22 think, you know, Lynda, as we --

23 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Excuse me.  
24 Excuse me, Mr. Bayha. Could you just say your name  
25 before you begin the questioning? Thanks.

1                   MR. WALTER BAYHA:    Okay.  Walter  
2 Bayha, with the Deline delegation speaking on the --  
3 the caribou -- or the Belarewile Gots'e Ekwe  
4 Conservation Plan.

5                   We have -- oh, there's Lynda.  I was  
6 looking the wrong way, there.  You move fast.  The --  
7 yes.  Throughout the plan, yes, the -- I mean, there -  
8 - there is so many ways that, you know, we can share  
9 the plan and -- and make sure that it does work.

10                  So, you know, we're always searching  
11 for ways, and one (1) of the ways that we get funding  
12 is from all sources.  Researchers, we have that -- I  
13 was talking about the -- the April fish -- whitefish  
14 harvesting trip that we're planning.  It comes from a  
15 -- a food security project that we have here in  
16 Deline.

17                  So, yes.  I think as -- you know, we'd  
18 love it to have, you know, your biologists, your staff  
19 from the Wells, as well as here.  I mean, Leroy  
20 (phonetic), and then we -- they -- there -- there is  
21 make -- you know, so many ways that they can help.  
22 And I think part -- the part -- the whole idea about  
23 the plan is to get everybody involved.

24                  As we do more -- more people involved,  
25 I think it would really help us in terms of, you know,

1 monitoring the plan in terms of -- you know, one (1)  
2 of the things that we're going to deal with, and  
3 Morris brought it up, is that there are going to be  
4 people that are -- that are not going to be following  
5 the plan.

6                   There -- it's all -- you know, it's not  
7 always not a hundred percent, but we'd certainly -- a  
8 huge part of this plan is education. You know, we can  
9 modify the education -- conservation education you  
10 have there now, modify it so it fits the plan. I  
11 don't think that that's hard to do. Most things that  
12 I know that the plan covers is pretty well the same  
13 with, well, you know, general conservation plans.

14                   There's going to be a huge one. You  
15 know, one (1) of the things I didn't mention in the  
16 plan, and Morris just reminded me here is about the --  
17 there is some conflicts that we have to deal with.  
18 Like the -- I think it's called the ranger program.  
19 They issue -- they issue guns. I think it's still a  
20 303 British, or whatever it is. And they issue a lot  
21 of shells.

22                   I -- I don't know exact -- Keith --  
23 well, here, Keith can tell you here. He's a ranger.  
24 And we have to -- I -- we didn't mention in the plan,  
25 but it -- it's brought up and, you know, it was a

1 really good story that Morris told. He's got to tell  
2 it, because that story tells us, Don't use those guns  
3 for hunting. They're for people. I think the story  
4 goes like that.

5                   But, yes, you know, as we go -- move --  
6 move forward in this plan, there's always room for ENR  
7 to -- to assist us in the -- a lot of the projects  
8 that we -- we take on. Just -- you can handle the  
9 stuff on the quota. I mean, that would be a big help.  
10 I mean, gosh, I mean -- no, I'm just -- I think we can  
11 do it together.

12                   I told Leonard, I said, Why you talking  
13 about a quota? Why don't you just say, We're not  
14 hunting here, but we're going to hunt here? I said,  
15 Leadership, we just heard about the leadership where  
16 they -- that was the way it -- it happened in the  
17 past. We didn't have to deal, or we don't confront  
18 issues, and I think you see that with Deline.

19                   It is no use trying to go against the -  
20 - the wind. It just doesn't work. I learned that  
21 from my Tlicho friends over there. They tell me that  
22 every day.

23                   So anyway, lots of opportunity. Lots  
24 of opportunity of all -- all your staff. We'd love  
25 them if they'd help us. We'd love them if they help

1 promote our plan, as well. A big part of the -- and  
2 probably even a bigger one is to -- is to -- because  
3 we -- we're talking about two (2) sets of knowledge  
4 systems, and there's always a challenge to -- to try  
5 to -- to try to understand.

6                   And I -- I learned very well already.  
7 I don't try to walk in the middle anymore. I either  
8 go with one or the other. You know, maybe you use  
9 both knowledge systems, but it's better that you  
10 concentrate on one (1). So may -- noted, and I'm  
11 going to remind my panels here that they -- you can  
12 add to -- you know, you have answers or -- or respond  
13 to the -- the questions, you can add, as well, because  
14 I'm noting it, and that's for the record, as well.  
15 Masi.

16                   MS. LYNDA YONGE: Okay. Thank you,  
17 Mr. Chair. Thank you, Walter. Lynda Yonge, for ENR.  
18 That's great. Great to hear. So it's a new plan, and  
19 it was implemented -- beginning to be implemented this  
20 year.

21                   And I think everybody is aware that  
22 it's difficult to make changes, and put -- put new  
23 ideas into place, and new ways of doing things. And  
24 that it is a work in progress, and things will  
25 continue on as people become more familiar with the

1 plan.

2                   So I'm wondering if you have any  
3 comments on lessons learned from this first -- first  
4 year of trying to implement the plan, and anything  
5 that you think may result in changes to the plan, or  
6 things that you may be doing over the next year to  
7 help implement the plan?

8                   MR. WALTER BAYHA: Oh, lots. I think  
9 as -- you know, just the past year, we -- we learned,  
10 you know, we learned -- you can add it. Yeah.

11                   You -- we've -- we've learned a lot.  
12 And one (1) -- one (1) of them is that the -- I -- you  
13 know, whenever -- one (1) thing we've learned,  
14 whenever you -- there -- there is something that's --  
15 may seem it's new, and I think the -- the lessons  
16 learned here, this is not new.

17                   Maybe it's new to many of our young  
18 hunters, but in terms of our history, no. I think  
19 we've learned that we need to do a lot more to bring -  
20 - not so much to bring the past to -- to -- forward,  
21 but certainly to learn our own history and to learn --  
22 we're learning that we need to do a lot more for our  
23 young people.

24                   We're learning -- one (1) of the things  
25 that we -- I've learned very well last year and Gina

1 had a lot to do with pushing -- we were pushing to try  
2 to get people to eat traditional food, and one (1) of  
3 them was the musk ox. So one (1) day in the  
4 summertime -- you know, and I spent -- you know, one  
5 (1) of the things that we're learning also is that we  
6 -- they spend a lot of money.

7           They spend, you know, from -- we had a  
8 camp right outside the -- outside the land corporation  
9 where they're supposed to be doing tanning, you know,  
10 traditional sewing and all these things, but it turned  
11 out that the food became a -- a huge part of that --  
12 the -- the camp that was just outside the land  
13 corporation. And every day there's peop -- people  
14 eating food.

15           There's food being prepared. I think  
16 we've learned a lot there, that when you prepare food,  
17 our young people would cook it. If you took food,  
18 like, say one (1) is dried -- you know, fresh dried  
19 meat or dried fish, another one (1) a -- a whole fish,  
20 and I watched my young people.

21           They'd come there. It was prepared  
22 sitting there. They'll go for the dried meat that's -  
23 - that's prepared and cook it, but they won't touch  
24 the -- the other fish. So we've learned that -- so  
25 we've done that.

1                   That -- we've brought in musk ox. You  
2 know, we -- we have a hard time getting our young  
3 people to eat musk ox, so we -- they -- they prepared  
4 it. One (1) of the outfitters prepared a whole bunch,  
5 marked it up, and I think it -- it might have been  
6 about 100 pounds of it, you know, they brought in last  
7 year, and within two (2) hours, it was all gone.

8                   I remember standing there and I was  
9 saying like this, That's musk ox meat. And it don't  
10 seem like they paid attention to me. They grabbed it,  
11 and off they went. We cooked some. Same thing with -  
12 - so we learned that preparation of meat. So it goes  
13 to preparation of meat.

14                  Like, you go to the store and it's all  
15 prepared and you buy it. We're learning that a lot of  
16 our people maybe don't have the time to prepare. So I  
17 think those are the kind of things that we're learning  
18 very quickly and I think -- and -- and the big part --  
19 a huge lesson we learned here, the leadership has to  
20 support it.

21                  You can't -- if the leadership, right  
22 off the bat, are not interested in supporting your  
23 caribou conservation plan, well, it's not going to  
24 work. And we had, I think you see it, I don't know  
25 where Leonard is right -- he would be a good guy to --

1 you know, he made that a priority. And regardless of  
2 the, you know, the difficulties and the challenges, he  
3 -- he stuck with it and that is -- that is very  
4 important.

5 I guess another part of the big lesson  
6 learned is that when you get people together and you  
7 talk about -- and this start out when we're -- we're  
8 just starting -- and we were -- I don't think we're  
9 talking about caribou. I don't think we were even  
10 thinking about caribou then. We knew we had to deal  
11 with that eventually, but I think getting people  
12 together.

13 You know, when -- when you get people  
14 together and they all relate to each other and  
15 understand each other, I think that's a huge step in  
16 getting people on the side. And one (1) of things  
17 I've learned, and probably the biggest one, if you  
18 mention quota to them, if I ever started with that in  
19 any of our meetings, I -- I think they would have  
20 threw me out along with everybody else that relates to  
21 quotas.

22 I think that is -- that is a -- a poor  
23 way of dealing with conservation plans. And -- and  
24 yet it's -- you know, the -- you can't get away from  
25 that. That's -- that's a -- that's a, you know, a --

1 a national or a territorial decision that, you know,  
2 we're only part of it.

3 I -- I think I sort of covered all the  
4 main ones. There's -- there's a lot of little ones  
5 that -- that we -- we learn every day. We learn that  
6 the conservation plans, whether it's here or in  
7 Australia or wherever, it's the same. The steps are  
8 the same. You know, the choices are the same. The --  
9 the process is the same. Well, the big part of it is  
10 people.

11 I learned very well that -- at the end  
12 of this plan, I learned that I'm dealing with people,  
13 not -- not with caribou. The -- Gina detethe denawa  
14 (phonetic). Okay, Gina is going to continue with it.

15 MS. GINA DOLPHUS: Thank you, Mr.  
16 Chairperson. My name is Gina Dolphus.

17 And I know ENR mentioned how they can  
18 support or help in the future. And one (1) of the  
19 things I've seen over the years in doing this plan is  
20 funding.

21 DRRC do not have a lot of money. We  
22 have monies from all different organization from the  
23 community trying to help with this plan. And it's a -  
24 - it's very hard when you don't have the funding and  
25 resource in the community to help this plan to go

1 through, so we need money. DRRC needs money. And we  
2 need it for future meetings, and also our language.

3 Our language is important. We have  
4 Elders with us in the community and other communities.  
5 We -- we need to pay for the resource. And, also,  
6 when government are doing surveys or data collection,  
7 we want to be involved, too. We want to be involved  
8 in -- what are you doing in our region, using  
9 helicopter, using boats.

10 Whatever you do on our land, we want to  
11 know, and we want to be involved, because at the end  
12 of the day, we will be making the decision for our --  
13 our community, especially when it's involved with our  
14 country food. Masi.

15 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Further  
16 questions, ENR? Thank you.

17 MS. LYNDA YONGE: Yes, thank you, Mr.  
18 Chair. Lynda Yonge, for ENR.

19 I have a -- a couple more questions.  
20 So there are a couple of areas in the plan, specific  
21 areas. One (1) is the use of sample bags, and the  
22 other is the cow harvest. And those are areas that  
23 will probably take some time before people understand  
24 what those requirements are and how to follow them.

25 And we have, in -- in conversation with

1 the community, learned that there will be some more  
2 education, trying to inform people more about those  
3 components.

4                   So we're just wondering what plans you  
5 might have between now and the next harvesting season  
6 to help people understand those two (2) elements of  
7 the plan, and to comply with them and, again, if  
8 there's some way that ENR can help support in that.

9

10                                           (BRIEF PAUSE)

11

12                   MR. WALTER BAYHA:    Yeah, the health...  
13 Oh, yeah, Walter Bayha. The -- the health -- wildlife  
14 health sample kits, I guess, I guess we've got a few  
15 kinds. I think there was some confusion as -- as to  
16 how that's supposed to work, so.

17                   I don't think it's difficult. I mean,  
18 if -- if I was doing it, I -- I'd help. I'd be right  
19 out there with the hunters, help them. I think they -  
20 - some of the things that we -- we find is that people  
21 are not going to read about it. But if you show them,  
22 you know, this how you do it.

23                   And I think we have a -- a fifty dollar  
24 (\$50) incentive to do that. I don't think a lot of  
25 our hunters are aware of that. And that's mainly for

1 caribou, right.

2                   So, yeah, I don't think -- I think next  
3 year we -- we probably have a better handle on it.

4 The DRRC here was -- we're -- we're a little confused  
5 about that, and -- and there was a lot of things  
6 happening at the same time. And I think one (1) of  
7 the things they mentioned is they -- the kits weren't  
8 up to date. Like, there was some old ones that we  
9 had, and they weren't sure whether they're going to  
10 use that one.

11                   But I've seen those health kits, and  
12 they're not -- it doesn't take much to -- you know,  
13 two (2) minutes, and -- and if our hunters know that,  
14 I -- I don't think they would have an issue with that.  
15 We have -- actually, we have some experts on that  
16 health kit. I think we have two (2) or three (3)  
17 hunters that do it all the time on a regular basis.

18                   So, yes, that -- that's not an issue.  
19 I can tell you that right now, it isn't. It's part of  
20 something that -- if the -- if the hunters get fifty  
21 dollars (\$50) for it, boy, that helps the RRC, because  
22 they -- they're -- like Gina was saying, they don't  
23 have much of a budget, so wherever they can help with  
24 the -- the gas and oil, I think they -- they would do  
25 that.

1                   I'll note it here, and make sure that -  
2 - that -- remember, I have to deal with the RRC. I --  
3 they have their own board as well, and so I -- I just  
4 -- I -- I try to get these things done, and explain  
5 the plans to as many people as I can. Masi.

6                   MS. LYNDA YONGE:    Okay. Just -- just  
7 a couple more questions. So the -- the Deline Plan is  
8 for Deline, that's -- that's very clear, but it also  
9 applies to other Sahtu beneficiaries that may be  
10 harvesting in the Deline area.

11                   And so I'm just -- we're wondering, has  
12 there been discussion with other communities that --  
13 that may be harvesting in the area? Have you -- is  
14 there support for the plan? Is there some -- is that  
15 something that's still to come, or what kind of  
16 conversations have been held with the other  
17 communities that will be affected by this plan if they  
18 come into your area?

19                   MR. WALTER BAYHA:    The -- part of the  
20 -- I -- I think I talked about it a little bit in the  
21 plan. Where the plan is Deline's plan. Of course,  
22 there's -- there's going to be a lot of people over  
23 the course of the -- that would be hunting here, and  
24 that happens. Not so much caribou this year. But I  
25 think there -- that happens all the time.

1                   And I think if you look at the plan, I  
2 think it says -- it would say and -- and I think we  
3 would be very -- the -- the first ones to mention it,  
4 this is Deline area, and that -- you know, if we're  
5 going to talk about other people hunting, especially  
6 caribou, then of course.

7                   Deline has a quota, and that's -- we're  
8 going to live by that. If other people want to use  
9 those numbers, then they'll -- they'll certainly have  
10 to go to the RRCs. They have to go to the leadership  
11 like we've been -- they've been doing -- or that's  
12 what we advocate here.

13                   And I think that's -- you -- you sort  
14 of have to get away, and here is a case where you have  
15 to get away from the land claims. This is where the  
16 land claims does not support, or -- or in a way that  
17 we want, because the land claims is for the whole of  
18 Sahtu settlement area. I can go to Good Hope and hunt  
19 legally. The wildlife people can't do anything about  
20 that.

21                   But I tell who can do something about  
22 it. Us, as a people. I will never go to Colville  
23 Lake and hunt without asking Joseph, or the Elders  
24 over there, if I can hunt. I won't do that. And I  
25 think -- we hope that everybody else would do that.

1                   You want to come here and fish? Boy,  
2 we'll help you. But other things that, you know,  
3 we're short supply of, we sort of are -- as things go  
4 along, I think our people -- and I -- I know my  
5 Elders, especially our grandmothers, they're stingy.  
6 They're not going to give you any caribou, so don't  
7 come here.

8                   No, I hope they support us in what  
9 we're doing, and we'd love to share these concepts.  
10 And those concepts, again, is our Elders' concepts,  
11 our grandfathers'. It doesn't come from the land  
12 claim. Masi.

13                   MS. LYNDA YONGE: Okay. Thank you,  
14 Mr. Chair. I have one (1) more, and then I believe my  
15 colleague, Adam -- Jan Adamczewski, has a couple.

16                   So, Walter, I very much appreciated  
17 your introduction and your explanation of the role of  
18 the Board in terms of making recommendations, and  
19 making decisions about harvest levels and how that all  
20 works. You did it much more eloquently and clearly  
21 than we did in our presentation.

22                   So my question then comes from that.  
23 Once the Board makes a decision, is the intent then  
24 for the Deline plan -- because the Deline plan has  
25 some harvest levels and some actions. Would the --

1 would the pla -- if the Board comes up -- and --  
2 sorry.

3                   It fits very well with what we've  
4 proposed in terms of numbers. If the Board makes a  
5 recommendation that is quite different from that,  
6 would you then look again at the Deline plan and  
7 adjust it, or what would the process be there?

8                   MR. WALTER BAYHA: That is -- excuse  
9 me. Walter Bayha, with the Deline -- Deline  
10 delegation. The plan loves that. The plan can deal  
11 with pretty well what - whatever happens, whatever  
12 decisions are made. And I think the plan is able to -  
13 - it's -- it's designed so that we can deal with that.

14                   I don't think -- I think the big thing  
15 that sometimes people look at is very negative if  
16 somebody tells you, Well, you can't hunt this any more  
17 or there's a limit. Well, the plan doesn't with those  
18 things.

19                   The plan is a plan by itself without --  
20 if you took all these quotas out of there, the plan  
21 would still exist. I think it still can work. We  
22 were just talking about fishing, you know -- moose.  
23 We have other resources that we're going to go after.

24                   And I think one (1) of the things maybe  
25 I should have spent a little more time on is Dene

1 people here in Deline has always lived -- harvested  
2 what's available. I don't think -- I don't think  
3 we're going to search all over the countryside to --  
4 to -- for resources that are limited. That's not the  
5 way the Dene people have done things.

6                   And you know what, I wish -- I wish --  
7 the other day I was talking about the -- what -- what  
8 is the biggest changes in terms of our harvesting?  
9 And it's mobility. If you look behind you, there's a  
10 picture there of 1975. What is it, ten (10) Skidoos  
11 there?

12                   That was probably the turning point  
13 around the early '70s, mid-'70s, the turning point for  
14 -- for harvesting caribou. We can go 100 miles in one  
15 (1) day. Before that, you went 20 miles in one (1)  
16 day, and with snowshoes.

17                   So, you know, Morris is sitting over  
18 there. You know what he told me? He said, We've got  
19 to get rid of those Skidoos. He said, Well, no, I'm  
20 just kidding. We're not going to do that.

21                   But I think we recognize those changes,  
22 and Deline recognizes that -- that we need to address  
23 that so that our -- our people understand --  
24 understand what we're trying to do with the plan.

25                   But that's a good question. I like

1 your question. If Ethel was here, we'd ask her. I'd  
2 say, Here, you know, SSI. No, we'll refer it to them  
3 and say, Here, you guys deal with it. No, we will.  
4 We -- I think it goes back to respect, people's areas.

5                   Keith was telling me here they used to  
6 have registered trap lines in Inuvik, and they said if  
7 you went on somebody else's trap line, they'd shoot  
8 you. Well, we won't do that here. No, thanks.

9                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Just go ahead,  
10 Dr. Adamczewski.

11                   DR. JAN ADAMCZEWSKI: Thank you, Mr.  
12 Chair. Jan Adamczewski, with ENR. I just have a few  
13 questions, and the first one I'd like to follow up a  
14 little bit on something that Lynda touched on, which  
15 is the -- the cow hunt and the bull hunt.

16                   And, I mean, this is an issue not just  
17 in this region, but, you know, with the Bathurst Herd,  
18 with other herds. And, generally speaking, a lot of  
19 the Aboriginal harvest in recent years has been  
20 primarily cows. But the ACCWM plan talks about a  
21 bull-focused harvest. Your plan talks about a young  
22 bull-focused harvest.

23                   And what I'm wondering is, between now  
24 and the next harvest season, what steps do you think  
25 you might be able to take to start to change that --

1 that focus on winter harvest of cows to the target for  
2 the ACCWM plan and your own community plan of really  
3 starting to focus on -- on harvest of young bulls?

4

5

(BRIEF PAUSE)

6

7 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Masi. This is  
8 Walter, with the Deline -- Deline Delegation, Walter  
9 Bayha. You know, that's an excellent question and I  
10 might spend a little more time on the harvest patterns  
11 of our people in the past.

12 And it -- it makes all the sense in the  
13 world to Deline. And this is why I went back to a  
14 little history about how we hunted in the past and why  
15 we hunted. And that -- that is so important, because,  
16 you know, you want to -- you know, our biggest hunt in  
17 the past, probably say in the 19 -- Keith can probably  
18 give you better numbers on -- our major hunts every  
19 year was the fall hunt, okay.

20 The fall hunt, because -- if you go  
21 back in history, and I was talking about our history.  
22 I was talking about Fibbie and Dene kede. They talked  
23 about why the fall hunts are so important. And you're  
24 talking -- when you hunt in the fall you get the best  
25 prime meat, the fattest caribou. The hides are good

1 for -- you know, that's when you -- you make clothing,  
2 okay.

3                   The -- so we have the fall hunts.  
4 Let's say we -- we -- and I -- you know, right now  
5 there's going to be a challenge, because I just told  
6 you that all of our fall hunts are not suc --  
7 successful the last ten (10) years. We haven't gotten  
8 any caribou. We tried, all over the countryside  
9 around Bear Lake, but we're going to look around more.

10                   But the fall hunts, we need to bring  
11 them back as our major hunt. And if we do that that  
12 means we're going to harvest bulls only. I don't  
13 think -- I don't think all of the years that I have  
14 hunted on the north shore with my grandfather and  
15 myself as a -- as an oser (phonetic) going out there,  
16 very rarely would people take cows then.

17                   All of their -- the major -- all of the  
18 harvest are usually bulls, young bulls, some mature  
19 bulls, but they are the ones that the people go after  
20 and they're there. That's what you hunt. I think the  
21 challenge is what you just talked about, this -- like  
22 even this year's hunt in -- in the wintertime, it is  
23 hard for people to tell, you know, December the amount  
24 of daylight, unless you've got a scope, and I know --  
25 un -- unless you know what you're shooting at, people

1 are -- I guess one (1) of the things I talked about,  
2 it's not practical.

3                   We're looking for practical ways to  
4 make sure that the cows are not taken a certain time  
5 of the year. We take the bulls. One (1) of the  
6 things that Deline has done, and there's many of our  
7 people here, and our -- while our Chief is here, he --  
8 he said, We're not hunting in Hottah Lake anymore, not  
9 for two (2) years.

10                   If you don't hunt in Hottah Lake for  
11 two (2) years, that means you're not going to be  
12 shooting very many cows, because the hunts in Hottah  
13 Lakes are -- are in March, April. So that's -- Dene -  
14 - the way that the Dene people have done things in the  
15 past.

16                   They don't -- they don't try to teach  
17 people, Okay, you can only take this much cows and  
18 that much, because it's not very practical. You're  
19 going to have to be with -- with every hunting group  
20 that goes out of Deline. We can't manage it like  
21 that. We have to manage by where we hunt.

22                   So that means that the leadership,  
23 they're going to say, Well, here, you know, we're  
24 going to hunt in the fall time in this area and  
25 they're going to support that. And I think the plan

1 does that. We don't want to talk about, say, Okay, if  
2 you don't follow the plan then we're not going to  
3 support you financially to go hunting. That is not  
4 part of the plan.

5                   We -- we don't want to do that. We  
6 don't want to leave people out, but they have to  
7 follow the plan and say, Well, here, these are the  
8 resources here that we support. Then -- then, you  
9 know, going along means that they would also benefit  
10 from it as well.

11                   But that's a very difficult question to  
12 -- to answer. Basically, because it's not the -- the  
13 way the Dene people have done things. But I think  
14 you're right. You're right in the terms that, Yes, in  
15 -- in the scientific information it's certainly -- you  
16 know, from the grass that you showed, of course, those  
17 are -- but I think this will be the second year of not  
18 hunting in Hottah Lake, so we'll see what happens.

19                   And Leonard, and I think Morris, keep  
20 reminding us this is a living document. So we -- you  
21 know, we're going to make it work. So, you know, that  
22 -- that's one (1) of the things that we'll put in  
23 there. And then think as -- as we slowly bring these  
24 things in, I think people will begin -- as people  
25 understand what the plan is trying to do and what

1 certainly ENR is trying to do with these quotas people  
2 would accept it a lot more.

3                   But I think the -- the other big part  
4 is that it's Deline's leadership that's going to work.  
5 They're -- they're the lead on saying, well, this is  
6 what we're going to do. And I think that's -- that's  
7 what's going to work, not -- not me running around and  
8 say, well, you know, enough shooting cows.

9                   I think it's amazing, but Leonard did  
10 that. When was that? Two (2) -- five (5) years ago I  
11 saw Leonard running around out there. And he was  
12 telling people not to shoot the -- the collared one.  
13 And I looked at him and I said, That is dumb. I  
14 wouldn't do that. I might get shot. So we can't do  
15 that. I mean, maybe Leonard could do that, but I --  
16 I'm not going to go run around and say don't shoot  
17 cows.

18                   I think I'd rather say -- get Leonard  
19 to say, Well, here, this is what we're going to hunt  
20 this year. We're going to hunt bulls, you know, in  
21 the fall time. That's our major hunt. And I think  
22 that would work a lot better in the long-term and  
23 probably more acceptable.

24                   Ka nezo. Masi.

25                   DR. JAN ADAMCZEWSKI: Thank you, Mr.

1 Chairman. Jan Adamczewski, with ENR. This is perhaps  
2 more of a suggestion than a question. But we do have  
3 hunter education materials. We have people who work  
4 in that area. Sometimes the officers do workshops in  
5 the communities and so on.

6 And I notice particularly the Porcupine  
7 Caribou Management Board has been very effective in  
8 terms of hunter education, and particularly the -- the  
9 idea of trying to take bulls rather than cows.

10 So I guess a suggestion here is that  
11 there are resources from other areas to draw on, and -  
12 - and this may be an area where ENR could work with  
13 the communities here on hunter education, and  
14 particularly the -- the value of -- of trying to spare  
15 the -- the breeding cows.

16 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Dr.  
17 Adamczewski. Any comments on that from Deline?

18 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Thanks, Mr. Chair.  
19 Yeah, Jan, that's -- that would -- anything that we  
20 can use to help the hunters under what we're trying to  
21 do is -- is excellent. We have some that's going on  
22 already. I know Leroy (phonetic) was doing some rifle  
23 sighting in, but it's a start, right, as people -- you  
24 know, you want to get people -- hunters together. And  
25 this is one (1) of the things the plan does.

1                   Those people that actually hunt, I  
2 would love to see those guys together and, you know,  
3 let -- you know, I don't have to be there. They can  
4 talk amongst each other. They can improve -- the  
5 whole thing is about not only improving your hunting  
6 techniques, but it's also to -- you know, to hunt  
7 what's available.

8                   I think so, yes, if you can bring other  
9 resources. You mentioned the Porcupine management  
10 here. They have good conservation education programs.  
11 Sure, I think we're more than welcome. Masi. Ka  
12 nezo.

13                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON:   Further  
14 questions from ENR? Mr. Croft...?

15                   MR. BRUNO CROFT:   Thank you, Mr.  
16 Chair. Thank you, Walter -- Walter. I actually  
17 enjoyed your presentation. Like we said yesterday,  
18 the plan is -- is a great piece of work. I can see  
19 other regions perhaps wanting to important part or --  
20 or most of it in the range of the Bluenose East and,  
21 who knows, perhaps other herds.

22                   So, Mr. Bayha, I'm just wondering if  
23 you could expand just a little more on -- on a couple  
24 items in your plan. One (1) is on page 33, on the  
25 monitoring, item J. For example, what has worked well

1 this winter and -- and not so good on the monitoring  
2 section, the monitoring part of it? And again, just  
3 to give me an idea of what -- when we start discussing  
4 with other regions what -- what to focus on a little  
5 more.

6                   And perhaps the second part of my  
7 question, Mr. Chair, is on Section K on page 34 in the  
8 enforcement. I -- I'd be curious to hear, Mr. Bayha,  
9 if -- if you had to go through this process this  
10 winter, because I haven't heard anything on that  
11 during the presentation, so if it's okay?

12

13                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

14

15                   MR. WALTER BAYHA: We -- we haven't.  
16 We -- we haven't had a case yet. You also have to  
17 remember that we -- it seems like we -- we're in a  
18 time crunch here, so a lot of the stuff we -- we need  
19 to review again.

20                   I think we have a separate document  
21 called a Code. I think one of the things that -- that  
22 is -- is really beautiful to see is that it can  
23 happen. Not very often you see things mesh with the -  
24 - the Wildlife Act, or even our Dene stories turn into  
25 codes.

1                   Here is a place where legal people  
2 actually started putting some of this stuff down. And  
3 we looked at it, and it made sense. So, yes, the --  
4 the -- one of the beautiful thing about our people  
5 here in Deline -- I could tell you right now, there's  
6 not one (1) caribou shot here or moose shot here  
7 without somebody knowing.

8                   That -- that just -- it just -- in a  
9 community -- and I -- and I'm telling you from --  
10 straight from the heart this is the truth. Even I  
11 know what happens on a daily basis. Who shoots what.  
12 You see a lot of our Elders here. Every day they  
13 hear. They -- they know who shoots what, and that's  
14 where they're going to go to get a piece of meat, or  
15 go eat.

16                   So the monitoring part is not a -- I  
17 think what has -- in the -- happened in the past with  
18 our monitoring is we -- we pushed too hard to try to  
19 do it the way it's written now. And it's -- and --  
20 and we don't realize the monitoring exists already.  
21 So I think we're going to -- more and more we're going  
22 to capitalize on that. We're certainly going to bring  
23 in the -- the sample kits. Those are -- like I said,  
24 it -- it wouldn't take much to add it onto what's  
25 going on now.

1                   But -- but you're right. We want to  
2 learn from other -- other regions as well. And I  
3 think -- just looking at the -- not so much on the  
4 wildlife end of things but the way that the -- the  
5 mines have worked, you know, there's a lot of  
6 monitoring, observation.

7                   But I think we have to step back. Too  
8 often they've done that to provide monies. That was a  
9 way to provide monies to -- especially in the -- the  
10 when they were issuing land use permits, and they have  
11 people that are -- that -- you know, they want people  
12 to go along, as well.

13                   But I think that's where it's coming  
14 from. What here -- what we're talking about is actual  
15 monitoring, what goes on here in Deline. And not  
16 necessarily because there's a land use program, or --  
17 no. We'll -- I think people would want to do it. You  
18 just heard about some of our culture about what we do  
19 when somebody shots an animal the first time.

20                   There's also a culture of people  
21 sharing their stories. You know, if I was a hunter  
22 and I shoot -- shot caribou, I -- I want to talk to my  
23 friends about where I shot it. I want to tell my  
24 grandfathers, my Elders, my grandmothers. I think  
25 that's going to happen, and as long as -- I think

1 there's a hesitation here about providing that  
2 information to other people, other than Deline.

3                   So I think as we -- that's one of the  
4 things I'm really cognisant of. You know, I get a --  
5 sometimes my Elders, or people will tell me, No, you -  
6 - you shouldn't have said that. But I think the  
7 information that comes in with a group of hunters, and  
8 they -- they can decide themselves. The information  
9 doesn't have to go any further than that because  
10 they're the ones that have to make their own decisions  
11 anyway about what they're going to do the following  
12 year.

13                   So I think we -- we have -- we've  
14 learned a lot about monitoring. And the word  
15 'monitoring' is a funny word. I hate using it. I --  
16 I think there's better words than monitoring. I think  
17 we should say, you know, knowing. Monitor sounds like  
18 we're -- we're actually -- monitor sounds like we're  
19 going to enforce laws. Knowing is better.

20                   Excited hunters is better, that they  
21 can tell stories. You know, we -- I've got a hunter  
22 that's going to be telling his story, and hopefully he  
23 gives us a little more insight of what would work for  
24 them. This is one of the things that we're doing  
25 here, too. What would work for our people. Masi.

1 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Any further  
2 questions from ENR, Dr. Adamczewski?

3 DR. JAN ADAMCZEWSKI: Thank you, Mr.  
4 Chairman. Jan Adamczewski, with ENR. I'd like to  
5 raise the -- the subject of wolves and wolf hunting.  
6 And it's always a very sensitive subject.

7 I spent years in the Yukon, and you  
8 always get a very diverse set of opinions. People  
9 love them, people hate them. Some people want to kill  
10 the last one and some people say you should never  
11 touch them.

12 And so even in this -- the meetings  
13 that we've had, you know, the last year or so, you get  
14 a really big range of ideas about what's acceptable.  
15 And so I'm just wondering -- there's not a lot in your  
16 plan about that.

17 And I'm just wondering if you'd like to  
18 talk about, you know, what do you see might be  
19 acceptable, if anything, in terms of trying to kill  
20 more wolves.

21 I'm asking because this caribou herd,  
22 by our numbers, is going down very quickly. And in  
23 the short term, the things that you can do something  
24 about, I mean, that list tends to be very short.  
25 Harvest is always on the list, and then the predators

1 are -- that's one (1) thing that you can do something  
2 about.

3                   So could you give us some sense of what  
4 the community's view on this is and whether you see  
5 some role for increased wolf harvest in -- in your  
6 region?

7                   MR. WALTER BAYHA:    Masi.  The --  
8 Walter Bayha, with the Deline delegation.  By all  
9 means.  I think those -- you know, I ask myself:  Why  
10 isn't more hunters taking wolves?

11                   And yesterday you saw a young man talk  
12 about he'll take wolves.  What did he say?  He said,  
13 If I've got a place to skin it, I'll take it.  So if  
14 that's all it takes, well, surely we can find a place  
15 where they can harvest.

16                   I think we'll -- we'll look -- remember  
17 I said we -- those program areas, wolves -- you're  
18 right.  It's a -- I think we've got -- on any --  
19 especially right now, there -- there's -- there's  
20 wolves around.  There's -- there's a -- a whole -- a  
21 whole -- you know, quite a few of them that hang  
22 around here on a regular basis.

23                   And then we have -- when caribou cross  
24 the lake, it increases because, as you know as a  
25 biologist, wolves follow them.  But, yes, let's do

1 that. We ask -- we'll ask our hunters.

2 I know one (1) of the things about my  
3 own family. We're encouraged not to hunt wolves, so  
4 we haven't done that. But there's really nothing  
5 wrong with -- I think one (1) of my brothers is  
6 allergic to wolf hairs or something, so I have to -- I  
7 have -- I have to be careful with -- when they're --  
8 when I'm around them.

9 But in terms of other hunters, you  
10 know, there's good incentives there. There's nothing  
11 wrong with them taking wolves if all it means is we  
12 provide a place where they can skin them.

13 And I see in the plan yesterday or in  
14 the -- ENR's -- they're set up that you can shoot a  
15 wolf or you can snare one and bring it to the -- to  
16 the ENR officer. They can pay you for it right there.  
17 But if you prepared it a little more, you -- you'd get  
18 a little more money.

19 But, yes, I'd love -- I think I'm going  
20 to note that and see -- see -- you know, try to get  
21 more information from my own harvesters why they're  
22 not taking wolves. Masi.

23 DR. JAN ADAMCZEWSKI: One final  
24 question, Mr. Chair. Jan Adamczewski, with ENR.  
25 Thank you very much, Walter.

1                   In our presentation yesterday, we  
2 talked about possibly an annual review of new  
3 information, and then taking a look at management and  
4 whether changes might need to be made or whether we  
5 just keep on going the same way.

6                   So we've suggested possibly a fall  
7 meeting would be a good time for that. The Board's  
8 always have a fall meeting. Our -- so I was going to  
9 say caribou monitoring, but our caribou knowing  
10 surveys will have some new information about calf  
11 numbers from the spring and hopefully cow numbers on  
12 the calving ground.

13                   So would that fit with the Deline plan  
14 then perhaps to consider a fall meeting or a meeting  
15 at the right time of year to sit down and see where  
16 we're at, what new information we might have, and do  
17 we need to change anything that we're doing?

18                   MR. WALTER BAYHA: I -- we'll have to  
19 look at that, but, yeah, we -- we need dates for that.  
20 Remember I told you historically we did that. I think  
21 the people here did that in the summer, early summer  
22 where they gathered and they had more time to do that.  
23 The daylight was longer. You know, the hunting  
24 pressures are not there.

25                   But, yes, we'll look at it. That's --

1 that's going to be a huge part of the plan to review  
2 the plan, to -- you know, to adapt if we have to, and  
3 to change things -- little things, but that's going to  
4 be a huge part of the community itself, because the  
5 community as a whole have to -- Gina was saying, you  
6 know, for sixty (60) years eating country foods.

7                   Well, you go outside now and look at  
8 the number of nets we have. I think we have maybe --  
9 I don't know, Morris, you're going to have to help,  
10 but I don't have a net anymore, so there's probably  
11 about five (5)/six (6) nets tops. That's feeding the  
12 whole community.

13                   You know, we want to increase that.  
14 But again, you know, going back to the food  
15 preparation, that's going to be a huge part of our  
16 plan is to review, get people involved. You know, one  
17 (1) of the things I didn't mention this morning and it  
18 comes -- John, I don't know why it comes up when  
19 you're talking to me, but our children.

20                   This is why I had my grandchildren  
21 yesterday. We're going to bring all of our children  
22 to that meeting you're talking about, because when you  
23 bring children you make good decisions. You know,  
24 they don't say anything, but I remember now. All that  
25 memory is coming back.

1                   We had huge gatherings, children,  
2 women, men, everybody is there and they're making  
3 decisions. You know, I wasn't paying attention, but  
4 that's what they're doing. That's the reason for the  
5 gathering.

6                   But, yes, you're right, very important.  
7 That annual review is so much important. And we could  
8 do it jointly, you know, because it's making decisions  
9 with some of the other meetings that go on with the  
10 Sahtu Review Resources Board, they -- that's what  
11 you're talking about when those -- you're knowing  
12 stuff comes in and you inform the Board at the same  
13 time.

14                   Anyways, Masi.

15                   MS. LYNDA YONGE: Lynda Yonge, for  
16 ENR. No more questions from ENR. Thank you.

17                   THE VICE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you  
18 very much, Environment and Natural Resources for your  
19 most useful questioning. The Board has found it of --  
20 of good value. The food has arrived for lunch.

21                   So I think we'll -- we'll break for an  
22 hour and I'd ask everybody to be back and ready to go  
23 at 1:15 at which time we'll be hearing from the --  
24 questioning from the Colville Lake panel, assuming  
25 they have question. I have a slight suspicion they

1 do.

2                   So at 1:15 back here for the continuing  
3 with the questions. Thank you very much.

4

5 --- Upon recessing at 12:17 p.m.

6 --- Upon resuming at 1:20 p.m.

7

8                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Okay. We're  
9 going to resume with questioning for the Deline panel.  
10 And I believe up next is Colville Lake. So if you  
11 would proceed with your questioning and just indicate  
12 your name before each respon -- question. Thank you  
13 very much.

14                   CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON: Masi, Mr.  
15 Chair. I'll resume -- we're just starting the  
16 questioning, so I think I kind of want to make a  
17 comment on what was presented this morning.

18                   When you were talking about animals or  
19 you were talking about grandfathers, all of our  
20 grandfathers came from around here. Four (4) brothers  
21 that came from around Deline area all have different  
22 last names. And even in Tlichon area where some of our  
23 grandfathers came from there, so does all the -- I  
24 don't have to go through history on that.

25                   And when you're talking about stories,

1 a lot of stories that are told in that, your plan, I  
2 know those stories. Some of those stories, I live by  
3 it and I live it and I can talk about it. But those  
4 things are sacred to me, so I can't share to go that  
5 far.

6                   And you're talking about the caribou,  
7 the baby, those kind of things. It's all there, rules  
8 for us, not for somebody just to talk about it and  
9 think they know it. I don't think so. You have to  
10 live it to know it. That's why it's passed on to us.

11                   And I see some stories in there, people  
12 telling stories, but they never really finish it. And  
13 I know those stories because it was told to me a long  
14 time ago, since I was a child. And when I -- start  
15 hunting since I was a child, and it was given to me.  
16 Since I was twelve (12) years old I've been hunting.  
17 That's al -- almost forty (40) years. See, I'm -- I'm  
18 not that young. I'm getting -- I'm getting up there,  
19 too, so.

20                   And when somebody tells you about how  
21 much caribou you could shoot, it's not right for First  
22 Nations. Grandfathers has always said to take care --  
23 take care of the caribou is to hunt it, and respect  
24 it. That's what they mean by taking care of the  
25 caribou. If you're hunting it, you're respecting it.

1 And never let the animal get old and suffer.

2

3

(BRIEF PAUSE)

4

5

CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON: I think I'm  
6 getting too -- I thought I wasn't hearing good so I  
7 was getting closer, so I wanted to hear myself, so.

8

But it's just the way it was told, and  
9 when you're talking about grandfathers. And they have  
10 never said, Here you do this -- you do it this way.

11 They have never told us that we did it wrong. We  
12 learn, and we didn't think so but we learned. That's  
13 how we learned.

14

It's all right here. God -- God-given  
15 right here is right here. That's what I hunt with.  
16 When you're out on the land, you're a hunter. You are  
17 given that limit in life that's in the spiritual  
18 world. That's what you're talking about when you're  
19 talking about things. Some people don't know what  
20 they're talking about when they're talking about  
21 things like that. That is deep.

22

We're talking about your plan, your  
23 plan is good but once you start putting numbers in  
24 there it's going to -- it kind of bothers First  
25 Nations and a lot of the Elders. And sometimes even

1 the Plan sounds kind of personal, but it's -- it's not  
2 personal.

3                   We're doing ours, and we're trying to  
4 get everybody in there so it kind of accommodates  
5 everybody. One (1) number one thing to do is -- I was  
6 -- maybe work with ENR and everybody in the First  
7 Nation. Like we have that meeting in April.

8                   We all want to do the same thing, but  
9 the one thing that we never agree on is the quota. In  
10 my lifetime, like I never talk about myself or how I  
11 should -- how much caribou I shoot. You would never  
12 believe how much I would shoot. The experience I  
13 have. You -- in the dark I can skin a caribou.  
14 That's how much experience I have. A lot of people  
15 would never do that, to tell me they have experience  
16 to go hunting on the land. Would they be able to skin  
17 caribou in the dark? I don't think so. But I can do  
18 that.

19                   That's how much caribou you skin just  
20 by feeding. And it's right here. With the Elders --  
21 some of the Elders here. I'm not very happy with  
22 what's going on talking about the caribou too much.  
23 It's personal for them. They live -- live with it  
24 along -- I remember when some people used to go to  
25 Colville. There was some Elders, and -- well, David

1 Modeste was there. Pierre Makenzo (phonetic), Allain  
2 Feaux (phonetic), Dion Modeste (phonetic) they used to  
3 go to Colville Lake and hunt around there. Oh, we  
4 were happy to see them.

5 I was just a kid then but we're just  
6 happy they all go with them. We never asked them, You  
7 can't shoot this. You can't do this. No way. Our  
8 Elders were happy and told us to go with them, so  
9 that's what we did. That's how it should be all the  
10 time. To share what we have on our land, not to be a  
11 quota on what they can shoot.

12 And I'm saying that the animal is happy  
13 when you hunt it. It's part of the land. It will  
14 keep coming back. To be able to shoot a caribou this  
15 year, next year it will be there again. Those kind of  
16 things you don't understand, some people. My  
17 grandfather sure told me about that. Shoot a caribou,  
18 you never pity it, because the way you respect it,  
19 just coming back again.

20 So when you're talking about caribou,  
21 you're just -- just like I said, it's -- it's kind of  
22 personal sometimes, and something that's given to you.  
23 You have a limit in life. Once you reach that limit,  
24 you know you're not going to be around anymore.

25 Two (2) of my brothers are gone, the

1 best hunters. I guess they came up to their limit of  
2 what they had -- what they had to kill. Just certain  
3 people have that gift that's given to them. It's hard  
4 to talk about it. I can't explain it here.

5                   And a lot of the stories that are set  
6 in there, it's -- it's all up here. That's not to  
7 undermine what people are saying, but when the Elders  
8 speak or grandfather said, Take care of your animals,  
9 take care of your home, your children, your wife.  
10 Treat them well. And then speak about it.

11

12                                           (BRIEF PAUSE)

13

14                   CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON: Like Morris  
15 said -- and he -- I sure respect him. He's -- sure a  
16 lot of -- says a lot of good things. And he's learned  
17 from his dad. I know -- I know his dad. I know his  
18 dad pretty well before he passed away, even though I'm  
19 a young person. He used to tell good stories.

20                   And even Alfred, I always respect him  
21 because he's one (1) of the oldest person in Deline  
22 right now. If you have a respect for Elders and that,  
23 that's how the animals would respect you. You just  
24 don't just get it back, you earn it. You earn that  
25 respect because you love the land and the animals.

1                   I'm glad that Deline is doing that  
2 plan. It's good. And once we start putting numbers  
3 in there and give it to somebody else or somebody else  
4 to take care of it, it doesn't really go well with us,  
5 because the way we were taught is always to take care  
6 of ourselves and our animals.

7                   And I hope that we can work together to  
8 make it better, because you put quotas in there and  
9 you put some Bluenose West in there, but we don't like  
10 the quotas. We want to share with you. We don't like  
11 just to take only fifty (50) caribou. That's nothing.  
12 How much people do you have here?

13

14                                           (BRIEF PAUSE)

15

16                   CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON: I don't think  
17 the caribou likes to be counted in how much you killed  
18 it. It would be back. And then all the scientists  
19 don't understand that. And so they call it  
20 traditional knowledge that's driven into you since you  
21 were a child. All the rules, all the stories that are  
22 told is to live by it, not just to tell it and say,  
23 Well, this is what was said. That's what my grandpa  
24 said.

25                   Right now, I'm living it when I go on

1 the land. And I can go out -- like, this example, how  
2 much a caribou respects you. Once I found a wounded  
3 caribou. I went up to it to move it around. And I --  
4 as soon as I grabbed it, it just put his head down,  
5 and I killed it. It didn't even fight back. It  
6 didn't kick back, just like it's saying, Thank you.  
7 That's how personal it is.

8                   If you're in touch with the land and  
9 the animals, that's when you speak about it. And my  
10 brothers can say that. All -- there were seven (7) of  
11 us, but now there's only five (5) of us left. My dad  
12 is right there, eighty-three (83). He's going to say  
13 a little word after we're done. This is more a  
14 general comment. And I don't want people to feel  
15 personal about what I'm saying. I'm just telling what  
16 was told to us, kind of validating the stories that  
17 were told.

18                   And I think some of the panel members  
19 wanted to ask questions, so I'll leave it to them to  
20 add more questions and I'll say, masi for them  
21 allowing me to speak.

22                   And I was wanting to get it out,  
23 because it was right here, so if I don't take it out,  
24 it -- I might take it out on somebody, so masi.

25                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.

1 Kochon. Further questions from Colville Lake?

2

3

(BRIEF PAUSE)

4

5

MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Joseph Kochon, the  
6 interim president for the Colville Lake RRC. Thank  
7 you, Mr. Chair. I'm going to ask a -- a few  
8 questions, but before then, I'll just provide a little  
9 -- a little quote that my grandfather left with us  
10 before he passed on. He said:

11

12

13

14

"My children, as long as I'm on this  
earth, I don't want to live by any  
type of rule, any licence, or any  
type of quota."

15

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25

He didn't just meant that for himself.

He spoke for us. We're his bloodline. And that means  
a lot to us. However we evolve into the future, this  
is something that's given to us by the Creator. And  
if it's going to be taken away one (1) day, then  
that's the way it is.

(BRIEF PAUSE)

MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: So I just wanted

to make sure that is brought out forward. So I'll get

1 down to my -- my question. You know, today, we're  
2 talking about a very important topic. Everybody in  
3 the Sahtu eats caribou. You know, it's their regular  
4 diet. It's something we grew up with.

5

6

(BRIEF PAUSE)

7

8 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: And I'll use  
9 myself and a -- as an example. For the last twenty-  
10 two (22) years, I've been travelling here and there  
11 across Canada. And every time I leave, I leave for  
12 about five (5) days or so, I'm eating restaurant food,  
13 but it's going through me, and I don't feel full. I'm  
14 just eating all the time, but.

15 And when I get home, the -- the first  
16 place I look is in my freezer and meat -- I have to  
17 have that meat. Like without it, I'm weak. I'm  
18 almost basically falling around, even though  
19 restaurant food kind of filled me up for a while.  
20 Most of the store -- store-bought food alone is not  
21 going to feed me. Everything is processed.

22 And God knows what the people that  
23 produce these food and what they do to -- to make  
24 those -- those food fat and whatnot. God knows what  
25 they inject into it, so. I don't know why it fills me

1 up, and five (5) minutes later, I'm -- I'm hungry  
2 again.

3                   Today, you know, we're talking about  
4 the Deline's plan to -- to basically be preserving  
5 caribou for the future. Where is the Deline people?  
6 That's my question, where is the people? Because  
7 you're going to do something for them into the future.  
8 Are they -- why are they not here?

9                   It kind of bothers me. This morning, I  
10 counted up to about seven (7) or eight (8) people.  
11 Truly are they behind this plan? And that begs the  
12 question for everywhere else -- you go to the IRC, the  
13 Gwich'ins, the Dogrib area, wherever ENR is working.  
14 Yesterday I asked that question about How do you get  
15 your approvals to restrict certain areas?

16                   In the Dene politics -- I've been in  
17 Dene politics for -- for a while. Every time we're  
18 going to bring a matter forward that's this important,  
19 we make sure every person has that chance to speak.  
20 And we talk through it and we make sure that we have  
21 consensus.

22                   We signed a land claims probably 1993,  
23 and regardless of whatever we do, we're in it  
24 together. So although we -- we have to respect what  
25 Deline's doing, we do have questions that have had to

1 satisfy ourselves and the general public, whoever can  
2 read whatever is transcribed into the internet,  
3 whatever is produced.

4 I'm speaking to t'ref (phonetic) people  
5 also. Where do the people get involved? Is it only  
6 certain people get involved, then not all people  
7 participate in this type of hearing? We need to know  
8 that.

9 So for this Deline process, no  
10 disrespect. I just want to know. This is a very  
11 important topic. Where is your people?

12 I know in making decisions, when  
13 government gets their decisions, they have to check  
14 off their consultations. That's what was explained to  
15 me yesterday from the ENR panel, that they have to  
16 have so much meetings to satisfy the consultation  
17 process.

18 But I know in the Dene corner,  
19 Aboriginal politics, we have to satisfy our community.  
20 We have to make sure our community's behind us if we -  
21 - we make a decision.

22 I guess the other question is the -- in  
23 the Deline plan, we're reading it here, it pretty well  
24 complements ENR's plan, whatever they've been  
25 advocating for the last so many years. It's just

1 built right into there. So a lot of the -- there's a  
2 lot of writings that are put into there.

3 Is that the wish of the -- the people?

4 The other question is re -- regarding  
5 enforcement.

6 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Excuse me, Mr.  
7 Kochon. I would prefer that we deal with one (1)  
8 question at a time. So I would ask that Deline  
9 respond to the first question. And if not, I'm sure  
10 if -- if you would like it repeated by Mr. Kochon, I'm  
11 sure he'd be happy to.

12 MR. WALTER BAYHA: I'm -- I'm -- masi.  
13 I'm trying to -- I'm Walter Bayha. I'm the -- the --  
14 part of Deline's panel.

15 Well, maybe -- you know, I'm trying to  
16 understand how to respond to this. I think the --  
17 maybe go back to the -- I can respond to the Deline's  
18 Plan. You're talking about consultation.

19 So the -- the question is: Is it the  
20 people's plan? You're talking about this process  
21 here, as well. It's here. It's in Deline. You see  
22 the names on the Plan. I -- I don't understand -- I'm  
23 trying to understand what the question is. Because  
24 you're saying that our plan compliments -- you're  
25 talking about the management plan.

1                   Of course the Deline has to follow what  
2 the management plan says, but like I said the  
3 management plan is a guide. It doesn't tell Deline  
4 what to do. So I think Deline made this decision but,  
5 I mean, it's -- it's up to every -- every person in  
6 Deline.

7                   So I have to get the question straight  
8 so I can try to understand what we have in our plan.  
9 So if you can -- because you said a lot of things, and  
10 I don't know where to start, or where to -- how to  
11 answer you. So if you can do that, I -- I'd probably  
12 appreciate it, and if you can do that then maybe I --  
13 we can have a bit of an answer. Masi.

14                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Kochon,  
15 could -- could you perhaps rephrase the question?  
16 Thank you.

17                   MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Okay. Thank you,  
18 Mr. Chair. I'll just go back to starting again. I'll  
19 go back to -- my first question was that since  
20 yesterday, you know, we hear that your members are  
21 just over nine hundred (900) people here. And we hear  
22 your people talking about that -- how much they --  
23 they care about caribou, and everything. And -- and  
24 that they had a hand in developing this process, and  
25 everything.

1                   Since yesterday, we only had just a  
2 number of people here from Deline. We have panel  
3 members from the ENR, Fort Good Hope, Colville Lake,  
4 and -- and Tulita. Where is all the people, you know,  
5 if -- if this is such an important topic? You know,  
6 why are they not here to support this plan?

7                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Yes, go ahead,  
8 Mr. Bayha. I mean, if I -- if I could offer a word of  
9 assistance? Maybe you perhaps sort of took -- took us  
10 through the process that led to your plan in terms of  
11 the -- the workings within your community, the  
12 meetings you had, and how you structured that, and to  
13 get to a final plan. The -- how -- how your community  
14 was involved, rather it be through meetings or  
15 whatever.

16                   MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Mr. Chair, that's  
17 not the question I asked. I asked: Where are the  
18 people here, you know, to support this initiative?  
19 Like you said this is a very important topic for your  
20 members, like in the last two (2) days we've just seen  
21 a suff -- number of people. So where are the people?  
22 That's how my question is.

23                   MR. WALTER BAYHA: Well, then maybe we  
24 should ask that question. Maybe we should get on the  
25 radio and find out where -- where our people are, but

1 I think that's something that -- you know, we've done  
2 the best we can on -- on talking to people on this.  
3 And I see, you know, that a lot of our people, a lot  
4 of our hunters, they -- they're not interested in  
5 talking at a forum like this. I understand that.

6           If you want, we can -- you can -- I can  
7 ask some of the hunters that are -- are the people  
8 that actually hunt, the ones that -- you know, the  
9 ones that hunt all the time, you can -- I'm sure  
10 they're going to be around. You can ask them directly  
11 if you want.

12           But I think the Plan -- the Plan tries  
13 to answer that through -- there's a process that we  
14 went through, and we spent a lot -- a lot of time at  
15 meetings. This -- like, the leadership had a big  
16 support of -- of this process, and I think it's in the  
17 plan. And I think sometimes -- and one (1) of the  
18 things that's very interesting is I -- I said right at  
19 the beginning and I think when I go through the plan,  
20 it's Deline's plan.

21           I don't -- one (1) of the things I  
22 said, too, I said, You never ask another Dene what  
23 they're doing; big time in our plan. So I think -- I  
24 think those are the -- the rules that -- you know,  
25 that -- that's very important to this process.

1                   There's things that really -- it's  
2 outstanding that doesn't seem to be in the plan. I  
3 think I would really probably appreciate it. I don't  
4 think I can -- when you deal with, you know, some of  
5 the que -- the question there is maybe direct to us,  
6 but maybe in a lot of ways it's direct to our own  
7 people. And that -- I -- I can't do much about that.  
8 It's -- it's up to every one (1) of them.

9                   And that's more in the -- the political  
10 realm than the plan itself. I -- I deal with the plan  
11 as the way it is. And the question there goes back to  
12 how we're going to harvest our animals. And one (1)  
13 of them is caribou. And we go back to our  
14 grandfathers. And I think that's the way we look at  
15 it.

16                   I don't think -- I don't think I can go  
17 to somewhere else and -- and ask them. I -- I don't  
18 think -- I don't think that's an appropriate question  
19 because I -- I can't answer that. I'm not leadership.  
20 I'm only a technical person trying to get this plan to  
21 have our harvesters supported.

22                   So I think the -- the other thing is  
23 the -- the proc -- the process we have here is set.  
24 And I think I mentioned right at the beginning we  
25 can't change that. And you mentioned it, as well.

1 It's in the land claims. SRRB has a mandate and  
2 that's what they're doing.

3                   And what Deline is doing is telling the  
4 -- the SRRB this is Deline's plan. And I think if the  
5 Board would take that note, if there's a question as  
6 to the validity of the plan because not enough people  
7 are here today to support it, well, that may be  
8 something -- something else that we have to look at.

9                   But at the same time, we also -- the  
10 process also would have -- probably tomorrow you might  
11 have more of the public show up. But many -- in my  
12 experience, people shy away from public hearings. And  
13 I think that's -- that's part of it.

14                   We -- we had a lot of -- if you look at  
15 the -- the meeting and the process, there was a lot  
16 more at the -- you're right when you say that it's a  
17 very important issue that we're talking about.

18                   So I -- I think you -- you have to look  
19 at the parts where -- the amount of meetings we had.  
20 Like, this has -- this has been going on for two (2)  
21 years. So I'll try to answer your question, but I  
22 don't want to -- I don't want to answer it in a way  
23 that is very disrespectful. I -- I can't -- that's  
24 not what the -- what the plan is there for.

25                   And one (1) of the things I always tell

1 my -- my own people, I said, Tell me how to do it  
2 right, please. If there's something in there that is  
3 not right and we're moving in the wrong direction,  
4 tell me how to straight -- how to do it right. Give  
5 me a solution.

6                   And we've been doing -- Deline has been  
7 doing that. And I think we do that a lot. I think --  
8 I hope. I don't want to -- I don't want to say things  
9 that go in the wrong direction. This is what we don't  
10 want. Yesterday I wrote down things that Ethel said.  
11 Ethel said it very clearly and she said, I don't want  
12 to say something that conflicts in my communities.

13                   Those are beautiful words. And I think  
14 -- I think Deline has -- has made huge steps in  
15 producing a plan like this, because like I said, all  
16 we did is put it on paper, because it's -- it's  
17 difficult to do. But I'll take that as -- as a  
18 question and I'll -- I'll note then and in the plan  
19 we'll -- we'll record every person that wants to  
20 support the plan if that helps, and everyone that  
21 doesn't as well, because we're open to that as well.

22                   And we want to -- we want to make sure  
23 it's in the best interest of everybody. So that's  
24 probably the best I can do. I -- I can't -- I can't  
25 do much more than that. You had a second question, so

1 if -- I can answer that as well or try to.

2 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Kochon, you  
3 had a following question?

4 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Thank you, Mr.  
5 Chair. This is public record, you know, your plan  
6 went out viral. Anybody around the world could see  
7 that information. And this panel is designed to ask  
8 questions, but you're asking us -- you know, it's  
9 disrespectful to ask questions, but that's -- if you  
10 put it out there, exactly what we did yesterday, ask  
11 ENR questions, today we'll make our presentation,  
12 we'll put it up there, it can go viral and people can  
13 ask us questions, but we do have those -- those  
14 answers.

15 If you produce something -- if you were  
16 in charge of the pen you can have no problem answering  
17 questions. So if you could make your responses nice  
18 and tidy is good. You know, at lease all we wanted to  
19 ask is some questions and it's not personal.

20 We don't take things personally. We  
21 just want for the general public and everybody to  
22 know, you know, what process have you taken. Those  
23 are not bad questions. We may learn from this  
24 ourselves as we go along into the future.

25 You know, when I -- the other question

1 I asked was about the -- that -- Deline's plan, you  
2 know, in -- inside the plan it talks about the  
3 wildlife organizations and the management plan that  
4 were produced. Those were produced from the various  
5 organizations. Some of them through the SSRB (sic),  
6 through the consultations and it was built into your  
7 agreement that, cut and paste, okay, we've inserted  
8 this into our -- you know, the general costs.

9                   So again, you know, I say, you know, is  
10 that the wish of the people to walk down this path,  
11 because there's already a structure already put in  
12 place. And I use that word compliment, because it  
13 works into a structure that's already there.

14                   ENR has a process and it works towards  
15 setting limits of total allowable harvest for our  
16 people, so I'm just wondering about that, you know,  
17 it's written right into your agreement that whatever's  
18 been set out there it pretty well works hand in hand.

19                   Maybe I could make reference to the  
20 things that are right in the agreement there

21

22                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

23

24                   UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He's wondering  
25 if you could ask -- if anybody could speak from the

1 public?

2 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: I'm sorry, but  
3 this -- this is not intended to be a public forum.  
4 This is part -- party to party, so we're hearing  
5 presentations, and then we're taking questions from  
6 the other party. So it's -- I'm sorry, but it's not  
7 intended to be a public session.

8 There was a public session last night,  
9 and we could think about scheduling another one later  
10 in the week but right now it's not -- it's not a  
11 public session.

12

13 (BRIEF PAUSE)

14

15 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: The Board  
16 wishes to take a fifteen (15) minute break to assess  
17 the situation and decide where we go from here. So a  
18 fifteen (15) minute break. Thank you.

19

20 --- Upon recessing at 2:00 p.m.

21 --- Upon resuming at 2:22 p.m.

22

23 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Okay. The --  
24 the Board -- the Board recognizes that the -- this is  
25 a very difficult issue. And Colville Lake has been

1 asking some very valid but difficult questions. We --  
2 we know that because this is an emotional issue and  
3 we're in the community of Deline, one (1) member of  
4 the public voiced some concerns and wished to speak.

5                   And in -- in respect of the Elder and -  
6 - and his opinions, we're willing to allow him to  
7 speak. Given that it's a -- a bit of a departure from  
8 our -- our protocols and our -- our procedures, we are  
9 willing to let the Deline Elder speak.

10                   So I'm not sure -- I know Deline  
11 caucused over the break also, so I'm not sure what the  
12 decisions were. But that's the Board's position at  
13 the moment, so.

14

15                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

16

17                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: I don't -- I'm  
18 led to believe that the Elder has left the room. So  
19 it doesn't look like we'll be getting a -- a  
20 presentation from him.

21                   I would like to say, and as I mentioned  
22 before we broke, that the Board could seriously  
23 consider holding another public session tonight for  
24 anybody who wants to come and speak. We had one (1)  
25 last night that was moderately attended but we would

1 certainly be willing to hold another public session  
2 this evening for people -- people who wish to speak.

3 Oh, I think I'm -- okay. So Mr.  
4 Modeste has returned.

5

6 (BRIEF PAUSE)

7

8 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: So if it's  
9 acceptable from both Colville and -- and Deline  
10 panels, we would give Mr. Modeste the floor. Thank  
11 you very much, Mr. Modeste.

12

13 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

14

15 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

16 ELDER LEON MODESTE: Thank you. I  
17 have not said that I am angry with people or want to  
18 create confrontation. I just wanted to say something  
19 on the issue.

20 As an Elder, my -- I'm about eighty-two  
21 (82) years old, and I want everybody to live well.  
22 And so my -- I -- I think of the way how my ancestors  
23 had brought us up and how they lived.

24 At the beginning, we are as Dene  
25 people. We -- we've come and they -- and the non-

1 Aboriginal came upon us. And we are all working  
2 together as -- as soon as that had happened.

3                   As all people and the issue, we have to  
4 think alike and work together. We are not here to  
5 create havoc, and things that are there can be  
6 upsetting us.

7

8                                           (BRIEF PAUSE)

9

10                   ELDER LEON MODESTE:    When we are angry  
11 with something, we -- it -- there's no solution to it.  
12 We can't make anything of it. We have to come up with  
13 great solutions and listen to each other. From that  
14 things will come good. I did not say -- I did not  
15 want to say anything that -- because I was angry. I  
16 wanted to say something to bring the people back on  
17 track so that they can do the right thing.

18

19                                           (BRIEF PAUSE)

20

21                   ELDER LEON MODESTE:    We are all Dene.  
22 All the Dene people are like they're united as a  
23 family, including all the people that live on this  
24 land, including the non-Aboriginal people. It's like  
25 we're all one (1) living together here.

1                   But let us stand together, together to  
2 help each other. Listen to each other so that we can  
3 do the right thing for the future of our children. If  
4 we are angry at each other and upset with each other,  
5 we not -- we can't do anything with that.

6                   When people are talking, listen to  
7 them. And if you listen you'll go ahead a lot better.  
8 When you talk about caribou, it will never -- it will  
9 never diminish or disappear. Our -- our prophets had  
10 mentioned this to us. If it's going to go, then it's  
11 going to go. If there's going to be abundance of  
12 them, then it will -- there will be abundance of them.  
13 However, when we talk about wildlife, if it is -- it  
14 should be up to us -- it should be up to us to decide,  
15 those that are -- are sitting around the table, in --  
16 including ENR.

17                   You are there to help us so that we can  
18 all come out well together to work. When the wildlife  
19 are suffering, something that are suffering, you're  
20 there to -- for being ENR as ENR staff and people that  
21 work for you. As Abori -- Aboriginal people, and --  
22 and there is something that is difficult for us and  
23 hard to understand, then you are there to help them.

24                   When we talk -- when -- for caribou,  
25 when -- when our prophets had talked about this, it

1 sees itself. When you throw the bones into the fire  
2 it cries. You -- it will cry.

3

4 (BRIEF PAUSE)

5

6 ELDER LEON MODESTE: When we all -- we  
7 look after and respect it, every part of it, it will  
8 come back to itself and it'll cre -- it -- it will  
9 recreate itself.

10 If we have killed about one hundred  
11 (100) caribou, if we all -- respect them all the way  
12 we killed it, and respect them all, all one hundred  
13 (100) of them will come back to us. Those are the  
14 things that our prophets have mentioned to us.

15 When you talk about caribou, be  
16 sensitive about it. You could see the pictures on the  
17 wall. Even though it's not talking, the picture is  
18 there. That is how we are respecting our wildlife.  
19 If we respect our wildlife it'll know us.

20 Sometimes I see pictures of caribou and  
21 wildlife, and so forth, in the garbage. And when --  
22 when you talk about the caribou, talk about it very  
23 well and respectfully. Ask Aboriginal people, if it  
24 can come from them it will be good. You're there to  
25 help us. Let us do it ourself.

1                   I have never, from the moment I've been  
2 to meetings, various meetings, I have never spoken in  
3 anger. I have never said anything in anger. I give  
4 words that are helpful so that we can live by it. We  
5 -- I think about the future of our children, how  
6 they're going to live.

7                   When people are talking, listen to each  
8 other. Thank you. Even though I didn't know you were  
9 -- this was just a group panel, so this is why I -- I  
10 wanted to say something, so that's why I didn't  
11 realize that it was just for the panel and  
12 communities, but however, I -- I'm very grateful and  
13 thank you very much for giving me the chance to say  
14 this to you.

15                   I am not saying this in anger or  
16 anything like that. And I wanted to say this so that  
17 you can come back on track. If I said - if I thought  
18 that you were just going to throw me out and you  
19 didn't do that, so I'm very thankful.

20

21                   (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

22

23 QUESTION PERIOD CONTINUED:

24                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thanks. Thank  
25 you very much, Mr. Modeste. I would like to proceed

1 with the -- with the questioning and we're still with  
2 the Colville Lake and with respondents being Deline  
3 panel.

4                   Before we start though, I would just  
5 ask that the questions be posed as clearly as possible  
6 and that the answers -- and likewise in -- in respect  
7 of the person posing the question, the -- the answers  
8 be as clear as possible also.

9                   I would just repeat that when we're  
10 answering questions I would prefer that -- I would  
11 want the answers to be as clear as possible. And I've  
12 just asked the -- the questioner that they phrase  
13 their questions as clearly as possible just so the  
14 Board. We want to get the best information and the  
15 only way we're going to get that is if we get clear  
16 answers -- or clear questions and clear answers.

17                   Thank you. With that, I would turn it  
18 back to Colville Lake panel.

19                   MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Thank you, Mr.  
20 Chair. Joseph Kochon, the interim president for  
21 Colville Lake RRC.

22                   Like when this type of hearing takes  
23 place, it should be well announced in our language,  
24 too, so that members know. A lot of our -- our  
25 members didn't know they have to -- if they want to be

1 asking questions then they have to apply to as an  
2 Intervenor.

3                   Some of our members just thought they  
4 can ask questions, but that's the reason why we made  
5 sure each of our organizations supplied us an  
6 Intervenor. We know we have that right to -- to ask  
7 questions. So whatever is presented we all have that  
8 right to ask that questions, so as per the policies  
9 that were put in place.

10                   So the -- the last question that I was  
11 referring to was that -- that this plan could well --  
12 works hand in hand with the existing work that was  
13 already done. It's on page 5 of the -- the Deline  
14 Plan where it works with the -- with the existing  
15 Bluenose management plan. It talks about the calf --  
16 Cape Bathurst, Bluenose West/East, and the ACCMM  
17 (sic).

18                   So those were already existing plans  
19 that were drafted and everything, so this Deline Plan  
20 I guess it -- what I said. It compliments that. You  
21 know, it -- it works into it so -- somehow, so I just  
22 wanted to know how -- how that works -- or how Deline  
23 -- how Deline interprets that.

24                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Deline, are you  
25 prepared to respond, or do you need clarification?

1 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Okay. Well, I'll  
2 try to understand the question. The question is: How  
3 does Deline Plan fit in with the -- the Bluenose  
4 caribou management plan? Is that the question?

5 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Kochon, is  
6 it?

7 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: There's already a  
8 management plan that was produced by -- I think by the  
9 ACCMW (sic) and the -- the Bluenose management plan.  
10 So I don't know if this is one of the same, so I'm  
11 just wondering how it works into your -- your plan.

12 MR. WALTER BAYHA: The -- okay, I  
13 think may just for clarification, I guess. The --  
14 there's a guide in the Bluenose caribou management  
15 plan that is approved by the ACCWM. And certainly I  
16 think there -- there is also -- I think that's maybe  
17 confusing sometime but that's -- there's also what  
18 they call taking care of ekwe, like the Cape Bathurst,  
19 the Bluenose West, the Bluenose East caribou herds  
20 management plan.

21 Now, in there there's a guide that they  
22 use. It looks like a -- we call it the stop sign.  
23 And the stop sign has a number of recommendation and  
24 guides. And it -- it doesn't really -- it has guides  
25 but it doesn't tell the region like here, the -- the

1 herds that we're talking about and certain Sahtu  
2 settlement area.

3                   So our -- our plan uses those guides.  
4 And I think that's -- that's where maybe -- well, I  
5 don't know how to put it, but, you know, all I'm  
6 saying is our plan would -- would be Deline.

7                   And I don't think it would be too far  
8 off from the -- the general guide from the main  
9 management -- caribou management plans. I -- I hope  
10 I tried to answer that. That's a -- I think that is  
11 the best I can do.

12                   I -- I can't -- we're not trying to  
13 follow those plans. We're -- we're trying to live  
14 within those guidelines that they have. I hope that  
15 is as clear as I can get it. Masi.

16                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON:    Mr. Kochon,  
17 further questions?

18                   MR. JOSEPH KOCHON:    Thank you. I'll  
19 just leave it at that for now.

20                   Yes, my -- my next question is  
21 regarding enforcement. As we all know, under the  
22 Canadian Constitution, there's section 35 that allows  
23 Aboriginal people to hunt. And under the Sahtu Dene  
24 land claims agreement under section 13.4.3, that:

25                   "All Sahtu beneficiaries have

1 exclusive right to height with --  
2 hunt within the Sahtu."

3 I'm just wondering. People have this  
4 right. With this Deline plan, how is it going to  
5 affect that, you know? So if you -- if one (1) of  
6 your members have broken some of the rules and you  
7 bring him to the community justice, if they don't  
8 listen, then you say they'll -- you'll refer him to  
9 ENR.

10 So I'm just wondering, if section 35  
11 and that section 3.4 -- 13.4.3 has been relinquished  
12 or ceded? Thank you.

13 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Go ahead, Mr.  
14 Bayha. Thank you.

15 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Yeah. Thanks,  
16 Paul.

17 I -- you know, I -- I mentioned before  
18 that we don't -- the plan doesn't deal with rights. I  
19 don't think -- you know, I'm -- I'm not probably the  
20 person to be talking about, you know, the Constitution  
21 or certainly the -- the exclusive hunting and fishing  
22 and gathering rights that we have in the land claims.

23 But I think what I can do is that --  
24 tell you what we've been telling our people, you know,  
25 because there's people that ask about -- about those

1 rights. And we say, Well, we -- we really had nothing  
2 to do with those rights. We can't -- we don't have  
3 the mandates or the power to -- to say anything about  
4 that. It -- it goes to SSI.

5           And I think we've outlined a code that  
6 we're going to follow. Well, how we're going to deal  
7 with people that don't comply with the -- this plan,  
8 so there's steps we're going to take. You know,  
9 there's three (3) -- three (3) levels, and like I said  
10 this morning, I think we start with the family.

11           And if that doesn't work, then we take  
12 it to another level, which is the RRCs, to their  
13 level. And eventually, if we -- we can't do very much  
14 about it, then we take it one (1) more step where, of  
15 course, at -- at that point, you're dealing with --  
16 you're dealing with the Wildlife Act.

17           And I think, from what I understand --  
18 what I understand about the Wildlife Act and certainly  
19 this process here, there's going to be ruling. And  
20 I'm really glad that you asked that question because  
21 the -- the Board here, their decision would deal with  
22 that.

23           They go through their process, their  
24 procedures, and they have a decision. And if you look  
25 at your land claims, and most of the time, I try to

1 stay away from trying to explain these things, but, in  
2 this case, you know, these things have to come out,  
3 the Board would make a decision on those rights you  
4 have. But the Board doesn't deal with those rights.  
5 The Board deals with the conservation issue.

6                   Your land claims allows the Board to  
7 determine if there's a conservation issue. Once  
8 there's a conservation issue, they can then set what  
9 they call a TAH, total allowable harvest. And I -- as  
10 far as I know, that's -- that's how that works there.

11                   Our plan doesn't deal with the -- the  
12 harvesting rights. I think that's way beyond what  
13 Deline's plans is, and probably way beyond many of the  
14 way our people harvest. So that is probably the best  
15 I can give you. That's -- that's probably where we're  
16 heading. Masi.

17                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
18 Bayha. Colville Lake panel...?

19                   MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Thank you, Mr.  
20 Chair. We'll just leave that one at -- there for now.  
21 As -- so just back to enforcement.

22

23                                           (BRIEF PAUSE)

24

25                   MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Right now, you're

1 telling me that everything is based on the  
2 information, talking with your members. And I know  
3 for a fact that there's nobody out on the land.

4

5 (BRIEF PAUSE)

6

7 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: And how are you  
8 going to keep track of people?

9

10 (BRIEF PAUSE)

11

12 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Because people  
13 have to feed themselves. The store itself is not  
14 going to feed our people.

15

16 (BRIEF PAUSE)

17

18 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: So I'm just  
19 wondering how are you really going to work with this?  
20 Is the -- that's why I asked about if -- if all your  
21 members is fully behind you on this. You have nine  
22 hundred (900) members. There's probably at least a  
23 quarter of them in Yellowknife.

24

25 I'm just wondering, how are you going  
to monitor everybody? How are you going to -- because

1 if there's no meat in their freezers, then they're  
2 going to have to go hunting. Under your -- your plan  
3 is -- talks about enforcement. And that's one (1) of  
4 the reasons I ask that question.

5 If everybody starts breaking the law or  
6 your code, I'm just wondering if there's a plan in  
7 place to -- to deal with that. Masi.

8 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Bayha...?  
9 Thank you.

10 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Masi, Paul --  
11 Chair. Well, you know, I'm glad you -- you bring up  
12 the -- the enforcement part of it. You know, I -- one  
13 (1) of the things that happened during -- when we're  
14 doing the process with the plan is we really didn't  
15 think very much about the enforcement end of things,  
16 because what -- what we've seen in Deline is, you  
17 know, after you go through your -- your meetings, and  
18 you -- you talk to as many people as you can, and --  
19 and you come out with a decision on how you're going  
20 to do things, and it's supported by the leadership, it  
21 usually goes ahead.

22 Yes, there'll be peop -- certain people  
23 that may not follow the plan as -- you know, the way  
24 we've set it up. But I think we had to deal with the  
25 -- the enforcement part of it, because that was

1 something that was important to, you know, probably  
2 more than Deline, other organizations, so we had to --  
3 we had to put -- we had to put in a plan how -- to --  
4 to say to ourselves, Well, this is the way we're going  
5 to deal with it.

6                   One (1) of the things that's important  
7 is that we -- yes, we do have a lot of members. You  
8 know, I think this year, there will be almost -- a  
9 little over a thousand people that are part of the  
10 members of the -- belong to the -- beneficiaries to  
11 the Deline Land Corporation.

12                   I would say half of them are not in  
13 Deline. Many of them, all over the place. A lot of  
14 them in Yellowknife. Many in -- in Edmonton. I think  
15 one (1) of -- one (1) of the good things about the  
16 plan is we want memberships to -- to be knowledgeable  
17 about -- about this plan, about our process.

18                   And yes, come to the leadership if they  
19 -- they have issues. I think that's -- it's there.  
20 We -- we have signs all over the place. We -- I think  
21 we've done the -- I think they've -- the DRRC, with  
22 the little money they have, they've done a -- an  
23 excellent job to -- to try to get people.

24                   We had people go door to door to make  
25 sure that -- that they do know there's meetings, that

1 they do know that there's a -- there's a huge -- a  
2 huge issue that we're going to have to deal with and  
3 have some sort of a plan.

4                   One (1) of the things you mentioned,  
5 yes, there is -- we don't have people living on the  
6 land full-time. We have people going out -- you know,  
7 there's quite a few people that still go trapping.  
8 But one (1) thing I'm well aware is the way we -- we  
9 have a lot of assistance programs here in Deline.

10                   So when these things -- you know, they  
11 have a system of how to -- to help people, and these -  
12 - in a lot of ways, those help us keep track of who's  
13 doing what or where they're going. But more  
14 important, we -- we want people to talk to each other  
15 about what they're doing, especially out in the land.

16                   And I think those things -- that  
17 existed before. We didn't have to -- we don't have to  
18 put those kinds of things in the plan. All -- all we  
19 did is put it on -- it's there already, and we -- we  
20 document it on the plan.

21                   I don't have -- I -- at this stage, I  
22 don't think the way things have gone, we haven't had  
23 to deal with people that are not going to follow this  
24 plan. I -- I don't really see it, not -- not -- I  
25 haven't sent -- seen any yet.

1                   We -- we have a lot of sometimes  
2 difficult people to -- to deal with, because, you  
3 know, people have always done their own thing. We  
4 encourage them to do that, of course. But we so -- we  
5 also encourage them that this might be a better way to  
6 do things.

7                   And I think we -- we're going to --  
8 we're going to see that very soon ourselves as the  
9 people in Deline, because in another six (6)  
10 months/seven (7) months, we would have a government  
11 here, our own government that would have to make their  
12 own decisions.

13

14                                           (BRIEF PAUSE)

15

16                   MR. WALTER BAYHA:    And I don't think I  
17 want to say much more than that. I think we -- we are  
18 working towards, you know, coming up with a plan where  
19 -- we're going to have to adjust it, we're going to  
20 have to make it work. We're going to have to make it  
21 a living document, like many of our leaders said.

22

23                                           (BRIEF PAUSE)

24

25                   MR. WALTER BAYHA:    You know, all of

1 the negative parts of the -- the plan, I think we --  
2 we can deal with it. We have done -- you know, just  
3 like we -- we deal with -- we have small programs and  
4 projects that we have in Deline. There's always a --  
5 a way that we -- we make sure it -- it works for  
6 everybody.

7                   You know, consensus is a -- a big thing  
8 in -- in the community here, in Deline, so we  
9 certainly are going to try to work hard to make sure  
10 that happens.

11

12                                           (BRIEF PAUSE)

13

14                   MR. WALTER BAYHA: I hope -- I hope I  
15 -- I'm -- I'm as clear as I can get. I -- some of  
16 these questions are way beyond what the -- the plan  
17 deals with. We're dealing with a lot of the things at  
18 the leadership level, and sometimes these things get  
19 very complicated.

20                   One (1) of the things I always tell the  
21 DRRC, and I -- I've seen that happen over the years.  
22 They have a mandate. The RRCs have a mandate in  
23 Deline. And that again comes from the land claims.  
24 And there are -- the mandates says -- basically talks  
25 about conservation. Promoting wildlife management

1 within the communities. They're even talking about  
2 the quotas, or, you know, needs level allocations,  
3 those kinds of things.

4                   And I really encouraged the DRRCs to  
5 make decisions on wildlife only. Beyond that, it's  
6 really up to our leadership. So I -- that's about the  
7 best I can do, I think, at this time. Masi.

8                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Kochon...?

9                   MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Thank you, Mr.  
10 Chair, Walter. You know, any hearing like this is  
11 leading to something. ENR, I guess their job is to --  
12 to set a total allowable harvest. So whatever is done  
13 today is kind of setting the stage for -- for other  
14 areas. And this plan that you presented, it pretty  
15 well works itself right into there.

16                   So we have done our homework. You  
17 know, we've learned from the last hearing. We were  
18 not really prepared. The GNWT sent a couple of  
19 doctors. There's a -- intimidating at first, but I'm  
20 thinking about myself. I probably have at least four  
21 (4) doctor degrees.

22                   Because ever since I was a little kid  
23 from one (1) years old to about eighteen (18) years  
24 old, I've been listening to my grandfather. He talked  
25 about everything. The universe. Talked about all the

1 wildlife, where it eats, where it sleeps. The water.  
2 Everything about life. Every human being.

3

4

(BRIEF PAUSE)

5

6

MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: And so I don't --  
7 I don't feel intimidated anymore. My grandpa also  
8 told me, Don't be afraid when you're speaking the  
9 truth.

10

11

(BRIEF PAUSE)

12

13

MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: So now my legal  
14 counsel on my right is going to follow up with some of  
15 the questions that I've raised. The other legal  
16 counsel on the left is eager to ask more questions, so  
17 thank you.

18

THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
19 Kochon. Next questions from the panel, whoever.  
20 Thank you.

21

MR. LARRY INNES: Thank you, Mr.  
22 Chair. It's Larry Innes, legal counsel for Colville  
23 Lake. I'm going to follow up with some fairly  
24 specific questions about enforcement and the  
25 interpretation of the Deline plan by the Board and by

1 ENR in reference to the Sahtu-Dene-Metis cumberance of  
2 land claim agreement because that's what this hearing  
3 is about.

4 ENR has led questions in which they've  
5 asserted that their understanding of the Deline plan  
6 is that the associated limitations and quota  
7 restrictions would be applicable to all Sahtu  
8 beneficiaries.

9 So my first question for Mr. Bayha is:  
10 Is that what Deline intends?

11 MR. WALTER BAYHA: I -- I certainly am  
12 not a lawyer, so, you know, if you're asking our plan  
13 applies to all of the beneficiaries in Sahtu?

14 MR. LARRY INNES: Yes, that is the  
15 question.

16 MR. WALTER BAYHA: No. Our plan  
17 applies only to our membership in Sah -- in Deline.

18 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Yeah. Go  
19 ahead, Mr. Innes.

20 MR. LARRY INNES: It appears that Ms.  
21 Yonge wants to clarify ENR's understanding here, which  
22 may be helpful.

23 MS. LYNDA YONGE: Thank you, Mr.  
24 Chair. Lynda Yonge, for ENR.

25 I just want to clarify that when I

1 prefaced my question, the Deline plan, there's a  
2 section that talks about the code applying to Deline  
3 members and other Sahtu beneficiaries when they're  
4 harvesting in that area.

5 MR. LARRY INNES: Thank you. That --  
6 that was my understanding also. So I'm just going to  
7 actually turn to the code, and it might be helpful the  
8 -- for the purposes of my questions if people bring it  
9 out to follow along.

10 So before I turn to the code, I -- I'm  
11 going to start with the -- the relevant provisions of  
12 the -- the land claim. And I know lawyers recite them  
13 every night before they go to bed, but I'm not sure  
14 that everyone else does. So I'm -- I'm just going to  
15 read them so that people have them in their minds.

16 So the first key part of the land claim  
17 in chapter 13 is found in 13.4.1. It says that:

18 "Participants have the right to  
19 harvest all species of wildlife  
20 within the settlement area at all  
21 seasons of the year subject to  
22 limitations which may be prescribed  
23 in accordance with this agreement."

24 The second key provision is 13.5.4.  
25 And the -- and that's really the reason for this

1 hearing is that:

2 "The Board may establish the total  
3 allowable harvest and a Sahtu needs  
4 level for a particular wildlife  
5 species or a population applicable  
6 to the settlement area as a whole,  
7 or to particular areas or  
8 communities. The Board may adjust  
9 such Sahtu needs levels from time to  
10 time."

11 The next key provision is 13.9.4, and  
12 it says that:

13 "A renewable resources council shall  
14 have the following powers: (a) to  
15 allocate any Sahtu needs level for  
16 that community among the  
17 participants; and (b) to manage, in  
18 a manner consistent with legislation  
19 and the policies of the Board, the  
20 local exercise of participants'  
21 harvesting rights including the  
22 methods, seasons, and location of  
23 harvest."

24 So those -- those are the -- if you  
25 will, the empowering clauses in the land claim. And

1 so what I'm trying to do with my questions and for the  
2 benefit of -- of the Board and for participants is to  
3 really try and fit Deline's proposals into the  
4 framework established by the land claim and to  
5 understand whether Deline intends that certain steps  
6 be taken by the Board to limit the harvest of caribou  
7 either for a particular community or in a particular  
8 area for all beneficiaries or simply for Deline  
9 Got'ine members.

10                   As we've listened carefully -- as  
11 Colville Lake, we've listed very carefully to Deline's  
12 presentation. We've listened very carefully to ENR's  
13 questions. And I think it's fair to say that we're  
14 confused. So I hope that through our questions we can  
15 get some clarity as to what's intended by Deline, what  
16 ENR understands and, most importantly, what the Board  
17 is being asked to do.

18                   So the first question that I'm going to  
19 ask is in relation to the code. And the code has --  
20 you know, it's -- it's quite lengthy. But under  
21 Sections 4 and Section 5 of the code, is Deline  
22 requesting the Board to establish a total allowable  
23 harvest for the Deline district as a whole and a Sahtu  
24 needs level for the community of Deline that reflects  
25 the quota that's set out in the Deline code?

1                   So that -- that's my first question.

2

3                                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

4

5                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON:   Mr. Bayha,  
6 please, go ahead.

7                   MR. WALTER BAYHA:   Well, I -- I told  
8 you, I'm -- you know, that's way beyond what the plan  
9 -- you know, we haven't even talked about what's --  
10 you know, all of those areas that you talked about.  
11 We can take it as -- as what do you call it, an  
12 undertaking and -- and respond to that.

13                   THE VICE CHAIRPERSON:   Yeah, we could  
14 do that.

15                   MR. WALTER BAYHA:   Because I think,  
16 you know, you -- these are lawyers talking.

17

18                                   (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM  
19                                   NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

20

21                                   (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

22

23                   MR. WALTER BAYHA:   For -- if we can  
24 get our own lawyers here, and then whatever our land  
25 claim says and, also, Deline's of govern -- if this is

1 how you're going to do this as question, and for the  
2 lawyers, then we will write the wording in legal  
3 terms. And then he can respond to it. I will have to  
4 ask on our -- I cannot respond to him because it  
5 doesn't say that in our -- in our document.

6

7

(INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

8

9 MR. WALTER BAYHA: ...lawyers. We'll  
10 -- these are complicated questions, very complex. So  
11 I think it's -- it's good that we take it as an  
12 undertaking and let the -- you know, if the lawyers  
13 want to deal with that to the question, and I -- I  
14 think we're fine with that.

15

16

(BRIEF PAUSE)

17

18

THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Yes, we can  
19 agree to that. That would be Undertaking number 1.  
20 But we would request that it be provided to the Board  
21 prior to the end of the hearing.

22

23 --- UNDERTAKING NO. 1: Deline to Colville Lake.  
24 To provide responses to  
25 the following questions:

1 1. Is D asking to  
2 establish a TAH for D as a  
3 whole that reflects what  
4 is written in the Code?  
5 2. With respect to s. 7  
6 of the Deline plan which  
7 refers to harvesting 150  
8 BNE and BNW - is Deline  
9 asking the Board to make a  
10 locally applicable harvest  
11 for D or a locally  
12 applicable TAH of those  
13 numbers of caribou within  
14 the D district as a whole?  
15 3. If D is requesting a  
16 TAH established through  
17 the community of D or  
18 within the D district, is  
19 D requesting that the  
20 harvest can only be  
21 carried out within the D  
22 district; must that quota  
23 of caribou only be  
24 harvested in the D  
25 district or does it travel

1 with the D participant to  
2 other areas of the Sahtu?  
3 4. Regarding other Sahtu  
4 beneficiaries - is D  
5 requesting the Board to  
6 limit the rights of Sahtu  
7 participants to harvest  
8 any caribou in addition to  
9 the 150 BNE and 50 BNW  
10 caribou in the D district?  
11 5. Is D requesting the  
12 Board to limit the  
13 exercise of rights on the  
14 part of D participants to  
15 harvest BNE and BNW only  
16 in the D district?

17

18 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Prior to...?

19 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: The close of  
20 the record of the hearing.

21 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Okay. Yeah, I get  
22 it. If it's okay with -- with...

23

24 (BRIEF PAUSE)

25

1 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Okay, I'll write  
2 that down. Masi.

3

4 (BRIEF PAUSE)

5

6 MR. LARRY INNES: Yeah, I appreciate  
7 these are lawyers questions. I also want to make it  
8 really clear to all of the participants that this is a  
9 legal proceeding. We are asking the Board to make  
10 determinations about the exercise of your rights.

11 This is very serious business.

12 And I want to make it absolutely clear  
13 so that we understand as Colville Lake what Deline  
14 wants and that the Board understands what Deline is  
15 asking, that the issue of enforcement of quotas and  
16 the application of the Deline plan to Deline members  
17 and to other Sahtu beneficiaries is clarified.

18 So I'm going to ask a number of other  
19 lawyer questions so that we're really, really clear on  
20 what this means. And I appreciate -- so I won't ask  
21 them to you, I'll just read them into the record so  
22 they're in the record and that way you guys can  
23 respond.

24 But feel -- feel free to jump in if you  
25 think you can clarify something. Okay. Fair enough.

1 Okay. So again, it's Larry Innes, legal counsel for  
2 Colville. The next question that I have relates to  
3 Section 7 of the Code.

4                   And Section 7 of the Code speaks to  
5 harvesting a maximum of a hundred and fifty (150)  
6 Bluenose East ekwe and fifty (50) Bluenose West ekwe.  
7 And so under -- so is Deline requesting the Board to  
8 make a locally applicable, total allowable harvest for  
9 the citizens of the Deline Got'ine or is Deline  
10 requesting that there be a locally applicable total  
11 allowable harvest of those numbers of caribou within  
12 the Deline district as a whole?

13                   The next question: If Deline is  
14 requesting that there be a total allowable harvest  
15 established either for the community of Deline or  
16 within the Deline district, is Deline requesting that  
17 that harvest can only be carried out within the Deline  
18 district?

19                   So for that quota of caribou, must that  
20 be harvested only in the Deline district or does that  
21 quota travel with a Deline participant to other  
22 regions of the Sahtu?

23                   The next question concerns not so much  
24 Deline Got'ine members, but other Sahtu, other Sahtu  
25 beneficiaries. Is Deline requesting the Board to

1 limit the rights of Sahtu participants to harvest any  
2 caribou in addition to the hundred and fifty (150)  
3 Bluenose East and fifty (50) Bluenose West caribou in  
4 the Deline district.

5                   And finally, is Deline requesting the  
6 Board to limit the exercise of rights on the part of  
7 Deline participants to harvest Bluenose East and  
8 Bluenose West caribou to only the Deline district?

9                   And I ask these question because the --  
10 the Code is not clear. The Code speaks to certain  
11 limitations applying to Deline Got'ine members. And  
12 Colville accepts that those powers are there within  
13 the land claim for an RRC to exercise in accordance  
14 with legislation and the directives of the Board.

15                   So if the Board makes a decision to so  
16 limit the harvest, the RRC is in a position to make  
17 those rules. But we're not sure whether Deline  
18 intends, and if they do so intend, if -- if they in  
19 fact want to limit other Sahtu beneficiaries  
20 harvesting within their territory, that -- that  
21 request can be made solely by an RRC from one (1)  
22 district, or whether that needs to be done formally in  
23 a process like this hearing with the participation and  
24 consultation of all of the affected Sahtu communities?

25                   So this -- this is what we're trying to

1 figure out. And the ambiguity comes from a couple of  
2 area within the code. So -- and I just want to point  
3 this out because it's, I would say, worrisome to us.

4                   So Section D, Part 4, of Deline's code  
5 says that this code applies in respect of Sahtu  
6 participants from outside Deline who harvest ekwe in  
7 the Bluenose East aribou -- or sorry, the Bluenose  
8 East area, and to ekwe in locations where Deline  
9 Got'ine have traditionally harvest in the Bluenose  
10 West area, which of course takes you into Colville  
11 Lake and the Kasho Got'ine district.

12                   So we're -- you know, we're wondering  
13 just how far the assertion of jurisdiction by the  
14 Deline RRC goes. And if you guys can clarify for --  
15 that for us it would be extremely helpful, both to us  
16 in terms of the questions that we're asking but also I  
17 think to the Board in terms of what Deline is hoping  
18 to achieve, and certainly to ENR who has approached  
19 this very clearly from their questioning from the  
20 perspective that your code is going to be binding on  
21 our members. Thank you.

22                   THE VICE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
23 Innes. Further questions from Deline -- or Colville  
24 Lake panel?

25

1 (BRIEF PAUSE)

2

3 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Yes, Mr.

4 Barichello...?

5 MR. NORMAN BARICHELLO: Yeah, Norman

6 Barichello, with the -- the Colville Lake panel.

7 Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'll try to make it slower this  
8 time for the translators, but I wanted to thank my  
9 Colville Lake friends for trusting me to speak on  
10 their behalf, first of all.

11 I have four (4) questions. The first  
12 question from the presentation and -- and indeed from  
13 the community -- community meeting last night the  
14 quota is very controversial.

15 So my question is: How did you  
16 determine whether a quota was justified? Did you do  
17 an independent assessment, or did you adopt ENR's  
18 conclusions?

19 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Bayha...?

20 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Thank you, Mr.

21 Chair. Norm, I -- I think when you look at our plan,  
22 we -- we don't talk about quotas. If you look at the  
23 processes of how these came about, and I think ENR  
24 talked about it a little bit, we -- we've gone to some  
25 meetings where they -- these numbers were talked about

1 but we really have nothing to do with those quotas.

2           You look at the processes for the  
3 management plans, and you'll see where these -- these  
4 numbers come from. So, you know, like I think that's  
5 where maybe Joseph is -- was talking about how we're  
6 following, you know, some of the things that are  
7 happening with the -- you know, the overall management  
8 plan.

9           But we're just part of it. We -- we  
10 can't -- we -- the -- I don't know if there's any room  
11 for negotiations. I mean, these are -- you have to  
12 look at it that way. But the plan really, as I said  
13 before, doesn't deal with the quotas. We'll deal in  
14 the way that the Dene people have always dealt with  
15 it. So I think that's how -- that's how we're looking  
16 at it.

17           The other questions I hope -- I wrote  
18 here the questions from -- from the legal counsel.  
19 Those will be under -- all undertakings, as well. So  
20 we'll just put that -- that's five (5) questions, I  
21 think it was, or five (5) -- yeah.

22           THE VICE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. If  
23 that's what you prefer, for the record, we can add  
24 that to the -- to your undertaking.

25           MR. WALTER BAYHA: Sure. And I'll

1 just note it's -- it's March the 29 for all of them, I  
2 guess.

3 MR. NORMAN BARICHELLO: Norm  
4 Barichello, Col -- Colville Lake. So can I conclude  
5 from your response that the limitation of harvest was  
6 essentially directed by the overall caribou plan?

7 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Bayha...?  
8 Thanks.

9 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Well, yes. If you  
10 look at the whole process, you have the whole of --  
11 basically, you're dealing with all of the Aboriginal  
12 people in the territories. So how you want to deal  
13 with that?

14 I mean, I -- I don't know. We don't --  
15 I'd rather see -- one (1) of the things I guess we  
16 sort of concentrated on is our plan. And we can't  
17 really deal with all of the Aboriginal people across  
18 the territories on -- on quotas or how these come  
19 about.

20 I -- it really is way beyond what  
21 Deline can handle at this time. Masi.

22 MR. NORMAN BARICHELLO: Norman  
23 Barichello, Colville. You -- you did indicate in your  
24 pre -- presentation that harvest restrictions were  
25 considered the very last resort.

1                   My question is: Prior to adopting  
2 them, did you consider other means that might better  
3 achieve your conservation goals?

4                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Bayha...?  
5 Thank you.

6                   MR. WALTER BAYHA: Masi, Mr. Chair.  
7 Yeah, Norman, I -- yeah. I -- I think we looked at --  
8 you know, one (1) of the ways -- one (1) of the things  
9 I mentioned, and I -- I don't know if you picked it up  
10 when I talk about -- this is why I brought up the --  
11 how we harvest annually, what we harvest annual, where  
12 we harvest, who's harvesting.

13                   All those -- if our -- if our plan  
14 works, we should be able to -- well, let me put it  
15 another -- maybe we don't have to deal with  
16 restrictions.

17                   If our leadership -- if the plan works  
18 and people agree, all the harvesters agree -- and I  
19 think -- I don't know if you ever heard the term  
20 "voluntary". I think we -- we've dealt with that  
21 before, and I think that's how we dealt with some  
22 things before.

23                   And if we -- all of our harvesters  
24 agree here in Deline, we don't need to -- we don't  
25 need to deal -- maybe we don't need to deal with the

1 restrictions, because that's what we're trying to  
2 avoid here. Those are the -- the things that make our  
3 lives here in Deline difficult.

4                   And what I said before is, Why are we  
5 dealing with -- why -- why are we dealing with things  
6 that we're not going to change anyway? I'd rather  
7 deal with -- I'd rather go fishing and say, Well,  
8 here. You know, if my leadership said, Well, go  
9 fishing, you know, forget about caribou in -- in  
10 September and October, that's probably what we're  
11 going to do.

12                   I don't think we can -- because I just  
13 mentioned that these quotas and these demands that we  
14 have -- and -- and, you know, just -- the -- a lot of  
15 it comes from the land claims. We can't deal with it,  
16 you know, in the short term. These things have to be  
17 resolved over the -- over the long haul.

18                   So I think that's what the plan does.  
19 And I think that -- I hope -- I should have been maybe  
20 a little clearer on that, but I hope I'm clear.  
21 That's the best I can do right now. Masi.

22                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON:    Mr.  
23 Barichello...?

24                   MR. NORMAN BARICHELLO:    Norman  
25 Barichello, Colville Lake. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1 Yes. Yes, I -- I got that out of the presentation,  
2 and that -- that, I think, was very encouraging that  
3 you're looking at alternative ways to deal with your  
4 conservation problem.

5                   Would it not be -- avoid a lot of  
6 controversy simply to try it on and see how that works  
7 without imposing the limitation? Thank you.

8                   MR. WALTER BAYHA: I think that's the  
9 beauty of the plan. I think we -- we have, you know,  
10 some -- some leeway there to -- to try out a lot of  
11 these things, because although, you know, it -- it has  
12 worked well for our grandfathers in their time, I  
13 think we're -- today is -- we have a lot more  
14 complications.

15                   So I think that's -- if that's a  
16 suggestion, I think that, you know, we're willing to -  
17 - to put -- to try things. And we call it alternative  
18 -- well, we call it asinkanasisay (phonetic), and that  
19 -- basically that's what it means. We -- we have a  
20 lot of other resources that we can use, so -- so masi.

21                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
22 Bayha. Any more questions from Mr. Barichello?

23                   MR. NORMAN BARICHELO: Yeah, thank  
24 you, Mr. Chair.

25                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

1 MR. NORMAN BARICHELLO: Norman  
2 Barichello again. Just -- just one (1) -- one (1)  
3 more. And it -- it really may not be something that  
4 Walter can -- can answer. It --it's just a question  
5 of, when you do invoke a limitation of harvest, are  
6 there any conditions that you've adopted that will  
7 allow you to lift that limitation?

8 So the question is: When -- when would  
9 the limitation be lifted? What indicators would be  
10 used to limit that to rid -- lift the limitation on  
11 the harvest? So thank you.

12 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Bayha...?

13 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Well, I tell you,  
14 as a real true Dene, I -- I wouldn't even deal with  
15 the limitation. I'd go harvest somewhere else. I  
16 think that's generally what -- the way we looked at  
17 it. But I think, if -- if you're talking about our  
18 plan, I think we said something like ten (10) years.  
19 But I think we -- we also were going to review it  
20 every year.

21 To tell you the truth, caribou, the way  
22 the numbers are now, I don't think things are going to  
23 change very quickly for the next five (5) years, maybe  
24 it'll be even ten (10) years. This is why I brought  
25 the map there, to make sure that we do understand.

1           And, you know, your lawyers talked  
2 about clarity. And that is what we're trying to do,  
3 to make sure that we are clear. We don't want to  
4 limit other people's harvests. That's not our  
5 intention. And I don't think we want to ask the --  
6 the Board to -- to make those limitations.

7           Yes, they make a limitation on -- on  
8 the -- on the -- the harvest, the -- the quotas that  
9 all of the other co-management boards deal with. And  
10 that's why I said the whole of the territories. But  
11 that is not the way we look at things.

12           And I think you have to remember that  
13 that is the difference between this claim. This is  
14 why some things in the claim makes it very difficult,  
15 because this one (1) claim, fitas (phonetic), one (1),  
16 and it's for the whole of Sahtu, not just here.

17           So I think those are the -- the  
18 challenges. And I'm glad that it came out, because  
19 those things are very important. Our people have  
20 fought for those rights for a long time. We have no  
21 intention of trying to change them. So masi.

22           THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
23 Bayha. Further questions from the Colville panel?

24           MS. JENNIFER DUNCAN: Thank you, Mr.  
25 Chair. Jennifer Duncan, legal counsel for Colville

1 Lake RRC. Thank you, Walter, for answering our  
2 questions. I just have a couple more questions for  
3 you.

4                   So my first question is: With respect  
5 to -- we understand that under the Deline Caribou Pla  
6 -- Plan, and I'm reading from your brochure, you  
7 state:

8                   "We have reached our limit of one  
9                   hundred and fifty (150) caribou  
10                  harvested and ask community members  
11                  to respect our decision to end the  
12                  caribou hunt in the Deline district  
13                  or this season."

14                  So my question is: With respect to  
15 this one hundred and fifty (150) limit, how has the  
16 Deline RRC -- how did they obtain the information that  
17 Deline members, participants reached that limit of one  
18 hundred and fifty (150) Bluenose East caribou?

19                  THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Yes, Mr. Bayha,  
20 go ahead.

21                  MR. WALTER BAYHA: Yeah, thanks,  
22 Jennifer. Thanks, Mr. Chair. We -- we didn't. When  
23 you read all the management plans and all of the  
24 letters that go with it, those -- the quota came from  
25 somewhere else. We -- we didn't say a hundred and

1 fifty (150). I think, in fact, it started out with a  
2 hundred and sixty-three (163).

3                   And then, I think, the -- the rest --  
4 well, I mean, you have to look at that process and how  
5 it goes. Deline doesn't -- you know, we didn't sit  
6 here and say, Okay, we -- we want a hundred and fifty  
7 (150) and that -- and we'll -- we'll settle for that.  
8 That -- those numbers came from outside of Deline and  
9 that's probably a -- probably one (1) of the biggest  
10 reasons why we had to have a plan, because it is very  
11 controversial. Masi.

12                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
13 Bayha. Col -- one (1) more question? Thank you.

14                   MS. JENNIFER DUNCAN: Yes, thank you,  
15 Mr. Chair. One (1) more question, Walter. Again,  
16 Jennifer Duncan, from Colville Lake. How, with  
17 respect to the Deline caribou plan and the distinction  
18 between Bluenose East and Bluenose West caribou, how  
19 will Deline know if a Deline member or participant has  
20 harvested a Bluenose East caribou or a Bluenose West  
21 caribou?

22                   MR. WALTER BAYHA: You know, I -- I  
23 have a -- a colleague, Wally Waster (phonetic) is  
24 sitting next to me, Keith. I remember asking that  
25 same question when I first came here to Deline in

1 1983. In 1983 we had thousands and thousands of  
2 caribou coming not only from the west, but also the  
3 east. I think we had eight hundred (800) commercial -  
4 - or eight hundred (800) tags that people would take  
5 for what they call commercial tags back then.

6                   And that question I asked. I said, I  
7 came here brand new. I said, How am I going to tell  
8 which caribou is which one? And you know what they  
9 told me, they said, You know, here -- here's a map.  
10 Anything that's past -- or right here's the map.  
11 Here's Port Radium, here's a line here. Anything east  
12 of that around Hottah Lake you can say that it's a  
13 Bathurst herd and anything west of that we'll call it  
14 the -- the Bluenose West.

15                   But anyway, I think today, because the  
16 numbers are so low -- well, you know, I wish I can ask  
17 -- make an example, I can ask a hunter how they can  
18 tell. And a lot of these things, like I said, we  
19 didn't create that, Bluenose West, Bluenose East.  
20 Those are, you know, somebody else -- the information  
21 came from somebody else. We use those terms because  
22 it's convenient for us.

23                   But when we're hunting, if you look at  
24 the -- if you can visualize a map that we had from ENR  
25 where the -- the herds are, we generally -- there --

1 there is no way in the world right now if somebody  
2 shot caribou they -- unless they're, you know, pretty  
3 close to Colville Lake, you know, it probably wouldn't  
4 be a Bluenose West or a Bluenose East.

5                   Most of the ones even now, the -- the  
6 migration patterns, you'll see it's south of Deline  
7 right now. And then later on they -- they travel back  
8 that way. Rarely would you see Bluenose East caribou  
9 on this side now. We know that. I mean, we've got a  
10 lot of hunters that tell us that also.

11                   I hope that helps a little bit, but  
12 you're right, when the numbers get large -- 1983 when  
13 I was here, I can't tell hunting across here from  
14 Deline, I can't tell which caribou was which. And I -  
15 - we don't -- as Dene people we don't. We -- we never  
16 made that distinction.

17                   I think the laws do that for their own  
18 purposes or -- or for ways of regulating certain  
19 things. So I hope I -- I sort of answered you. Masi.

20                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
21 Bayha. Further questions from Colville Lake?

22                   CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON: I just wanted  
23 to say thank you. Masi for listening. I just wanted  
24 to say in my language a little bit, because I think  
25 the elders are going to speak, but they're going to

1 speak in the panel, so we're just -- I'm just going to  
2 be the last just to say, Masi Walter...

3

4 (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM  
5 NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

6

7 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

8

9 CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON: Possibly write  
10 one (1) of our own and -- and it would be very good if  
11 all the people were aware of this -- this proposal or  
12 this plan that you -- and right now -- and we are also  
13 -- and -- and then -- and when people are talking --  
14 when elders are speaking they speak truthfully from  
15 their own experiences, and he -- and when Leon spoke  
16 and said that we want to support each other and walk  
17 forward and to work together.

18 And they -- and people are all here  
19 asking questions because they want to know exactly  
20 what the content of the -- the plans are. And -- and  
21 it enables us to be able to defend, and to ask  
22 questions so that we can defend it and to support it  
23 with -- with a better understanding of it.

24 And he says that sometimes it's -- we -  
25 - we can't really talk about something like that

1 unless we speak -- unless we read it and know exactly  
2 what is it. And when I was young, I used to be able  
3 to think that I was able to speak. And the -- the  
4 lawyers that are here with us, he said that enables  
5 us, and -- and that's why we put our names down, so  
6 that we could ask questions.

7           And all the people that are here that  
8 will be -- will be making a decision based on the kind  
9 of conversations and things, and it will be really  
10 good when they're making their decisions to -- to  
11 listen closely to what is being said here. And -- and  
12 our -- our -- bec -- it -- it says that back then, it  
13 -- the Elders didn't understand what was going on,  
14 because they didn't go to the hearings and that, and  
15 it seemed like that decision was made based on the  
16 people that are involved -- primarily involved in it.

17           And we feel that we've really -- we  
18 really felt that we wasted a lot of money, and he said  
19 that Debbie really showed us a lot of -- supported us  
20 financially so that we can attend some of these  
21 meetings. And since 2010, we've been spending money -  
22 - money to attend the meetings. And we -- we keep --  
23 keep coming to these meetings because this is very,  
24 very -- an important issue for us.

25           And you heard the people that are --

1 came here to listen to what is being said, and we  
2 really appreciate that we were able to voice our  
3 concerns. And we didn't say those things to -- so  
4 that we didn't want anybody to -- to be badly -- to --  
5 for other people -- to make people feel bad. We're  
6 really...

7

8 (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO  
9 ENGLISH)

10

11 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

12

13 CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON: ...asking  
14 questions. And because it may affect us too, so.  
15 When you're talking about Deline district, and we do  
16 hunt in the Deline district, too, in the Horton Lake.  
17 Nobody mentioned that. So that's another question.  
18 Is that going to affect us? Are you going to start  
19 putting your little lines -- little mobile lines over  
20 there?

21 So I think that is directed to ENR.  
22 And that's the reason why we're asking a lot of  
23 questions. It's not to undermine nobody. Not to  
24 disrespect nobody. As Chief, we always respect, and  
25 that's what the Elders always taught me, to respect.

1 Don't -- don't keep a person down. If you put them  
2 down, lift them back up where that person be happy,  
3 and walk out.

4                   So that when we walk out of here,  
5 there's nothing personal. It stays here with the  
6 hearing, whatever happens here. I'm glad that when  
7 the Elders spoke out, and that's all we were all the  
8 time. That's how I am as I learn from them, and I'm  
9 not used to this legal proceeding, and talking about  
10 something that is very important to us.

11                   I just want to say masi to the Chair  
12 for allowing me to say thank you, and tomorrow, we do  
13 have a panel, and we'll discuss our little -- we have  
14 a presentation, and I think a lot of things that we're  
15 doing is going to be in the presentation, so at that  
16 time, you can ask us that question, too. And I don't  
17 know how fast you can get a lawyer, but masi.

18                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
19 Kochon. We look forward to hearing your presentation.  
20 With that, I'd like to have a fifteen (15) minute  
21 break and then get back, at which time, we'll have  
22 questions from Tulita. Any questions for the Deline  
23 panel. Thank you.

24

25 --- Upon recessing at 3:41 p.m.

1 --- Upon resuming at 4:06 p.m.

2

3 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: We're going to  
4 continue on with the -- with the hearing. Oh, here he  
5 comes. So next up for questioning is Tulita. And I  
6 see Frank Andrew just came into the room here, so.

7

8 (BRIEF PAUSE)

9

10 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Questions from  
11 Tulita.

12

13 (BRIEF PAUSE)

14

15 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Good afternoon.

16

17 (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM  
18 NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

19

20 (BRIEF PAUSE)

21

22 (NOT SWITCHED BACK TO ENGLISH CHANNEL)

23

24 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: ...we shared  
25 together a long time ago. Some of my Elders were

1 telling me that way back then, when there was no  
2 caribou around Tulita, people from Tulita used to come  
3 over here by dog team to go hunting for caribou over  
4 here.

5                   And they did that all through their  
6 lives, they said, till the caribou, as Morris spoken  
7 about yesterday, had all gone back to the barren  
8 grounds and never came back for a long time. And  
9 after it came back, we still shared together that same  
10 caribou herd.

11                   And today, we talk about the management  
12 plan from Deline. And I don't see no allocation for  
13 Tulita, or where do we stand today with this  
14 management plan? I'm not sure.

15                   So my question is: Is there anything  
16 allocated for Tulita under Deline's plan? Because our  
17 young people today, as you hear people talking about  
18 how fast we can get here, once the road is open, our  
19 people come here pretty fast by truck, by skidoo. So  
20 it's different.

21                   And it seemed like, for me, it might  
22 close the door on Tulita. And that's why I talk about  
23 -- a little bit about the rights we have under the  
24 land claim agreement. So my question is that. Is  
25 there any allocation for Tulita? And how and when can

1 we go hunting if there was caribou?

2                   Because I think the allocation of  
3 caribou is one hundred and fifty (150) for Deline  
4 under the Deline plan. So that's my question, and --  
5 okay.

6                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
7 Andrew.

8                   Mr. Bayha...?

9                   MR. WALTER BAYHA: Masi, Frank. Masi,  
10 Chair as well. I knew you were going to ask that  
11 question. The -- it's always -- that part of it is  
12 always -- you know, I think a lot of it comes from our  
13 -- our land claims. But, you know, the -- the num --  
14 the -- the numbers that we talk about, those quotas  
15 that come down through the management process, is for  
16 -- for the whole of Sahtu.

17                   So I think I guess how we're going to  
18 have to deal with it is, you know, when these -- these  
19 numbers are there, we'll -- we'll have to get the RRCs  
20 together or however you want to talk about it. We can  
21 -- we can go over those -- those numbers and how we --  
22 how we can -- how Deline -- what Deline needs, and  
23 certainly what Tulita wants to hunt.

24                   I -- I think you're probably more  
25 interested in are we -- some of the similar questions

1 of Colville Lake about hunting. As I said, we don't  
2 want to restrict people from hunting.

3                   So, you know, we're going to have to --  
4 we've taken that as an undertaking, so we'll something  
5 to come back on that. But I would love to spend more  
6 time and see what Tulita wants, but what do you think  
7 may be something that you said about sharing. So I  
8 think it's -- it's open there. I mean, we're not --  
9 we have to deal with those numbers ourselves, as well,  
10 so -- so we'll do that, but we don't -- we haven't  
11 really discussed it very much.

12                   We were so concentrating on just Deline  
13 stuff, so. So maybe we can work on that and see how  
14 that may work and see how that may work. In fact,  
15 we're going to do the same thing with you guys. We're  
16 saying, Well, gee, we can't hunt this herd anymore.  
17 We might have to ask you guys to go hunting in your  
18 area.

19                   Yeah, we got a lot of fish. We can  
20 share lots of there with you, if you want. But  
21 anyway, I think we need to spend more time and make  
22 sure people are happy with how we -- how we share that  
23 or how we share that amongst everybody else, I guess.  
24 Masi.

25                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.

1 Bayha. Further questions, Mr. Andrew?

2 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Yeah, Chief Frank  
3 Andrew, from Tulita, again. You know, we talked a lot  
4 about everything, you know, pretty well under the  
5 management plan. You know -- you know, I wasn't born  
6 yesterday. I was born about sixty-two (62) years ago.  
7 And I spent all my time in Tulita, all the years in  
8 Tulita. Just a little background on Frank Andrew  
9 itself, you know.

10 And, you know, when my father and mom  
11 were alive they taught us well back then, how to  
12 respect people, how can we come to a good agreement  
13 for our people, you know, and I respect that. And I  
14 respect this table here. But things has to be good  
15 for the region, the whole region, not only for Tulita,  
16 not only for Deline, not only for Colville, for Norman  
17 Wells, too, even though they're not here, because  
18 they're part of the Sahtu region, and Fort Good Hope.

19 You know, and -- you know, when we  
20 think about all the things that we've gone through in  
21 our lifetime, we went through many things, you know.  
22 We came from dog team, snowshoes. We talk about all  
23 that. And everything comes from caribou. We talk  
24 about that.

25 And we also -- when Morris was talking

1 about when the caribou went back, back in the '50s and  
2 was gone for thirty-three (33) years or something he  
3 said yesterday, you know, nobody even thought about  
4 putting a quota on it at that time. I don't know why,  
5 but the Elders, they never thought about that.

6                   But today, I don't know, we're trying  
7 to make things rough for ourselves or -- that's why I  
8 think management plan -- if we made a good management  
9 plan, everybody has to follow that. We can't work  
10 towards hurting one another or others. We can't do  
11 that.

12                   You see across in the world what's  
13 happening. People have differences. That's why you  
14 see so many people hurting on the other side, as the  
15 chief was speaking about yesterday, how much young  
16 people are suffering. When we see all these things  
17 happen we have to wonder here in the Sahtu region. We  
18 have to support one another as a region. We have to  
19 do that.

20                   And, as an Elder, Leon spoke those a  
21 while ago, talking about how ENR are here to help us,  
22 you know. And I really feel that the rights we have  
23 under the land claim agreement has to be there.  
24 That's our protection.

25                   You know, we say the colour of our

1 skin's not going to change forever, it's true, but the  
2 race, we have, it's changing a little bit. Somebody's  
3 taking a little bit out here, out here. And we're  
4 trying to do that today here.

5                   For me I think that should not happen.  
6 That's why I want to protect my young people of  
7 Tulita. I want them to have that right. The colour  
8 of their skin is there, but their right has to be  
9 there with it. You know, as I've spoken yesterday and  
10 said, you know, there's a lot of court cases because  
11 of that right across Canada. And we don't want to go  
12 there. It's just a waste of money.

13                   So we should have a really good plan.  
14 You know, all the years that we had a land claim,  
15 maybe twenty (20) some years, I always thought that  
16 the Renewable Resource Board would be our management  
17 for the game department, for caribou, moose, and all  
18 these animal.

19                   But along comes the Wildlife Act. It's  
20 sort of like that one (1) took over. But I've always  
21 heard that the land claim will supercede. So what  
22 does that mean? One (1) more point I want to make is  
23 that we talk a little bit about -- Walter talked a  
24 little bit about species at risk. When does that come  
25 in place? Maybe Walter knows about that.

1                   So I want to know about that species at  
2 risk. When is that going to be coming in place.  
3 Masi.

4                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
5 Andrew. Mr. Bayha...?

6                   MR. WALTER BAYHA: Masi, Paul. Masi.  
7 I -- I really -- it's very important you talked about  
8 the rights of people, you know, on the kind of things  
9 that our people have fought for, that's there. So I  
10 think we -- we need really to discuss, you know, one  
11 (1) of the underlying themes that we had when we came  
12 up with our plan is that we don't want to change  
13 anything.

14                   We -- we have to deal with, you know,  
15 the -- a lot of the issues we have in Deline. We need  
16 to deal with that. But we need to deal with other  
17 communities as well. We -- we're not going to try to  
18 change the laws that are there, the land claims. In  
19 fact, if anything, we have to follow it.

20                   So it's good that you -- you made me  
21 understand where you're coming from. This -- this is  
22 very good for me, because I -- I need to understand  
23 that. That's important. On the one (1) hand, you  
24 know, we -- we have a plan, but on the other hand if  
25 it -- if it actually restricts rights or it would take

1 rights away from other people, we need to be well  
2 aware of that.

3                   He said a good plan would be good --  
4 good for all of the region. I certainly believe in  
5 that. There's nothing in there that our -- I don't  
6 think our grandfathers would agree to.

7                   But the other -- the last one (1) I  
8 think you said, the NWT SARA process, or the -- the  
9 Species at Risk Act, I really don't know where it's at  
10 with -- for the caribou. I don't know if ENR would be  
11 more up to date as to where they're at with the -- the  
12 process, but I think caribous, it will be a long time  
13 before they make any assessments on caribou, I think.  
14 So I can refer it to them if they want to answer it.

15                   But I would really love to -- because  
16 the plan is so new, I would love to talk more with  
17 Tulita and see if there's ways that we can deal with -  
18 - because we all have to deal with those quotas that's  
19 coming down. It's not -- it's not just us. It's the  
20 whole of -- the whole of Sahtu.

21                   So we can -- we can start from there, I  
22 guess. I think that's probably the -- the best I can  
23 do at this time. I would -- would ENR update Frank on  
24 the SARA process if we have that information here?  
25 Masi, Paul.

1                   MS. LYNDA YONGE:    Thank you, Mr.  
2 Chair. Lynda Yonge, for ENR. Caribou is in the  
3 process of being assessed but I don't have the time  
4 line. But I can commit to bringing in those -- the --  
5 the process for you, and the dates of when it's  
6 expected to be done.

7

8 --- UNDERTAKING NO. 2:       ENR to Deline: To provide  
9                                           information about the  
10                                          current status of Species  
11                                          at Risk processes dealing  
12                                          with caribou

13

14                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON:   Thank you, Ms.  
15 Yonge.

16

17                                           (BRIEF PAUSE)

18

19                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON:   Any further  
20 questions from Tulita?

21                   CHIEF FRANK ANDREW:    Frank Andrew,  
22 from Tulita. Yeah. Because, you know, being the  
23 Chief of Tulita for quite some time now and, you know,  
24 we had a review board -- RRC board that supposed to  
25 come over with me but they never came. So I think

1 it's good that when you talk about having a meeting  
2 with us, that will be good for a discussion in Tulita  
3 on -- on this management plan.

4                   And the thing that -- the question is  
5 to the Board over there, RRB (sic) Board. You guys  
6 will be making the decision on this, or -- when --  
7 when is the decision on this is going to come out?  
8 Thank you.

9                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON:    Yeah. We'll --  
10 after the hearing there's another hearing -- this is a  
11 joint hearing between -- with us and partnered with  
12 the Wek'eezhii Renewable Resources Board, so there  
13 will be a similar hearing in Tlicho. And then I think  
14 it's within about four (4) to six (6) weeks, I'm not  
15 sure the exact date, we'll render a decision and --  
16 and issue a report on our findings. So, yeah. So  
17 there will be a formal response in the way of a report  
18 that time.

19                   MR. LESLEY ALLEN:     May -- May 16th.

20                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON:    May 16, yeah.

21

22                                           (BRIEF PAUSE)

23

24                   CHIEF FRANK ANDREW:    Chief Frank

25 Andrew again. So this meeting here is very important,

1 you know, about what we put on the table here. Not  
2 only for -- we have a manage plan -- management plan  
3 from Deline, and we have a plan from RWED -- ENR, I  
4 guess. We don't have no plan from Tulita, okay.

5                   But, you know, for me I'm telling you  
6 what we want in Tulita. We don't want to be  
7 forgotten, okay. If there was to be a quota, we want  
8 to have some in Tulita. But I don't want to see a  
9 quota because of the years that the caribou have been  
10 coming back, and the years it's gone it came back, you  
11 know.

12                   The other thing I've always thought  
13 about is there was a study done by RWED on lichens,  
14 caribou food. And he talks about how about 69, 79  
15 percent of lichen is caribou food, he said. So there  
16 were so many fires.

17                   Caribou just can't disappear in thin  
18 air. What really happened because being a Chief since  
19 1998, we were talking about hundreds of -- five  
20 hundred thousand (500,000), seven hundred thousand  
21 (700,000) caribou way back then. And they were  
22 counting it as one, not as all different herds at that  
23 time. But year 2000 I think it was, and they - - they  
24 gone for all different caribous after that.

25                   So any other caribou population has

1 grown. Maybe they went to joint other bunch. I'm not  
2 sure. Because nobody seems to know what happened to  
3 the caribou. There were so many. All of a sudden,  
4 gone. You know, since the caribou is all getting  
5 gone, I think -- I don't know about that commercial  
6 outfitting and stuff like that. Are they banned from  
7 hunting, stuff like that? Thank you.

8 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: If you could  
9 make your answer quick, please. I don't want this to  
10 get into kind of a roundtable. Thank you.

11 MS. LYNDA YONGE: Thank you. Lynda  
12 Yonge, ENR. There's been no commercial outfitting on  
13 caribou in this area since 2006.

14 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.  
15 Thank you for your --

16 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Thank you. That  
17 fast. Okay. But, you know, this is so important to  
18 understand, you know, because this is our livelihood  
19 (sic) we're talking about. The law that you're going  
20 to be making, it's going to be about me.

21 It's not going to be about you, because  
22 I'm a hunter, you know. So I have to protect the  
23 people's right of Tulita. And I have the right to sit  
24 on the table and speak to you guys on this.

25 We shouldn't rush things, because May

1 is not far away. Today is March. Tomorrow, it's  
2 going to be April. The next day you're going to make  
3 decision, okay? That's three (3) days away. That's  
4 not long.

5                   That's why I think the Elders were so  
6 surprised that they couldn't speak on this table,  
7 because it's so important to them. And the land claim  
8 supposed to help us, and that Board you sit on  
9 supposed to help us too, I think. So thank you.

10                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
11 Andrew. No further questions, comments?

12                   Before we proceed with the next round  
13 of questions, which would be Fort Good Hope, I just  
14 want to announce that because of scheduling tightness  
15 with Colville Lake, that at seven o'clock, we will be  
16 hearing the Colville Lake presentation followed by  
17 questions.

18                   I think earlier, I had -- I had  
19 indicated that the Board would be willing to have a  
20 public hearing or public forum, I guess, open to the  
21 public for questions.

22                   Because of some scheduling matters with  
23 Colville, we're going to have their presentation  
24 tonight at seven o'clock and with questions  
25 afterwards, and then that'll be it for today. So

1 thank you.

2                   So with that, I'd like to invite Fort  
3 Good Hope to ask questions of Deline and the plan they  
4 presented, if you have any.

5                   MR. HARRY HARRIS: I have -- I have  
6 just a couple of questions there. My question is,  
7 like, I've -- I've been doing some reading here, and -  
8 - and the only thing -- the only things of action is,  
9 you know, tags or the allotment of, you know, caribou  
10 to each -- each community or the communities.

11                   My question is: What other things are  
12 -- that are being done towards making it -- population  
13 of caribou increase, the Blue -- Bluenose East?

14                   I say that because, like, I live out on  
15 the land. I use the land a lot. I -- I don't have a  
16 job, so I rely a lot on the -- the wildlife and then  
17 the caribou, moose, you know, everything there that  
18 you use, because I -- I don't have money to go to the  
19 store. And it's really important, you know, to the --  
20 to us as to, again, to sustain our living at Good  
21 Hope.

22                   And I was just wondering, like, there's  
23 certain things that are affecting the -- the caribou,  
24 like wolf predation, weather, you know, pollution and  
25 stuff like that. And I was -- I was just thinking --

1 thinking, What -- like, I -- I -- like I said, I've  
2 been doing some reading, and all I see is the -- we're  
3 -- you know, we're cutting the amount of caribou to  
4 each community.

5                   Like, I just -- what -- why I'm saying  
6 that is that I -- I really believe we -- we should ask  
7 the people, get together and listen to each one of us,  
8 in Colville Lake, Deline. We should be -- you know,  
9 as people of the land, I'm -- I'm talking about the  
10 people of the land: Deline, Colville Lake, and  
11 ourselves, Tulita, too.

12                   And we know a lot about those caribou.  
13 We've been living with them for thousands of years.  
14 And they should be listening to us. And we got to go  
15 further than -- you know, just like -- the -- the  
16 other question is: What kind of monitoring -- like,  
17 every year, like, there's a -- from 2006 to 2009  
18 there's some sort of 28 percent mortality or -- in the  
19 female caribou, and it's dropping.

20                   And -- and Good Hope, we don't -- you  
21 know, we go to -- it's too far for us to go to get  
22 caribou. There's some other -- you know, there's  
23 other things that are less than that caribou. We  
24 should be working on it.

25                   Like, what my second question there is:

1 We should have a close monitoring of the -- the herd  
2 so that we could see if it's lessening. And we could  
3 do other measures, like, you know, go after the car --  
4 wolf. And I seen some stuff about wolf. All of this  
5 says that we're going to monitor the wolves, a list,  
6 you know.

7                   And one (1) thing I really wanted to  
8 talk about was fire management. I noticed that,  
9 through the years, using the land, I -- I've noticed  
10 that there's less wildlife. It's not only the caribou  
11 that's missing, all the songbirds. No -- there's no  
12 kingfishers. There's no -- you know, there used to --  
13 used to get chickens, you know, spruce grouse,  
14 ptarmigan. We don't have those anymore, even  
15 squirrels.

16                   I go out on the land and get wood every  
17 day. I go to the island -- and used to be -- this  
18 island used to be just full of squirrels, and now it's  
19 nothing. And we're not -- we're not eating them.  
20 We're not hunting them. Even the mosquitos, the  
21 lessening of insects, that's -- that's something that  
22 we all have to start thinking here.

23                   I -- I -- what this -- you know, we all  
24 have to work together. And we -- and we should be  
25 listening to each other. We should -- the government

1 should be listening to the people because the people  
2 lived with those caribou for thousands of years.

3 I guess that's something that I wanted  
4 to talk about. Thank you.

5 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
6 Harris. So was there a question you had directly for  
7 Mr. Bayha, or are you happy with the statement you --

8 MR. HARRY HARRIS: I -- I wanted those  
9 questions on some sort of detailed -- what -- what  
10 they're going to do besides, you know, doing tags and  
11 stuff like that, what else they're going to do and how  
12 they're going to monitor, tell -- you know, to tell  
13 the RRC's or the people that there's lessening caribou  
14 or it's going up and increasing.

15 You got to have some sort of monitoring  
16 system. But I just -- I just wanted, you know, some  
17 sort of detailed -- or not detailed, what other things  
18 that's being planned to increase those caribou.

19 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Bayha...?

20 MR. WALTER BAYHA: The -- in terms of,  
21 you know, like your question says, okay, what else are  
22 we going to do to -- is that to -- to -- I need to  
23 understand the question, I guess. And so you're  
24 asking us what we're going to do to assist caribou,  
25 the increase in numbers. Is that what you're saying?

1                   MR. HARRY HARRIS:    What I'm trying to  
2 get at is, like, one (1) -- one (1) thing that really  
3 is affecting the wildlife is the fire management.  
4 We're not -- we all get together and let's change that  
5 Fire Management Act.  There's -- when the fire's are  
6 going the -- all the little animals are being born.

7                   Somebody's got to -- somebody here has  
8 to fight for the little animals, and it's just  
9 something that we should be doing.  You know, if  
10 there's a fire across there in the summertime and if  
11 there's a fire close -- close to here, all of us are  
12 going to be out there trying to fight that fire,  
13 trying to blow out that fire.

14                   It's just something that Dene elders,  
15 that Dene law, that we blow out those fires, because  
16 we're -- like, we're farmers, you know.  We're -- we  
17 need that land and the animals.  It's just something  
18 that we have to do.

19                   I guess what I'm saying is, through the  
20 years, like, through residential school, we're --  
21 we're always being told what to do.  And, finally,  
22 here is -- is a group of people that's going to change  
23 that, do -- do our own thinking.  We should all work  
24 together to -- you know, to help those caribou.  Masi.

25                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON:   Masi, Mr.

1 Harris. Response, Mr. Bayha?

2 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Yeah, well, you  
3 know, the -- the plan that we have is -- we've looked  
4 at, you know, many things, and I think I mentioned  
5 that to -- to -- you know, that we -- we really need  
6 to look at, you know, the -- we need to look at  
7 everything, not just counting caribou and looking at  
8 the population, so.

9 You know, I'll -- I'll note that and --  
10 because we're always here with the plan. We're also  
11 looking around. Basically the plan is -- is to how  
12 we're going to be harvesting. You know, there has to  
13 be -- I think part -- part of the reason it comes down  
14 to this, there -- there has to be some -- you know,  
15 there's a lot of outside influence and forces that  
16 come to us so we -- we have to deal with a lot of  
17 those things and we can't to it by -- we have to have  
18 some sort of a plan.

19 And basically, that's what -- that's  
20 what we've done with the plan. I think for fires you  
21 may want to direct that at ENR, that -- that have the  
22 present authority to -- well, they call it fire  
23 management. And I know one (1) of the things that  
24 you're talking about and you mentioned the -- the foo  
25 -- the caribou food, the lichen.

1                   There is a lot of concern about how  
2 much of that is burnt every year. And they do have --  
3 I think they do have policies on -- because they've  
4 done it in the -- the Tlicho area. I don't know if  
5 they've ever done it here in the Sahtu, but we can  
6 leave that as an open question for them if they want  
7 to answer it and certainly we've been doing that --  
8 taking undertakings so that we respond to -- try to  
9 respond, you know, reasonably well to all the  
10 questions. Masi.

11                   MR. HARRY HARRIS: I suppose, you  
12 know, like ten (10) years from now -- fifteen (15)  
13 years from now and caribous keep on till there's  
14 nothing left. What's the contin -- contingency plan?  
15 What -- that's what I'm getting at.

16                   I'm -- I'm trying to show a path.  
17 You're going to have some -- what I'm saying is, you  
18 know, the -- if the -- the caribou continue even after  
19 we put in the -- the -- those actions we're supposed  
20 to do, and it keeps on going on, what then?

21                   It's just something that people have to  
22 think about. Just -- like I said, there's other  
23 animals, not only caribou. Masi.

24                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Mr.  
25 Bayha...?

1                   MR. WALTER BAYHA:    Yeah, we have a  
2 whole section called Alternate Food Sources, or I  
3 think we call it -- I think that's anyway. And yes,  
4 that's what the -- the plan is -- actually really  
5 depends on that. We -- we have other resources.  
6 We've got moose, we've got fish.

7                   So I think those things would help a  
8 lot if we hunt that just as much as we do caribou.  
9 And I think that's one (1) of the things that the --  
10 the plan really -- how would I said it, it -- it looks  
11 good when we do that, because, you know, we have a  
12 lot.

13                   You know, last year, if you look at  
14 moose, we don't harvest as much moose as say the  
15 Dehcho residents. And I think this year we -- with --  
16 you know, we haven't even started this plan yet, but  
17 aside from dealing with the quota, but those other  
18 harvesting has picked up a lot here.

19                   We have a huge fishing plan for -- for  
20 April so that -- and we have -- there's other things  
21 going on in the community that -- that do really  
22 support this plan that we have, but that's a -- that's  
23 a really good one about if we're ever going to make a  
24 difference -- if we're ever going to help -- help the  
25 herds increase we -- we have to leave them alone

1 sometimes.

2                   We can't harvest them all year round.  
3 And I think if you -- you know, I -- I tried to do  
4 that this morning and I -- I -- like I was saying, I -  
5 - I want to spend more time with everybody so that  
6 they understand what this plan -- what we're trying to  
7 do. You know, and it's mainly for Deline. We don't -  
8 - we don't want to interfere too much with, you know,  
9 like Frank was talking about rights.

10                   Those are -- you know, those are huge  
11 questions, but those are not -- unless they're -- they  
12 directly influence something that's going to change in  
13 the land claims, but I don't think so. I don't -- I  
14 think there's going to be -- things are going to be  
15 done in a way that -- that we're within the -- what  
16 the land claim says. Masi.

17                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
18 Bayha. Further questions from Fort Good Hope?

19                   MR. HARRY HARRIS: I -- I guess just  
20 something I wanted to bring up to some -- I wanted  
21 everybody to think about it. That's it. You know.  
22 You -- it's really important that we pick up that  
23 population of caribou. Masi.

24                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Further  
25 questions from Fort Good Hope? Mr. T'seleie...?

1 (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM  
2 NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

3

4 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

5

6 MR. FRANK T'SELEIE: ...the person that  
7 is working with the RRC had caught a really bad cold,  
8 and therefore was not able to attend. I -- I really  
9 enjoyed being here listening to all the questions that  
10 are being raised, and listening to all the different  
11 comments.

12 I would like to ask two (2) questions.  
13 And want to say thank you to -- to the Colville Lake  
14 people, and the fact that they were asked -- they  
15 asked some very good questions and it clarified it for  
16 me through the questions that they asked.

17

18 (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM  
19 NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

20

21 MR. FRANK T'SELEIE: And said that the  
22 process that's going to be used by the Board...

23

24 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

25

1                   MR. FRANK T'SELEIE:   ...question about  
2 enforcement plans.  And it -- it seems like there are  
3 no enforcement plans, and I -- that brings to mind --  
4 like, we come from Fort Good Hope, and Fort Good Hope  
5 is probably the -- one (1) of the oldest communities  
6 on the Mackenzie River.

7                   The Kachutin (phonetic) had probably  
8 one (1) of the largest geographic traditional areas,  
9 which included part of the Yukon back in the day.  And  
10 throughout the centuries, I think we've managed the  
11 wildlife really well.  And a quick review of our  
12 history since the Europeans came, Alexander Mackenzie  
13 came down the river in 1789.

14                  And go through some of those old  
15 records, and the first recorded famine was in the  
16 1820s, which would have been about thirty (30) years  
17 after Alexander Mackenzie came down.  You know, and  
18 that tells me that, you know, the effect of the  
19 trading on our wildlife really had an effect.

20                  The second record famine was in the  
21 1840s.  And as you know, like -- like the wildlife  
22 technicians here, musk ox was virtually wiped out from  
23 mainland Northwest Territories a hundred years ago.  
24 And they only started reappearing in the 1980s around  
25 Fort Good Hope.  And from the time back then, I don't

1 know how many times there was -- the caribou had  
2 disappeared. And I myself, I didn't see a caribou  
3 until the 1960s, the barren-land caribou. That's when  
4 the -- the chief -- chiefs are talking about when they  
5 came back.

6                   And the oral history states that, at  
7 Fort Good Hope, there's a string of caribou across the  
8 Mackenzie River. That's how much there was, like  
9 where the airport is in Fort Good Hope across the  
10 river. You don't see that any more. We saw that in  
11 the 1990s, and that was the last time.

12                   And our communities supplied -- I -- I  
13 read in one of the Hudson Bay records that the Hudson  
14 Bay had in storage one thousand (1,000) caribou  
15 tongues, some of it going to McPherson, some of it  
16 going to Simpson. Seven (7), eight thousand (8,000)  
17 fish, twenty-five thousand (25,000) muskrats out of  
18 Fort Good Hope.

19                   So by a hundred years ago, I mean, this  
20 -- this land was just about richer. They cleared out.  
21 And the area that -- that we occupy is very rich in  
22 wildlife resources for big game.

23                   We have moose, we have two (2) species  
24 of caribou, we have about three (3) species of bear,  
25 we have mountain sheep, not to mention the predators,

1 how much there is. And we have inherent rights to all  
2 of that.

3                   And I heard Chief Frank Andrew. That's  
4 being chipped away, chipped away slowly, although our  
5 agreement with -- with the federal government on the  
6 land, a lot of the matters are still outstanding. And  
7 some of the matters are being dis -- discussed here.

8                   Like I have a question. Like Harry was  
9 saying, why do we always let others define the world  
10 for us? From the questions on the quota, it sounds  
11 like the quota came from somewhere else.

12                   If Deline fills up their -- their quota  
13 already, what about the rest of the season? If there  
14 was fifty (50) caribou that came out here, how do they  
15 know it's Bluenose East or Bluenose West? And, you  
16 know, how about like families that are still in need  
17 of -- of wildlife meat?

18                   And it brings up some pretty  
19 interesting questions. But I'll -- I'm taking this  
20 opportunity to -- to raise those things that we are  
21 concerned about.

22                   The other method that I wanted to  
23 address is the method that the scientists use in -- in  
24 studying wildlife. And time and time again, I always  
25 here our Elders, our senior advisors, speaking against

1 things like tagging wildlife.

2                   We are raised, you know, from the time  
3 we're children to respect wildlife. And tagging them  
4 I don't think is -- does anything. And the other  
5 message that I'd like to give the -- the Board itself  
6 is on enforcement, is that we also use the woodland  
7 and mountain caribou from Good Hope. And there's a  
8 real problem that is developing from the southern part  
9 where -- I don't know how -- how they get permission,  
10 but people are coming in on the -- the road from -- on  
11 the canal road.

12                   And our people in Ross River are having  
13 a really a lot of problems with that. And how do we  
14 get those things under control today? My advice would  
15 be to -- for the Board to resource monitors or RRCs so  
16 that they could have camps onsite to monitor those  
17 hunting activities if it is allowed.

18                   And it seems like -- like the  
19 enforcement or -- or the word is only directed towards  
20 Aboriginal hunters. And what about the -- the big  
21 game outfitters, you know, and -- and other people  
22 that are -- who allows them to go in? It's certainly  
23 not -- not our people.

24                   And that's the type of questions that -  
25 - that are coming to mind. But I -- I really -- I'd

1 like to take this opportunity to thank you, to -- and  
2 raise some of those questions. So I'll end it there  
3 for today. Okay.

4 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
5 T'Seleie. If there's no further questions, I would  
6 like to ask the Sahtu Youth Network if they have any  
7 questions for Deline panel.

8

9 (BRIEF PAUSE)

10

11 MS. LESLEY ALLEN: Connection.

12 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: What's that?

13 MS. LESLEY ALLEN: Connection.

14 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: What did I say;  
15 network?

16 MS. LESLEY ALLEN: Network.

17 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Oh. Excuse the  
18 -- excuse me, I referred to you as the Network. I  
19 think you're the Connection.

20 MR. JORDAN LENNIE: Yeah, Sahtu Youth  
21 Connection, yeah.

22 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Sorry. I  
23 apologize.

24 MR. JORDAN LENNIE: My name is Jordan  
25 Lennie. I'm representing the Sahtu Youth Connection

1 today. Regarding the award you mentioned during your  
2 earlier presentation for youth hunting, what are you  
3 hoping to accomplish with that?

4 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Bayha...?

5

6 (BRIEF PAUSE)

7

8 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Okay, on -- on our  
9 plan, you mean. We didn't -- we -- I think we only  
10 had one (1) paragraph on there.

11 Well, a big part, Jordan, would be, you  
12 know, if I'm looking at my son, I would say, you know,  
13 I wish they hunt like my grandfathers, know their  
14 land.

15 I mean, a big part of our education  
16 would be, you know, to have our youth know their land,  
17 they know their land, they know their history.

18 So we have -- we -- we're pretty open  
19 to that. We haven't -- Deline here over the years  
20 have spent a lot of time on the recreation end of  
21 things. You know, we have -- we have hockey, hockey  
22 teams. And we have all kinds of recreation activities  
23 going on with the school, as well.

24 You know, I -- just last week -- or  
25 this past weekend, I think my -- one (1) of my

1 granddaughters went over to Tulita for skiing. I was  
2 bugging her yesterday. I said: Where did you go?  
3 You know, you go skiing?

4                   So I think it's pretty well open. We -  
5 - we'd welcome the youth have any -- anything that  
6 they want to do to include in our plan, we'd love it.  
7 We have a -- a fishing -- a fishing trip planned for  
8 April. And I -- I really hope all of the youth go. I  
9 said I'm going to go just to help out, just to make  
10 sure that we do find a place where we can set nets.  
11 You know, it would be just to help out. I -- I want  
12 to go out and I haven't been in that area for a long  
13 time.

14                   But probably one (1) of the greatest  
15 one (1) though for youth is we love to have our youth  
16 go out on our land. If there's any way we can help,  
17 you know, one (1) of the things we said on the plan  
18 here is -- and we promote that is we're asking  
19 hunters, you know, when they go out, you know, take  
20 youth out with them.

21                   Because without that we -- you know, it  
22 -- it not only builds relationships, but you have  
23 somebody that can teach you -- show you a few things  
24 about where they hunt, how they hunt and that's always  
25 something that we're really encouraging. And I hope

1 there's ways that we can do -- you know, the youth --  
2 I think you call yourself the youth connection. Maybe  
3 you can have some advice for us and we take that to  
4 heart and -- and run with it and include it in our  
5 plan. Masi.

6 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
7 Bayha. Mr. Lennie, further questions?

8 MR. JORDAN LENNIE: Thank you. You  
9 said all of this is for your youth, right, for their  
10 future? I see very few youth at this meeting and I  
11 don't think any of them have a voice. I as a  
12 beneficiary, not from Deline, can't speak for them, so  
13 I think you need to include more youth in these  
14 meetings.

15 My question is: How you plan on  
16 including the Deline youth in future meetings?

17 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Bayha...?

18 MR. WALTER BAYHA: You're asking me  
19 how we're going to include youth? Well, I -- you  
20 know, what I was telling our -- our elders here, we're  
21 all going to stop hunting and we're going to wait for  
22 those youth to hunt for us. So that's going to be a  
23 big one (1) for a lot of our youth.

24 But anyway, I think maybe, I don't  
25 know, tomorrow I think we -- when we have the public,

1 we're going to have some young people talk. I think  
2 that's where -- you know, we're doing -- we're trying  
3 to make those connections. We -- we don't have  
4 solutions.

5                   You know, it's easy to -- well, I -- I  
6 said that here this morning, I think. What did I say,  
7 I got to remember. I said, Let's talk about  
8 solutions. Because I can tell you right now, the  
9 Board doesn't have any solutions. The Board is going  
10 to have to take -- find the solutions in what we say  
11 here. That's the beauty -- beautiful part of a -- a  
12 hearing. It's coming from us.

13                   So I'd wish, you know, we ask the youth  
14 to help us. First of all they have to come to our  
15 meetings, like this hearing here. I seen a few there  
16 this morning, yesterday, but not enough. So we -- we  
17 need to -- to make those connections.

18                   So any -- any advice you give us --  
19 because we said in there that we'll take -- we promote  
20 the hunters to do it, but a lot of it is voluntary.  
21 So tonight when I -- well, no, tomorrow when I come  
22 here I'll bring all my kids. I think Kneecloud  
23 (phonetic) was here today, but he's gone.

24                   I don't know if you know some of the  
25 kids I have, so. That's the only way. We can't -- I

1 can't -- I'll ask him. If he doesn't come then that's  
2 up to him, but those are the things that we're looking  
3 at now. We -- we hope we -- we increase our -- our  
4 relationship with our youth to -- to help us make this  
5 plan work. Masi.

6 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
7 Bayha. Mr. Lennie, any further questions, or?

8 MR. JORDAN LENNIE: Yes, a few more.  
9 The Bluenose West area was defined clearly by ENR in  
10 their plan, but on page 30 of your plan under  
11 application it states that:

12 "This Code applies in respect of  
13 Sahtu participants from outside of  
14 Deline who harvest ekwe in locations  
15 where Deline Got'ine have  
16 traditionally harvested in the  
17 Bluenose West area."

18 Has a bene -- as a beneficiary not from  
19 Deline, where does this apply to me? Where is the  
20 traditionally harvested area?

21 MR. WALTER BAYHA: You're asking me  
22 where we hunted, where we traditionally hunted? Well,  
23 this morning --

24 MR. JORDAN LENNIE: In -- in the  
25 Bluenose West area.

1                   MR. WALTER BAYHA:    Okay.  If you saw  
2 me this morning talking about where my family  
3 harvested, I can tell you that, but I -- I think other  
4 people have to speak to where they hunt.  I -- that  
5 whole area, what you're talking about, where normally  
6 you get into the Bluenose West, I -- my family never  
7 goes up there.  We go -- we -- we stay close to the  
8 Johnny Ho (phonetic) area.

9                   We have -- and that -- that's why in  
10 the morning, I had mentioned all the families.  So in  
11 -- in this plan, though, we talked to -- and this is  
12 one (1) of the things that we're going -- eventually  
13 we're going to have to do, is try to go back to --  
14 because we -- we're bringing knowledge forward, but  
15 we're learning.

16                   You know, I -- I know about my family  
17 areas and I know about my history, but I don't know  
18 about everybody's history.  We just talked about some  
19 of the things that you have in the land claims where  
20 you can hunt anywhere.  All of our beneficiaries can  
21 hunt anywhere in the Sahtu settlement area.

22                   Okay, let -- let's say --  
23 hypothetically, let's say -- let's leave that open,  
24 and we'll all do that.  We'll all hunt.  I'll go to  
25 Colville Lake, and I'll hunt.  I -- I'm -- I can do

1 that. So I think the -- this is -- you know, I hope -  
2 - I'm not trying to be difficult. I'm trying to --  
3 I'm -- make you understand that the land claims has  
4 one (1) thing. Deline is trying to put a plan  
5 together.

6 And it is difficult. And one (1) of  
7 the ways that we move forward is looking back at our  
8 history. That is our history. So I think I hope I  
9 answered your question. It -- you were saying that  
10 maybe -- how do we know if we hunt the Bluenose West?  
11 Is that what your question was?

12 MR. JORDAN LENNIE: Under  
13 "Application" on page 30, it says:

14 "This code applies in respect of  
15 Sahtu participants from outside  
16 Deline who harvest ekwe in locations  
17 where Deline Got'ine have  
18 traditionally harvested in the  
19 Bluenose West area."

20 Can you define where that is?

21 MR. WALTER BAYHA: What -- what is he  
22 talking about? What -- what page -- what page?

23 MR. JORDAN LENNIE: Thirty (30).

24

25 (BRIEF PAUSE)

1 MR. WALTER BAYHA: What part?

2 MR. JORDAN LENNIE: Part 4.

3

4 (BRIEF PAUSE)

5

6 MR. WALTER BAYHA: You're going back  
7 to the code. I hope you -- you realize the code is --  
8 even I have a hard time understanding it.

9

10 (BRIEF PAUSE)

11

12 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Yeah, we're --  
13 we're going to have -- I'm going to have to relook at  
14 that. I mean, these things are -- we -- we had a lot  
15 of input from -- from a lot of different people, and  
16 it just -- some of that stuff -- I don't know how it's  
17 going to apply right now. I'll have -- we'll have to  
18 look at it.

19 Maybe we can take it as an undertaking,  
20 because we just heard from Colville Lake especially  
21 about Sahtu claims, or the rights that we have in  
22 there applies to -- we don't want to infringe upon  
23 that right, so we'll review that.

24

25 --- UNDERTAKING NO. 3: Deline to Sahtu Youth

1 Connection: To provide  
2 information about how  
3 Deline defines the area of  
4 "the locations where  
5 Deline has traditionally  
6 harvested in the Bluenose  
7 West area" as referenced  
8 on page 30 of the Deline  
9 Plan

10

11 MR. WALTER BAYHA: But the only thing  
12 I can tell you is that you have to look at where  
13 people harvest. Here in Deline, we harvest here in  
14 our area. Call it Deline district. But even that is  
15 -- is complicated, because Deline district also  
16 includes Anakitweh (phonetic), which as far as I know  
17 is the Colville Lake people that harvest there.

18 And then although we never harvest  
19 there, we own land there. And that's also in our  
20 Deline district. So I wish -- note that, and we can  
21 ask the -- the people that put the claim together. I  
22 would love to ask them how -- how this district is  
23 supposed to work, and why the -- how come it is -- it  
24 doesn't belong to Colville Lake.

25 You know, I look at it now, I say, The

1 Colville Lake should own that or it should be in that  
2 territory. That should be their district, not -- not  
3 ours.

4 So anyway, that's a really good  
5 question, though, a very tough question, especially  
6 coming from a youth, and I appreciate that.

7 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: So just so I'm  
8 clear, have you agreed to, as an undertaking, provide  
9 a written response to the Sahtu Youth Connection? So  
10 that'd be Undertaking number 3.

11

12 (BRIEF PAUSE)

13

14 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Thanks, Paul.

15 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Thank  
16 you, Mr. Bayha. It has been suggested that I just say  
17 a couple of words about what an undertaking is. And  
18 it -- it's not related to dealing with a dead body as  
19 an undertaker.

20 It's a -- it's where one (1) of the  
21 parties agrees to formally provide in a written form  
22 information requested by ano -- another party. So in  
23 this case, you would be the other party receiving the  
24 written information from the Deline party.  
25 Understand? Thanks.

1                   Okay. I think we're -- I guess that  
2 leaves it up to the Renewable Resources Board. If  
3 there's any questions from the Renewable Resources  
4 Board, I'm not sure. I have one (1) or two (2)  
5 myself, but...

6

7

(BRIEF PAUSE)

8

9                   MR. JORDAN LENNIE: I still have one  
10 (1) more question.

11                  THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Oh, you have a  
12 question.

13                  MR. JORDAN LENNIE: Yeah.

14                  THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Oh. You're not  
15 done yet?

16                  MR. JORDAN LENNIE: No.

17                  THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Oh, sorry.

18                  MR. JORDAN LENNIE: One (1) more.

19 Then you can have your turn.

20                  THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: You're a  
21 question box.

22                  MR. JORDAN LENNIE: On page 31 of your  
23 plan, number 11, it mentions the development of an  
24 education program to inform Deline Got'ine about the  
25 Deline ceremonial harvest.

1 Will youth be involved in this program?

2 And can it be implemented in the school?

3 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Okay. You said  
4 number 11, right?

5 MR. JORDAN LENNIE: Yes.

6

7 (BRIEF PAUSE)

8

9 MR. WALTER BAYHA: And you said to  
10 involve youth?

11 MR. JORDAN LENNIE: Will it involve  
12 youth, and can it be implemented in the school?

13 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Oh. I, you know, I  
14 think if -- I know that's the way the leadership  
15 think, and that's probably what's going to happen.  
16 Those things are pretty important here for us, so when  
17 things important come up, the school is always  
18 included, and certainly the youth.

19 You know, I'm -- I'm going to be really  
20 clear on that. We want those youth to be part of this  
21 plan. In fact, if anything, it's going to be their  
22 plan. So any suggestions to get the -- to get their  
23 involvement would be -- I think we'd -- we're -- we'd  
24 all appreciate. Masi.

25 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.

1 Bayha. And further questions?

2 MR. JORDAN LENNIE: I'm done. Thank  
3 you.

4 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very  
5 much.

6 So lastly, the Board has an opportunity  
7 to ask questions. And I would just ask my fellow  
8 members if they have any questions for Deline panel.

9 Go ahead.

10 MS. LESLEY ALLEN: My name is Lesley  
11 Allen. I'm with the Board. You have put in your plan  
12 about alternate methods for monitoring the herds, and  
13 you talked about genetics. Could you elaborate on  
14 that a little bit more?

15 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Bayha...?  
16 Thank you.

17 MR. WALTER BAYHA: You know, if I --  
18 thanks, Mr. Chair. The -- the -- I'm looking around  
19 to see the best person to -- on genetics. We don't  
20 have any of our -- our Rcs, either. I know Debbie's  
21 sitting back there. Debbie, would you elaborate on  
22 the genetics? You -- you probably did more work with  
23 Manseau and some of your staff that's doing the work  
24 on genetics, the -- the poop collection.

25 Part of that -- would you...?

1

2

(BRIEF PAUSE)

3

4

MR. WALTER BAYHA: Well, we -- we --  
5 yeah, it's information for the Board, yeah.

6

7

(BRIEF PAUSE)

8

9

MS. DEBORAH SIMMONS: I'm not used to  
10 using the mic. So the stat -- pardon?

11

12

(BRIEF PAUSE)

13

14

MS. DEBORAH SIMMONS: Oh. My name is  
15 Deborah Simmons and I'm the executive director with  
16 the SRRB. And so the status of that project right now  
17 is that the person who's been leading the research  
18 here in Sahtu who's living here, as well, in Tulita,  
19 Jean Polfus, is writing up the results. And she's  
20 been working collaboratively with some of the working  
21 group that was pulled together, which include people  
22 like Leon and you, Walter, and others, so -- on  
23 certain sections of it.

24

And then she's working with some high-  
25 tech genetics people to analyze the genetic part of

1 it. And so the results will be available in the form  
2 of a doctoral theses, I think she's hoping sometime in  
3 the spring.

4 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you,  
5 Deborah. If there's no further questions, I have one  
6 (1). And it's Paul Latour here, Vice-Chair, Renewable  
7 Resources Board. I think in your presentation you  
8 mentioned research priorities and support for  
9 research.

10 I'd just like maybe a bit more detail  
11 on what research priorities are in -- in your opinion,  
12 and in the community's opinion, I -- more importantly,  
13 I suppose. So, yeah, what -- what are research --  
14 Deline's thoughts on research priorities for the  
15 Bluenose East herd? Thank you.

16

17 (BRIEF PAUSE)

18

19 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Masi, Paul. I  
20 think I -- I sort of talked about it a little bit this  
21 -- this morning, I think. I mentioned that I think  
22 probably what Harry Harris was also talking about,  
23 he's -- he's talking about looking at all the -- all  
24 of the -- the areas that we can possibly look at for -  
25 - for research, and one (1) of them is probably

1 ecology.

2 I think we -- we haven't spent very  
3 much time doing those kinds of studies. Certainly  
4 fire's going to be a big one (1) and probably in  
5 relation to food availability for -- for caribou.

6 Probably one (1) of -- probably the  
7 biggest one that comes up even -- and part of the  
8 reason for our plan is that we -- we really don't know  
9 the impacts of development. You know, I sat on the  
10 Land and Water Board for, I don't know, fifteen (15)  
11 years, and that's the question I ask myself, you know,  
12 have we really -- do we really know when we issue land  
13 use permits and water licences to industry that we  
14 have a handle on the impacts to wildlife.

15 You know, I'm -- I'm thinking now I  
16 say, No, we haven't. The only time that those issues  
17 come up is when the land use permits and water  
18 licences go to the second level of -- of -- you know,  
19 when it's referred to in an environmental assessment.  
20 Then usually then there -- there's more in-depth  
21 studies done.

22 But getting back to the priorities for  
23 -- for this herd, yes, Deline's always looking at ways  
24 that -- or Deline is always looking for -- for  
25 information that would help us to -- to manage this

1 herd better. So yes, I think those two (2) are  
2 probably a -- a big priority for us and you just heard  
3 Debbie's comment about the -- the genetics, because  
4 it's a huge one for -- for non-evasive studies of  
5 caribou.

6 I mean, we've been dealing with that  
7 for many years, since -- since I got on in about  
8 1983/'81 when we first started talking about collaring  
9 back then when I started working with ENR. So yes,  
10 and I -- I'm sure, Paul, that you as the Chair and  
11 certainly with your background would -- would probably  
12 give a lot more research priorities for -- for caribou  
13 management. Masi.

14 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Mr.  
15 Bayha. I have no further questions. And --

16 MS. LESLIE ALLEN: I -- I think I have  
17 one (1) more.

18 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: You have one  
19 (1) more? Ms. Allen has a question.

20 MS. LESLIE ALLEN: Leslie Allen, I'm  
21 with the Board. You talk about when it gets to one  
22 hundred (100) then you will have a community meeting.  
23 And then when it gets to a hundred and fifty (150) you  
24 will stop.

25 So my question to you is: It seems as

1 if you don't have any issues in sharing the  
2 information about your harvesting numbers. Is that  
3 correct? With other groups, sharing the information  
4 with other groups.

5 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Well, I think  
6 within the -- the community I don't see issues with  
7 that kind of sharing. If other communities want it  
8 that's really up to the leadership how they deal with  
9 that, because there's other -- there's other concerns,  
10 there are other -- other things that they -- that  
11 would come into play.

12 Again, this whole thing about rights,  
13 you know, collective rights. I mean, you go on and  
14 read the -- the Gwich'in stuff on there, I think  
15 they've done a lot of work on that. So that's a whole  
16 different area. But in terms of for -- for caribou  
17 themselves, I think we have a pretty good handle on  
18 what's been taken in Deline.

19 We do have monitors. We tried a few  
20 methods last year. One (1) of them is to pay with the  
21 help of ENR support. We did pay monitors, but it  
22 doesn't work that great. When you -- when you pay  
23 people and get them to do a certain job, it doesn't  
24 seem to work that great, not as great as what has  
25 worked in Deline.

1                   You know, Deline is all -- we've always  
2 had a pretty good handle on who's taken what caribou.  
3 Deline is small enough to -- I think you -- you know,  
4 on a daily basis you know who's taken what and they're  
5 willing to share that with our leadership and  
6 certainly the RRC here, so -- so we knew. We knew  
7 when we were coming up close to one hundred (100).

8                   And after that they -- they made a  
9 decision. They said, Okay, this is what we got left  
10 and that's what we're going to do with it. So that --  
11 that went pretty well. So we don't have -- we -- the  
12 question, we don't have issues with monitoring or  
13 knowing those numbers.

14                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
15 Bayha. If there's no further questions from the Board  
16 I would propose that we adjourn until seven o'clock,  
17 at which time we will hear from the Colville Lake  
18 panel. I believe dinner is coming at 5:30.

19                   So, yeah, so another ten (10) minutes  
20 or so there should be dinner arriving on the table  
21 there and then we'll reconvene at 7:00 for Colville  
22 Lakes formal presentation, after which there will be  
23 questions. Thank you.

24

25 --- Upon recessing at 5:21 p.m.

1 --- Upon resuming at 7:03 p.m.

2

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. (NORTH SLAVEY  
4 LANGUAGE SPOKEN). Welcome, everybody. And I'm sorry  
5 for those who love bingo. This is more important.  
6 This meeting is more important.

7 So I know earlier that you guys were  
8 talking about an undertaking. And our legal counsel  
9 here wanted to finish that -- that topic. So I'm  
10 going to let Lorraine take over undertaking. Go  
11 ahead, Lorraine.

12 MS. LORRAINE SAND: Thank you, Mr.  
13 Chair. This will just take a minute. I just wanted  
14 to make sure that we had a clear record in the  
15 transcript of the undertakings that we've had so far  
16 today so that they are clear in the record and so that  
17 the parties can refer to them starting tomorrow.

18 The transcripts are generally available  
19 by midday next day. We have the transcripts from  
20 yesterday up already.

21 So according to my records, there are  
22 three (3) undertakings that have been provided today.  
23 And I want to check with the parties to make sure this  
24 is the common understanding and to put that on the  
25 record.

1                   Undertaking number 1 that was given  
2 today was given by Deline to Colville Lake, and it was  
3 in response to a series of questions from Colville  
4 Lake's legal counsel, Larry Innes.

5                   And those will be on the record in the  
6 transcript that will be available tomorrow. So rather  
7 than reiterating that, we'll just have that reference  
8 in the transcript for right now. That there was a  
9 series of five (5) questions that Deline undertook to  
10 respond to Colville Lake about.

11                   Undertaking number 2 was an undertaking  
12 that ENR provided to Tulita to provide information  
13 about the current status of Species at Risk processes.  
14 And my understanding is that ENR will be able to  
15 provide that information right away.

16                   And let me just say what Undertaking  
17 number 3 is, and then we'll come back to that.  
18 Undertaking number 3 is one that was made by Deline to  
19 the Sahtu Youth Connection, and that was an  
20 undertaking to provide information about how Deline  
21 defines the area of the locations where Deline has  
22 traditionally harvested in the Bluenose West area, as  
23 referenced on page 30 of the Deline plan.

24                   So you'll be able to refer back to  
25 those in the transcript.

1 MS. LYNDA YONGE: Lynda Yonge, for  
2 ENR. So with respect to our undertaking about the  
3 Species at Risk Act and barren-ground caribou, barren-  
4 ground caribou will be assessed by the Species at Risk  
5 committee in the spring of 2017.

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. That was a  
7 fast answer. Masi.

8 MS. LORRAINE SAND: And my  
9 understanding is you had one more than you wanted to  
10 put on the record.

11 MS. LYNDA YONGE: Lynda Yonge, for  
12 ENR. So my previous fast answer with respect to when  
13 the outfitting ended in this area, we would like to be  
14 able to clarify that because I may have been  
15 incorrect. So we will clarify that and come back with  
16 confirmation of that date.

17

18 --- UNDERTAKING NO. 4: ENR to provide information  
19 about the end date of the  
20 commercial harvest

21

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Any other  
23 undertakings that we -- we need to address?

24 So we're okay. We can move onto our  
25 agenda? Okay. Masi.

1                   Okay. I think on our agenda now is --  
2 is Colville Lake delegation to do their presentation  
3 and then questions will be asked afterwards. So go  
4 ahead.

5

6 PRESENTATION BY COLVILLE LAKE:

7                   MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Thank you, Mr.  
8 Chair. It's Joseph Kochon, interim President for the  
9 RRC. This evening we're going to provide you a bit of  
10 an insight of what we're doing in the community.

11                   As we go along we're -- we're  
12 developing ourselves and how we're going to move ahead  
13 and -- and develop something that's going to be useful  
14 for us. And we're going to be developing a tool that  
15 can be used in the -- in the future hearings.

16                   So far our traditional knowledge hasn't  
17 really been used in some of these hearings and it  
18 hasn't been used in some of the monitoring, some of  
19 the data that is collected by -- by ENR, so we'll give  
20 you a bit of an insight of what we're doing, but then  
21 there's still a lot of work for us to do.

22                   And for those of you that like to get  
23 new information, the information that is going to be  
24 developed, it's going to be by -- it's going to be  
25 developed by us, so whatever information we share, we

1 want to make sure that we're satisfied to share it  
2 first, so. After this we're going to be writing our  
3 own chapters.

4           A lot of the information that is --  
5 that our elders have, it comes from a long, long time  
6 ago and it's something that wasn't -- it didn't just  
7 pop up overnight, so a lot of these things we have to  
8 be really strict on how it's shared and whatnot, so.

9           So those things we just want to make it  
10 clear that the things that we develop forward, we're  
11 going to really make sure that we really share some  
12 information. We don't want somebody getting their  
13 doctor's degree on information that we share.

14           Too many times information that goes  
15 out, somebody gains from it. So very important to  
16 know that we're -- we're -- we are well aware of that,  
17 so. David is going to provide you -- he's going to go  
18 through the slides with you guys and hopefully it --  
19 it's clear as it should be. Thank you.

20           MR. DAVID CODZI: Good evening. My  
21 name is David Codzi. I'm the President of the Ayoni  
22 Keh Land Corporation. I'm just going to go over a  
23 little bit of history before I go into the slides.

24           When I was a kid there was a lot of  
25 people, you know, the elders used to always talk about

1 our agreements with the Europeans, with the white  
2 people, and how we come to live together on this land  
3 and, you know, how we will -- we have the right to  
4 hunt freely and all these kinds of things.

5                   What I did was, later on is I went and  
6 looked into the written history of those things. So  
7 what I came out with, you know, the first Wildlife Act  
8 of the NWT stated that to protect the exploitation of  
9 wildlife from outside visitors, the wildlife created a  
10 regime.

11                   And that -- they said they were not  
12 going to manage the native people because the native  
13 people were conservators of wildlife to begin with  
14 anyway. So since all that time until 2014, that  
15 changed. I don't think we've ever stopped being the  
16 conservators of wildlife at all.

17                   So having said that, I'm just going to  
18 go through our slides and, you know, it's just...  
19 Living with -- with animals and understanding them the  
20 way we do, it's just the way of life. When we're  
21 little kids and we're sitting on our parent's laps and  
22 we're listening to them talk and they're talking about  
23 how we're going to live with animals, how to respect  
24 what we take.

25                   You know, it was never, you know, look

1 both ways before you cross the road or anything like  
2 that. It went straight into wildlife and how our --  
3 our place within it was. So, you know, starting at  
4 that -- that point we have been trained all our lives  
5 to -- to live out there, to live with it, to  
6 understand what we have on our land, because it's a  
7 responsibility that we all have.

8                   Anyway, I'm just going to go through  
9 the slides. We first went through part of this slide  
10 and, you know, the presentation in 2007 at the first  
11 caribou hearing that we had in Fort Good Hope.

12                   One (1) of the elders, the late ehtsee  
13 Blancho said, you know, we have to look after it. If  
14 we don't, it'll move away from people and if you  
15 respect it it'll come back like all things. So, you  
16 know, it's just the way that we have to do it. We  
17 always have to respect what we have. If not, you  
18 know, that spirit will stick around and it'll -- it'll  
19 drive us apart.

20                   Now, a bunch of you have probably heard  
21 me go over a part of this over the last year or so.  
22 You know, as collaboration or a co-op -- cor-op -- co-  
23 options. Improving the management and local  
24 empowerment cannot be achieved through any attempt to  
25 include local elders and hunters into existing state

1 management systems simply through the production and  
2 use of TEK.

3                   Instead, it will require that local  
4 beliefs and values and practices themselves to be  
5 accepted as a valid basis for action. This will  
6 require changes to current practices of resource  
7 management and environmental assessment to allow those  
8 people to play a meaningful role in these pro --  
9 processes as decision makers.

10                   A lot of -- you know, a lot of the  
11 stuff that happened in the past, scientists, whether  
12 they work for ENR or some other people, have gone out  
13 and started interviewing people about wildlife and all  
14 of a sudden they become footnotes in reports.

15                   Having a place as a footnote is, Oh,  
16 you know, it's okay, yeah, you've been consulted and  
17 we're moving on. We've taken care of that part. But  
18 it's more than that. We have to be active  
19 participants in what's going on right now.

20                   Back in the days when ENR, the  
21 government were managing all these things and making  
22 sure that the animals were there for our food sources,  
23 and, you know, protecting from exploitation, those  
24 things are -- we've evolved to the point that we've --  
25 we're starting to take on those things ourselves.

1                   So using our traditional knowledge and  
2 our understanding of what we have our there, our land  
3 and our history, our movement of our people and our  
4 families give us more insight on what's happening out  
5 there. Maybe we don't say it scientifically.

6 Laymen's terms is good enough for us.

7                   So move on. So we'll go through the  
8 Sahtu -- in our land claims it's given that there's  
9 parts inside there. The priority of Aboriginal  
10 harvesting is one (1). The primary rule of co-  
11 management bodies including the Renewable Resource  
12 Boards and the local Renewable Resource Counsel to  
13 collect information and manage harvesting, the process  
14 that must be followed before any limit on harvesting  
15 can be implemented.

16                   The wildlife -- the Wildlife Act  
17 confirms that the Act must be carried out in  
18 accordance with the land claims agreements Section 5  
19 and land claim agreement prevail over the Wildlife  
20 Act, section 6.

21                   So, you know, working with our co-  
22 management boards, Colville Lake is here as an  
23 Intervenor. We're not here to, you know, present  
24 proposals, but we understand the importance of the  
25 process that we have in play here. You know, there's

1 a lot of things that came out of the 27 -- 2 -- 2007  
2 hearing that, you know, at the time we just had a  
3 little understanding of what might happen, but seven  
4 (7) years later we do have a greater understanding of  
5 the ramifications of the things that we're doing now.

6           So no we -- we're here to ask questions  
7 and to talk about what we know and what we believe is  
8 right. We believe the communities must take  
9 responsibility for continuing the Dene way of life.  
10 Doing what we have always done and what we have the  
11 right to do must be our priority. This is a  
12 responsibility that we all share. This is not a  
13 numbers game.

14           Our relationship to caribou cannot be  
15 reduced to quota. We do not take caribou, they are  
16 given to us. We will never tell our people to stop  
17 hunting caribou, because being a hunter is who they  
18 are and it's who we are.

19           Our relationship with the caribou and  
20 all wildlife that are living on our land it's -- it's  
21 close. It's like rel -- you know, a relationship with  
22 your -- your family. If you start reducing it down to  
23 tags and quota then it becomes -- over there it  
24 becomes -- you know, you're no longer as close as you  
25 can be.

1           You know, having responsibility of your  
2 actions out there is important. If you don't have  
3 responsibility, you don't feel that affiliation, then  
4 you're not going to care. And that's where we don't  
5 want to be.

6           Working for co-management, we are  
7 committed to fulfilling the purpose of the land claims  
8 and to achieving meaningful co-management through the  
9 implementation empowerment of the SRRB as the primary  
10 body for decision making and the RRCs as the primary  
11 bodies for local harvesting management across the  
12 region.

13           We recognize the need to work across  
14 regions with our neighbours and relatives in the  
15 Inuvialuit, Gwich'in, and Tlicho region. And with the  
16 Inuits in Nunavut. Am I going too fast, or...

17           Continue. April -- April 22nd to the  
18 23rd in 2000 -- 20 -- 2015 resolutions were made in  
19 Colville Lake. We -- after the implementation of tags  
20 the Sahtu got together in Colville Lake and we  
21 discussed all the things that were happening. We came  
22 out with a couple motions that we decided that were --  
23 that were important to us.

24           We are working to implement the  
25 resolutions that were adopted in a special assembly

1 held in Colville Lake on April 23rd -- or 22nd and  
2 23rd, 2015. The recommendation to the GNWT and a  
3 letter signed by the SSI, SRRB, Behdzi Ahda First  
4 Nation, and Deline First Nation, and these were, you  
5 know, by the land corporations -- of all the land  
6 corporations in the Sahtu, the RRCs.

7           Continue. The resolutions were about  
8 the governance, the plan to manage the caribou in the  
9 Sahtu region must be developed by the Sahtu Dene Metis  
10 and SRRB and RR -- the RRCs, based on the process of  
11 self-regulation and driven by community-based  
12 monitoring and decisions.

13           Any future conservation decisions or  
14 restrictions relating to caribou must be developed at  
15 and in a public forum. So if we as leadership decide  
16 to do anything regarding wildlife, it has to be  
17 brought out to our public and it has to be -- all the  
18 people have to agree on how we're going to manage our  
19 wildlife and how we're going to, you know, implement  
20 these measures.

21           It's just not for a few people to  
22 decide. Caribou tags, the current imposition of tags  
23 on Aboriginal harvesters on the regul -- under the  
24 regulations of the Wildlife Act is rejected. There is  
25 neither traditional knowledge nor science based

1 evidence justifying such conservation measures.

2                   Nothing else has been -- you know, it's  
3 just -- it's like you're just jumping straight to the  
4 last measure and it's not trying out other things, so.  
5 And we've discussed this yesterday, the proposed  
6 tundra copper exploration.

7                   That project is opposed until  
8 assurances are provided that the habitat of the  
9 Bluenose East caribou herd, including its calving  
10 ground are protected. If these areas are not pro --  
11 properly protected this development will be opposed.

12                   And having said that, you know,  
13 listening to all the elders and the stories and, you  
14 know, it was -- never have I heard any elders walking  
15 into the -- you know, the calving grounds. Those  
16 things are -- are held sacred. So, you know, these  
17 thing should be really -- it's important that they --  
18 they're -- they're protected.

19                   Without that, having all these, you  
20 know, other measures in place, it's really a moot  
21 point. Now, we're -- we're into the second year of  
22 that project and then the third year is happening this  
23 summer and there's more drilling projects and more  
24 interruptions happening. So that -- that's important.

25                   Caribou collaring is another resolution

1 that came out. The use of collar -- collars for  
2 monitoring purposes is opposed. The knowledge of the  
3 RRCs and harvesters can provide effective monitoring.  
4 Right now we have hunters and trappers that are out on  
5 the land and they know.

6                   They -- they watch the movements of the  
7 caribou and they know where they are at all times.  
8 You know, we could go out there and we could count  
9 them and we know they're there.

10                   Another thing that came up is the  
11 funding for the RRCs. And this is a long-standing  
12 issue that -- you know, that -- that's been -- always  
13 been talked about. The RRCs must be -- must have  
14 funding in order to fulfill their mandate under the  
15 Sahtu land claim agreement with respect to caribou  
16 monitoring and research and management.

17                   The RRCs are important. They're right  
18 up there with the bands and the land corp. They're  
19 supposed to be, you know, monitoring all wildlife.  
20 And we were talking about district borders, but those  
21 borders were just for economical reasons.

22                   There's -- the RRCs are not just  
23 hunting and trappers organizations, they're -- you  
24 know, they're -- they have a lot of authority and they  
25 have a lot of responsibility to take care of and

1 they're not being done just due to shortage of  
2 funding. And because of shortage of funding there's  
3 becoming a vacuum and, you know, that vacuum is being  
4 taken up.

5                   And I keep -- keep on pointing the  
6 finger at ENR, but that's -- you know, that's who was  
7 taking the -- those vacuums. But the more funding we  
8 have the more things that we can do. And, you know,  
9 we shouldn't be having these confrontations.

10                   If we had these, you know, the adew --  
11 adequate amount of funding we could have been doing  
12 these things together instead of fighting over it,  
13 because the RRCs gather their information too.  
14 They're supposed to be here and we're supposed to  
15 gather information and we're supposed to have our own,  
16 you know, our own input. So, you know, due to the  
17 lack of funding we -- we have to argue about these  
18 things.

19                   So, carry on. Co-management roles.  
20 The Board may participate in harvest studies and data  
21 collection and the evaluation of wildlife research.  
22 It is intended the Board have an independent research  
23 capability, thirteen point eight point three-eight  
24 (13.8.38).

25                   And wildlife research or harvesting

1 studies conducted in the settlement areas by  
2 government or by the Board or with government  
3 assistance shall directly involve renewable resource  
4 councils and participants, harvesters, to the greatest  
5 extent possible. We do not believe these roles are  
6 being fulfilled to those extents. Let's -- sometimes  
7 it's just for community's sake, convenience's sake,  
8 and you're -- you know, you just bring along somebody.

9           But the research capabilities should  
10 extend to all the RRCs, not just based on scientific  
11 criteria and credentials. It's important that the TK  
12 be adequately funded because we have just as much say  
13 in what information is coming out as -- as possible.

14           So next:

15           "The co-management roles. Renewable  
16 Resource Councils shall participate  
17 in the collection and provisions of  
18 government, and the Board of local  
19 harvesting data and other locally  
20 available data respecting wildlife  
21 and wildlife habitat.

22           "Governments shall work with the  
23 users of the Bluenose caribou herd  
24 for the purpose of establishing  
25 agreement for the management of the

1                   herd. The ACCWM plan does not meet  
2                   the requirements of the land claim."

3                   A lot of those things have been -- you  
4 know, you've -- we have processes in place. We've  
5 skipped some of those steps and came up with an ACWM  
6 (sic) plan. It's a shortage of funding has -- has  
7 kind of hogtied the RRCs from really carrying out  
8 their full mandate from really, you know, gathering  
9 the information that's out there.

10                   It should be all -- over the last  
11 couple of years, we've been spending a lot of money on  
12 our -- of our own to -- to meet those things. But,  
13 you know, it has to come from somewhere. We're taking  
14 it away from somewhere. So those things have to be  
15 talked about as well.

16                   You know, all of us, we all have a  
17 stake in this. You know, it's -- a lot of the  
18 scientific knowledge has come from information that is  
19 gathered from traditional land users, and the  
20 behaviours that -- that -- you know, the methods that  
21 they use to observe the animals that -- that live  
22 around them. That's how the science has been built  
23 over the -- over the years as we've come to this --  
24 this day and age. So it's still useful.

25                   So next. Empowering the Boards and the

1 RRC. Currently, the SRRB is not fully constituted,  
2 and as a consequence unable to fully discharge its  
3 mandate as intended under 13.8.3 of the land claims.

4                   There are currently three (3) vacancies  
5 in appointment of Sahtu beneficiaries as members and  
6 alternates. The appointment of a full slate of  
7 members in the requirement of the land claims are  
8 vacancies to be filled by nominations within ninety  
9 (90) days. And those sections are 13.85, 13.86,  
10 13.87. And those things are long-standing issues.

11                   We have a legitimate concern about the  
12 current hearing process. As the Chair outlined  
13 yesterday, Colville has concerns about the conflict of  
14 interest of three (3) members of the Board. Colville  
15 submitted a motion regarding the mot -- the Board's  
16 conflict of interest. This concern is shared by  
17 Norman Wells and Fort Good Hope.

18                   Despite our concerns, the Board ruled  
19 there is no conflict, and proposed ways to ensure that  
20 conflict of interest is avoided.

21                   Our concern is that one (1) ENR member  
22 who drafted and supported the ENR plan is a Board  
23 member, and two Deline members are -- who drafted and  
24 supported the Deline plan are Board members. Those  
25 three (3) members will participate in the decision-

1 making of the hearing.

2                   If this process was about a mine or a  
3 road, and the developers and supporters of those  
4 projects were also sitting as members of an  
5 environmental assessment panel, people might question  
6 the independence and the impartiality of the panel.  
7 We have similar concerns about this process.

8                   The solution that we proposed was  
9 simple: We want the Board to work, and we want the  
10 Board to be able to deal with the conflict in the way  
11 that the land claim was intended. The land claim was  
12 -- has provisions for alternate Board members in the  
13 case of conflict. The alternate Board members would  
14 step in.

15                   Unfortunately, not all of the  
16 appointments of the Boards have been made as required  
17 by the land claim agreement. We need these Board  
18 members to be appointed as soon as possible to ensure  
19 that the Board decision's made in the best way.

20                   So it wasn't -- you know, it's  
21 unfortunate the way the things happened, but, you  
22 know, it's not a personal issue. It's just -- you  
23 know, it's expected to happen. The RRCs are  
24 underfunded and unable to perform their roles under  
25 13.9 of the land claims. The impairment of the Board

1 and RRC functions and lack of Sahtu beneficiary  
2 representation in wildlife research and decision  
3 making has a major consequence for co-management.

4                   This hearing is dominated by govern  
5 propo -- government proposals and government science.  
6 Our knowledge is not being supported or in --  
7 integrated and researched in a meaningful way.  
8 Sometimes gov -- government has cherry-picked our  
9 knowledge to support their own conclusions, and that  
10 really happens. In the footnotes, they make reference  
11 to that. So when you're reading the reports, that's  
12 what you see.

13                   As an example, research is not being  
14 done in accordance with the Dene laws and values. The  
15 lack of meaningful response by ENR to our concerns  
16 about collars and means that we are talking about, we  
17 are talking past each other, not talking with each  
18 other about the most basic approaches to research.

19                   And we -- we keep on making reference  
20 and we keep on talking about collars and the effect  
21 and what we see on -- happening to our animals while  
22 they're out there, and, you know, the inhumaneness of  
23 the collars. You know, we see those side-stepped  
24 areas. It's -- kind of sound like it's not being  
25 important. But really, when you see the effect of it,

1 it should be.

2                   In 2007, Colville Lake RRC, we hired  
3 approximately twelve (12) trappers to go out on the  
4 land to count caribou in a traditional manner without  
5 the use of collars on caribou. And at that time, the  
6 survey revealed that we had about twenty thousand  
7 (20,000) Bluenose West caribou in the immediate  
8 vicinity of Colville Lake. Twenty thousand (20,000)  
9 did not include the entire migration corridor of the  
10 Bean -- the Bluenose West caribou.

11                   And those -- that number was used as  
12 the official count, but that was not the whole --  
13 whole herd. We believe that our count of twenty  
14 thousand (20,000) in 2007 was a conservative estimate  
15 -- estimate of the total size of the Bean -- Bluenose  
16 West caribou population at the time.

17                   ENR presented evidence to the Sahtu  
18 Renewable Resources Board of progressive decline in  
19 caribou population across the NWT since 2000. ENR  
20 stated that the Bluenose West herd declined from a  
21 hundred thousand animals to approximately eighteen  
22 thousand (18,000) animals in the period between 1987  
23 and 2007.

24                   I think it was supposed to be a -- a  
25 decline, nearly a thousand. There was eighteen

1 (18,000) animals left in 2006. ENR proposed that the  
2 decline was -- was evidence of a Bluenose West  
3 management problem. Our estimate of two thousand  
4 (2,000) caribou in the Colville Lake area -- twenty  
5 thousand (20,000), sorry, my mouth is getting dry,  
6 Colville Lake area alone did not include the entire  
7 migration corridor of the Bluenose West caribou.

8                   But the Sahtu Renewable Resources  
9 Board, ENR, took the twenty thousand (20,000) number  
10 out of context and used it to justify that the  
11 conclusion about the need for a total allowable  
12 harvest. Next.

13                   In 2000 -- numbers don't tell the whole  
14 story. In 2007, the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board  
15 concluded that there was a serious decline, and the  
16 Bluenose West caribou herd over the last nine (9)  
17 years had relied on ENR numbers, showing a decline a -  
18 - from a hundred thousand (100,000) in 1998 to  
19 eighteen thousand (18,000) in 2007.

20                   An 80 percent decline is recommended a  
21 allowable harvest be imposed. ENR's 2015 press  
22 release stated that the survey indicated that the  
23 Bluenose West herd population has dropped from twenty  
24 thousand (20,000), in 2012, about fifteen thousand  
25 (15,000).

1                   However, ENR's own data suggests that  
2 the Bluenose West herd is currently stable with  
3 surveys results fluctuating between fifteen thousand  
4 (15,000) and twenty thousand (20,000) animals over the  
5 last nine (9) years. So it's been going straight up  
6 and down, but it's pretty well straight.

7                   In 2016, Bluenose -- numbers don't tell  
8 the whole story. In 2016 -- thank you -- Bluenose  
9 East hearing, ENR has provided future population  
10 estimates and trends that are derived from the model  
11 in which predicted caribou survival doesn't correlate  
12 with observations of caribou on the ground.

13                   ENR admits that the impact of  
14 harvesting on the Bluenose East is uncertain, stating  
15 that the reduction of adult survival by an -- by  
16 assumed range of harvest levels cannot fully explain  
17 the recent rapid decline of the Bluenose East herd.

18                   Bluenose East 2015 calving ground  
19 survey report. We are concerned that ENR is  
20 defaulting to attributing the decline to harvesting  
21 when there are multiple compound factors that affect  
22 caribou.

23                   You know, since, say -- say the late  
24 '80s, there's been -- you know, there's been a -- a  
25 decline of people using the land, you know, across the

1 NWT most. There's a lot of people that are -- there's  
2 less trappers, there's less hunters out there than  
3 there used to be.

4                   When people used to, you know, make all  
5 their income on hunting and trapping, now there's a  
6 lot of people wage -- wage earners, and there's not  
7 that -- as much people going out on the land as -- as  
8 there used to be. So, you know, hunting caribou is --  
9 and harvesting is not the issue. It's something else.

10                   So, next. Many threats include, you  
11 know, the copper tundra mine, or the exploration  
12 project that's happening with the Bluenose East  
13 calving grounds. And that's right in the middle of  
14 that -- the migration route. And it's right smack dab  
15 in the middle of the calving ground.

16                   Another issue that we're going to have  
17 is that Nunavut just put a -- proposed to build a  
18 road, and it's going to go from that Arctic Ocean all  
19 the way through the Bathurst, and then it's going to  
20 go somewhere -- to another mine and possibly to  
21 Yellowknife. So those are one (1) threats.

22                   And this is like a map talking about  
23 the changes that are going to happen with the animals  
24 over time. The colour is -- the colour from yellow to  
25 dark red, stating that in a percentage, the animals

1 that are going to be -- that are going through  
2 changes.

3                   You see that red area that is going  
4 through the -- the barren lands, all that is going --  
5 there's going to be 100 percent change. We're having  
6 a climate -- climate's warming, climate changing.  
7 There's a lot of animals that are coming up that -- we  
8 see the animals that we never seen before.

9                   So those are going to be infringing on  
10 those things as well, right. So we have to be mindful  
11 of those things. Next.

12                   Our participation must be meaningful.  
13 Statistically -- statistical models and predictions  
14 only give us numbers, not the wisdom to decide in the  
15 best way. We are concerned that the harvest  
16 restrictions are being put forward as the only  
17 effective mechanism, and that other options are not  
18 being meaningful, considered in those hearings -- or  
19 in these hearings.

20                   The benefits of harvest restrictions  
21 are scientifically uncertain, but the impact of  
22 harvest restrictions on the Dene Metis people and the  
23 Dene Metis way of life are significant and well  
24 understood.

25                   A lot of the things that are being

1 proposed is going to affect us -- all of us  
2 personally. And a lot of people, it's just a job, but  
3 us, it's a way of life. And so we have to be mindful  
4 for that.

5                   We have a lot of historical knowledge  
6 on the change that are happening on the land today.  
7 You know, the land has been changing for a long time.  
8 Just recently, it's been rapid, but it has been  
9 changing for a long time.

10                   Next. In 2007, the hearing -- the 2007  
11 hearings and subsequent decisions by the Board and the  
12 ENR did not respect the process set out in the Sahtu  
13 agreement. The differences in our perspectives were  
14 never reconciled by the Board or ENR.

15                   Instead of enabling Dela Got'ine to  
16 meaningfully participate to the greatest extent  
17 possible in the research, unilateral decisions were  
18 made. Colville Lake is supported by the whole Sahtu  
19 region in wanting to see the meaningful change in how  
20 such decisions are made in the future.

21                   A lot of the things over -- since 2007  
22 to -- to -- not to -- up until recently, we've done a  
23 lot of -- a lot of things on our own. We've done a  
24 lot of things and, you know, a -- a lot of our counts,  
25 a lot of our research for our own information that we

1 haven't shared.

2                   Just thinking that, you know, a lot of  
3 information is always used, sometimes numbers are used  
4 as a limit when they're not, they shouldn't be. So it  
5 creates those sort of things that we're been talking  
6 about.

7                   So cont -- next. Currently, the  
8 Colville RRC has implemented the following procedures  
9 to monitor the size and health of the Bluenose West  
10 herd.

11                   Before harvesters depart from Colville,  
12 they inform the RRC for their intended destination.  
13 And when they return from the land, they report to  
14 Colville RRC the location they travelled to, the  
15 number of caribou they observed, and the number of  
16 caribou harvested for subsistence, and any indication  
17 of caribou tracks to estimate the number of caribou  
18 not observed directly.

19                   And, you know, we also do harvests,  
20 caribou monitoring as well. We have visitors that  
21 come to hunt on our lands, and we hire monitors to go  
22 out and take pictures of the kill sites to see if  
23 they've been done properly and to make sure that we --  
24 we confront the people that are not hunting properly,  
25 make sure that it is done right, with respect.

1                   We harvest in the Arakat -- Arakaitu  
2 (phonetic), Fortune Lake, area every fall and monitor  
3 both the health and the size of the herd. And we make  
4 sure that there's -- you know, all sick animals are  
5 checked. Sometimes we terminate them. And so, you  
6 know, it's just to see if that the herd has been  
7 healthy.

8                   This winter, Colville RRC is conducting  
9 a second formal traditional survey of the Bluenose  
10 West herd in the area of Colville Lake. This will  
11 involve trappers out on the land at different  
12 locations.

13                   Approximately the -- to maximize our  
14 success, the trappers then will have to -- they're  
15 going out in strategic locations across our -- our  
16 area. So the corridor's about 150 kilometres long.  
17 They travel from Colville Lake out to supply  
18 themselves, and the trails that they use are across  
19 the corridor.

20                   So whatever places that they're not  
21 staying and they're not seeing, they observe tracks  
22 that are heading across their trails. So thus, we  
23 know the movements of the caribou.

24                   So, you know -- so the trappers, you  
25 know, they come back and we sit around the band office

1 or wherever it is. Like, all people do that. We sit  
2 together and we -- we talk about what's going on with  
3 our -- with our caribou and what they've observed, if  
4 there's any issues that they've seen, you know, not  
5 just with caribou, with all animals.

6                   You know, there's -- it's always been  
7 that way. There's always been a discussion of what  
8 you've seen out there and how things are living  
9 because it's information somebody else could use and  
10 their survival to go out there, as well.

11                   Colville RRC is seeking support from  
12 ENR and the SRRB to engage additional trappers on the  
13 corridor to conduct further ground-based monitoring  
14 activities. And we have stated that, this year, the  
15 caribou are farther away. It just takes more to get  
16 out there, but we get out there.

17                   And to do the count it's going to take  
18 a little bit more. But, you know, there was time  
19 limits that we were given, but we couldn't meet them  
20 because it's kind of still in the middle of the  
21 movement. And, you know, we're kind of in the middle  
22 of the hunting season, as well. We can't really give  
23 you adequate information until after the season's  
24 over, so we have to wait until then.

25                   The Dela Got'ine harvesters will

1 continue to follow Dela Got'ine laws which already  
2 ensure that the harvesting of Bluenose West caribou is  
3 respected, respectfully managed for subsistence  
4 without over hunting.

5                   Our Dene laws require us to -- to have  
6 respect in the greatest extent possible for what we're  
7 eating at all times. These things have been taught to  
8 us and given stories about from the day we were --  
9 pretty well the day we could talk. And, you know,  
10 some of us have grown up the knees of our -- of our --  
11 you know, our grandfathers, the older ones in our  
12 families talking about how -- how things were and how  
13 we are today.

14                   You know, just because we've been  
15 modernizing to this day doesn't mean things have  
16 stopped. We still carry on the traditional ways of  
17 understanding our -- our animals and our respect for  
18 it, and those things will always be followed.

19                   Colville Lake RRC would like to explore  
20 a number of options to ensure the Dela Got'ine laws  
21 are followed, including the possibility of engaging  
22 Dela Got'ine monitors in our area to ensure the Dela  
23 Got'ine laws are followed by all harvesters.

24                   A lot of the things that we do since  
25 the years after the first hearing and some before

1 that, all our youth get to go out on the land. They  
2 all hunt for themselves. They all hunt for their --  
3 their families, but they're taught at a young age to  
4 live out there.

5 I have two (2) nephews that are -- at  
6 the age of ten (10) they were already going hunting.  
7 Nowadays, they're -- they're fifteen (15) and sixteen  
8 (16). They go out there. They talk about what they  
9 hunted and how they hunted. And I -- you know, I'm  
10 proud to say that I could hear that they have respect  
11 for what they're doing because, as hunters, you want  
12 to respect.

13 You want to have a true appreciation of  
14 what you're doing because it's your -- it's your  
15 profession to, you know, provide for your family in  
16 the best way possible working together.

17 Colville Lake isn't trying to go it  
18 alone or diminish the role of the Board and co-  
19 management but feel strongly that the more need --  
20 more needs to be done to work together. We need  
21 research that isn't focused just on gathering data,  
22 but we need an analysis that provides a more balanced  
23 and comprehensive view that we -- than what we can do  
24 on the ground or what ENR can do from the air.

25 We want ENR to work with the Board the

1 Colville Lake RRC to use that -- that we have compiled  
2 to date to conduct a collective planning and  
3 implementation process to ensure that we are all  
4 participating to the extent -- to the greatest extent  
5 possible using science and indigenous knowledge to go  
6 forward.

7                   That -- you know, that we don't just  
8 want traditional knowledge just to be gathered once,  
9 and then you're going back to the same thing, because  
10 things change. Maybe our under -- our understanding -  
11 - maybe our stories would be the same but our  
12 understanding of the situation would -- would change  
13 by how the -- the -- our environment, and how we feel  
14 it, and our stewardship over it is changing, and what  
15 that's going to do.

16                   Colville Lake is also developing the  
17 caribou plan. We want that plan to be fully supported  
18 by our community members, by other communities, and by  
19 the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board. We will be  
20 asking our community members to approve the plan  
21 before it is made public. We will -- we will thread a  
22 -- we will set a threshold for ratification.

23                   If we don't have consensus or can't  
24 meet the threshold for approval, we'll take it back to  
25 our members until we get it right. Just right. We

1 operate on consensus, and so we gather all the  
2 information that we need. Our plan must be something  
3 that our members not only support but believe in.

4           We -- we have a way of life that's  
5 always been our own. And we have a way of life that's  
6 always been about the land, about the resources, about  
7 our -- about our -- our wildlife. And our -- the way  
8 we -- as a kid, I used to watch my -- my Elders, or at  
9 that time they were young guys. Anyway.

10           What they used to do is they used to  
11 sit on the shores with their scopes, and count the  
12 caribou and see, you know, those kind of things. And  
13 today we're doing the same thing. We're counting our  
14 caribou. We're looking at them, and we're seeing if  
15 there's any changes that -- that are happening.

16           But with our stories go -- no -- things  
17 are not outside of the norm. The only thing that's  
18 outside of the norm is that we're -- we're getting  
19 excited about things that are -- that are expected.  
20 So -- so our members understand those things. And  
21 we've always had those stories, but our members will  
22 buy into that, you know, this is our way of life.  
23 This is who we are.

24           So this is what we're going to do.  
25 Change -- Colville Lake, Sahtu Renewable Resources

1 Board, and ENR agreed in 2000 -- say December 2015 to  
2 pre -- to a process of learning and working together  
3 in the development of a caribou plan. The purpose of  
4 the process is to enable Colville Lake to continue  
5 fulfilling our responsibility as stewards.

6           We agreed to share information and  
7 analysis to support stewardship. Colville Lake  
8 knowledge will be shared subject to terms and  
9 conditions to protect Dela Got'ine intellectual  
10 property, and respect Dela Got'ine traditional laws.  
11 The Sahtu Renewable Resources Board and ENR agreed to  
12 respect our terms and conditions for intellectual  
13 property, and -- and Dela Got'ine traditional laws.

14           A lot of times we haven't worked too  
15 closely with ENR, with outside organizations, with --  
16 no -- with -- with word from our elders to not give  
17 too much because our -- our knowledge is being used.  
18 It's being taken away, and it's being used for others'  
19 benefits. So -- so we have not been working too  
20 closely with outside people for a long time so that we  
21 -- we wanted to create that protection, that cushion.

22           So whatever information that comes out  
23 of this will only be released with our expressed  
24 approval. Fundamentally we -- we need to start this  
25 conference -- conversation from a different premise on

1 the respect of Dene Metis values, and perspectives.  
2 Management isn't just a number's game. People need  
3 the caribou, and the caribou need the people.

4 Management has to be real -- a real  
5 discussion, not an exercise in getting us to agree  
6 with the GNWT, or enabling the GNWT to pick and chose  
7 from our knowledge to support their position.

8 A lot of times, the things that are  
9 going to happen out of this -- sometimes the  
10 decisions, as experience has taught us from the first  
11 ENR hearing -- or not ENR, SRRB, sorry -- is that, you  
12 know, the -- it'll go -- sometimes it happens that the  
13 ENR's -- the ENR is given the responsibility to do  
14 their things.

15 But the Renewable Resources Council  
16 have to be given those responsibilities. We have to  
17 exercise those. And we have the exer -- we have those  
18 responsibilities already. We've always had them.  
19 We've never given them up.

20 Harvesters need to share information  
21 with each other. It's not enough to -- it's not  
22 enough for biologists to tell us what they think  
23 because really, in the end, we've been -- people have  
24 been out there all the time.

25 Dene Metis people need to talk

1 together. We want people to share what they know  
2 based on their own experiences and observations.  
3 That's how we test and validate our knowledge to get  
4 the right answers using all the tools.

5                   We need to talk about all of the  
6 conservation tools. There are mo -- there are more --  
7 sorry. Just wait. There are more tools in the box  
8 than restricted -- restricting harvesting. Any  
9 harvesting limits shall be the last resort, only after  
10 the full range of other tools have been tried as part  
11 of a comprehensive plan.

12                   Conservation under the land claim means  
13 management of wildlife population and habitat to  
14 ensure the maintenance of the quality and diversity,  
15 including the long-term optimum productivity of those  
16 resources, and to ensure a sustainable harvest and its  
17 efficient utilization.

18                   So there are other things affecting  
19 caribou, things like climate change, fires, mining,  
20 exploration, and the Bluenose West calving grounds,  
21 other industries, insects and other animals like  
22 bears, muskox and wolves. These may be -- there may  
23 be other things that we have not yet considered.

24                   You know, since all these effects have  
25 been taking place, we've been -- we've had a lot of

1 oil and gas restudy or oil and gas explorations and  
2 all these different things that have been happening.  
3 You know, we need to find out how -- how these things  
4 affect animals, you know, are they too loud, those  
5 kind of things.

6                   Even using all the tools, even ENR  
7 admits that harvesting quotas do not provide an  
8 assurance of improving -- of improved outcomes for  
9 caribou population. We need to better -- we need to  
10 have better alternatives to harvesting quotas.

11                   There have been declines in the past.  
12 We need to talk about how people managed then. We  
13 need to plan our future actions together as Dene and  
14 Metis people from -- for the whole Sahtu region, not  
15 just talk about quotas on the herd, or that herd.

16                   We are in this together. We shall know  
17 what we are going to do before we take actions that  
18 have and will -- that will have long-term  
19 consequences. You know, even this hearing, you know,  
20 we have to understand fully what it's going to do to  
21 our rights.

22                   We've had rights since the beginning of  
23 our -- you know, our -- I guess our meeting, our  
24 interaction with the outside population or other  
25 people. So those rights have to be always -- we

1 always have to be protective of them. And those  
2 include, you know, going and hunting when we need to  
3 and when we can, freely.

4           Next. In conclusion, the communities  
5 must take responsibility for continuing the Dene/Metis  
6 way of life doing what we have always done and what we  
7 have a right to do. It must be our priority. Our  
8 plans must reflect that priority.

9           A lot of the times when we were talking  
10 the last day or so we've been talking about our  
11 interaction with our environment. A lot of the  
12 problems we see is that we're an important piece of  
13 the environment. The more that we don't go out there,  
14 the more things are affected. You know, we -- by  
15 being out there, we -- we change a few things. We  
16 manage on a couple things.

17           As Dene/Metis people, we must do what  
18 we -- we know is right and be full participants in  
19 bringing our knowledge and our values forward when we  
20 make decisions about how to manage our relationship  
21 with caribou, not just with the caribou, but with all  
22 animals and with all wildlife in our -- with our  
23 areas.

24           We must stop relying on -- entirely on  
25 ENR for research and monitoring data. Our knowledge

1 must be recognized. The RRC and the Board must be  
2 fully staffed, implemented and empowered to carry out  
3 meaningful co-management. A lot of the stuff that we  
4 talk about is -- you know, we need these things fully  
5 operational. We can't keep on blaming them for things  
6 that they have no control of. You know, they -- we're  
7 responsible. And that responsibility lies with us,  
8 and we should keep that.

9                   So that's -- I think that's the end,  
10 yeah. Oh, my mouth is dry. Anyway, we'll just --  
11 yeah, thank you. Wilbert has a couple things to...

12                   CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON: Just to add  
13 onto -- on what he's talking about. How the caribou  
14 acts now, it's very different. And the way they  
15 migrated here, it's very different, too, because all  
16 the bulls around Colville Lake, it's all bulls.  
17 There's no cow and calves near Colville.

18                   And the way we hunt now, it's a little  
19 different, too, now. The caribou are more smarter,  
20 so. The last place I went out, I failed. I never --  
21 I never used to fail. I'm just telling you a story so  
22 you understand how...

23

24                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

25

1 CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON: Just to -- just  
2 to tell a story how the patterns have changed, how  
3 caribou change, and the migration. We know where it  
4 comes from. We know where it came from. They usually  
5 come around and meet the cows towards the calving  
6 ground, but this year somehow they must have missed  
7 it. But then they end up in Colville. All the bulls  
8 are ahead. Usually they're behind pushing the cows  
9 forward.

10 I don't think -- I don't think anybody  
11 would notice that because you're not out there. These  
12 are the kind of things we see. That's the kind of  
13 things we look at. We look for the patterns, how it's  
14 changed.

15 And when I went out to hunt for caribou  
16 it was harder to get, like, but then it took me two  
17 (2) days to figure it out. And I went out there. And  
18 it took five (5) minutes to find the caribou. That's  
19 how fast I figured out what to do. And I shot what I  
20 needed.

21 So those are the kind of things that  
22 you really have to rely on hunters. That's how the  
23 caribou acts. They tell you something when they do  
24 that. And David touched on a lot of things that we're  
25 already doing, but something that he's read a couple

1 times he knows by heart, so we're glad that we keep  
2 making him do that.

3                   And he hardly goes out, but he goes out  
4 there once in a while. And he's learned a lot from  
5 us. And he's one (1) of our computer whizzes. That's  
6 why he's with us, too, so. And that's why we always  
7 use him. And we're glad that he's always working with  
8 us and the Elders.

9                   And he's raise -- he was raised with  
10 Elders where his mother used to stay, in Opwoxin  
11 (phonetic). And he said he used to be around a lot of  
12 Elder. That's why he learned a lot. He was educated  
13 through that. So I just wanted to say thank you for  
14 him bringing this up, and just to let you know about  
15 how the caribou is acting now.

16                   Right there, you're not out there now.  
17 The only way you're going to find out is you can go  
18 out there by chopper. Observe. See something that  
19 I'm telling you already. But I'm just saying now if  
20 you go out there, I'm already telling you what's  
21 happening. But you're going to be flying out there,  
22 and then making sure, Hey, I heard that story already.

23                   That's why he's saying to work  
24 together, do things together. That way you're not  
25 spending so much money and doing all these things just

1 to validate what we're saying. So like when my  
2 brother, they went out, it took them two (2) days to  
3 out to caribou, but it took me less than one (1) time  
4 to go out there to shoot my caribou. But that herd is  
5 there, and it's all bulls, and nice and fat.

6 And I know where it is, but I'm not  
7 telling nobody. So I just wanted to share that.

8 Masi. Thank you.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Colville Lake, do  
10 you have any more? Okay, go ahead.

11 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Thank you, Mr.  
12 Chair. I guess we're in the line of fire, so anybody  
13 wants to ask questions, you know, we're -- we're here.  
14 I think our Elders is going to provide some -- a  
15 little bit of their thoughts and whatever.

16 Just a long story short, you know, all  
17 we're doing is we're exercising our right under the  
18 land claims. That gives us that right to -- to do  
19 things for ourselves. And so let our -- let our  
20 Elders say something.

21 ELDER HYCINTHE KOCHON: Okay.  
22 Hycinthe.

23

24 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

25

1                   ELDER HYCINTHE KOCHON:    We -- whatever  
2 you're talking about, we understand completely what  
3 you are talking about. All the things you are talking  
4 about is what that is really important. We've been  
5 talking very talk -- talk a lot about this -- the --  
6 we talk too often about this caribou. I feel that  
7 we've talked too often about it.

8                   The -- all -- the -- the journey that  
9 our -- our Elders took, we are on that same journey on  
10 the road -- same road, and we -- it's straight, and  
11 that's what we're following. And something else that  
12 is touching it, just like it's -- if we are walking on  
13 the same way as the -- the road that was used by our  
14 ancestors, and we -- we would -- and today it is --  
15 it's just like it's split.

16                   And we're talking so often about it's -  
17 - the -- the animals have been here for a long -- for  
18 -- been here for millions of years. It -- and they --  
19 and they've been here for -- on this land for that  
20 many millions of years, and yet they have -- nobody's  
21 said that they've disappeared. The Elders of the past  
22 never said they disappeared.

23                   And when you say something like that,  
24 when you say it's disappeared, the Elders never talk  
25 like that, because that -- when you voice something

1 like that, then it will happen. And so we don't ever  
2 talk -- we never say that it's gone, because those --  
3 the voicing of those word will become the truth.

4                   And so we nev -- and they always -- the  
5 Elders tell us never to say stuff like that. That  
6 they -- it's going to disappear, because it will come  
7 true. And he said that they talk about everything,  
8 the Elders. We -- we can't leave aside the way in  
9 which we've been -- we lived, and the way that we've  
10 been able to sustain ourselves.

11                   And what was said at the treaties, and  
12 we -- we are making sure that we hold those -- those  
13 words with us, as well. And when I'm thinking about  
14 all of this, just like we're -- over-talk about  
15 things, especially the animals, and when the animals -  
16 - they say that the animals are beyond anything we  
17 understand.

18                   He said that I under -- that everything  
19 that is there, it's almost like it's painted. It was  
20 created by somebody. We don't know anything about  
21 that. And we can't live by ourselves. We don't und -  
22 - know why it's there, or how it's there, but we can't  
23 -- and we can't put any of our own stuff on the  
24 animals on the way. It's like we are proud.

25                   And -- and the animals are the way they

1 are because as -- as if they are proud as a people.  
2 And yet it's important for us as a people to be  
3 respectful of them and watch over there.

4                   And even though in the -- in the past  
5 they said that there is no caribou, but they would  
6 come upon them. And my -- our Elders, my grandfather  
7 and then my father, they used to go out on the land,  
8 and they were able to hunt and get -- and they were  
9 the conservative -- cons -- conservationist.

10                   And not only that, they didn't -- they  
11 didn't even throw even a bone away. All of this was  
12 taught to us. All of this was told to each of us as -  
13 - and this is for me, when we talk as -- as much about  
14 it as we are right now, sometimes it confuses me.

15                   A question -- I'm -- it raises  
16 questions in me because, as a people, we always had  
17 held the -- the way that the laws of the -- the  
18 caribou. And we've been holding onto it for a -- for  
19 a long, long time. That's how we've been able to  
20 sustain ourselves as a people to today.

21                   And all the things that we -- all the  
22 words that we -- we gather today, we -- it should be  
23 something that we use as part of the things that we're  
24 doing. We are a people of -- of the land.

25                   We are -- and -- and he said, If we

1 were the only ones that were here, we wouldn't be  
2 talking about anything. He said that the -- the non -  
3 - the non-indigenous people always want things to be  
4 their own way, and this is why these discussions are  
5 happening.

6                   And back into the Indian Brotherhood  
7 days, I remember the -- the talks that were going on  
8 then. And we -- and they -- even then, people are --  
9 said that we have to make sure that we maintain the  
10 laws and the -- the -- and the ways of our people  
11 close to ourselves to lead us into the lives that we  
12 lead today.

13                   And for me, it's just like we've  
14 overstating what -- the import -- the -- the things  
15 about the -- the -- and the -- the -- about the  
16 caribou, and that it is important to talk about it,  
17 because then -- yeah. We can't let go of the -- the  
18 way that we live, because it is our -- our law.

19                   And the way we live our lives is our  
20 law. And -- and the children of today do not know the  
21 -- the kind of religion. They don't -- and so it's  
22 really -- and so it's really important to teach them  
23 how to live on the land and stuff like that. That  
24 will be important to them.

25                   And some women are very powerful, and -

1 - and lots of young boys, the young men, are the --  
2 might be very powerful and very -- but we don't know  
3 that today. In the old days, we used to be able to  
4 see a young woman, person, young people working. We  
5 know that they are gifted people, and we always  
6 admired that about them.

7                   And then we don't -- we don't watch  
8 that any more. We don't even know which one is the  
9 one that is a gifted child. And so it's really  
10 important that we talk to them and help them.

11                   And things are changing right now. And  
12 for me, it's just like the things are the same, but --  
13 but not quite. In the wintertime, for example, I'm  
14 not walking any more. Yester -- since last year, I  
15 haven't been out -- out there.

16                   When I was thirteen (13) years old, it  
17 was -- since then, I've been trapping. And last year  
18 is the first time that I didn't go out. And I -- I --  
19 it really bothers me. I really wanted to go out  
20 there. That's what the -- I'm used to. That is the  
21 way I am.

22                   I used to get up and do -- get up and -  
23 - in the -- in the morning when I got up, it's a way  
24 of the old people. It's time to get out and do  
25 something. And -- and then you put on your shoes, and

1 you get out, and do out there -- go out there.

2                   And -- and when you listen to the  
3 Elders, their words are truth. And I like listening  
4 to the words of the Elders, because it is so beautiful  
5 to listen to and pleasing to you. And it's because of  
6 their words and their -- their teachings that we have  
7 walked as a people this long.

8                   And it's really important to make sure  
9 -- it's -- it's really important to give these gifts  
10 that we know to the young people of today to make sure  
11 that we are proud of them. And so it's important to  
12 talk to them, and those are the kind of thoughts that  
13 I have.

14                   That -- so even though -- if -- he says  
15 that when you give words to young people, sometimes  
16 they are able to grasp it, and live it -- live their  
17 lives by it, but some maybe able to do it, some may  
18 not be able to do that. I want to talk about these  
19 things, and I -- I want -- I'm very thankful that I've  
20 been able to speak to all of you. And it's all --  
21 it's really nice to be able to say what you think  
22 here.

23                   And what -- what is being expressed is  
24 also very good, and it then allows us to think about  
25 it, to reflect on what is being said. And so I want -

1 - what I'm expressing to you is what we -- we -- I  
2 wanted to express that to you. We've been able -- our  
3 accommodations are really good. The feeding is really  
4 good. And as Elders, the young -- when we are peop --  
5 people this age, we are -- it's really -- when we --  
6 people take good care of us. It's really, really  
7 important to us, and it -- it pleases us very much.

8

9 (PORTION NOT INTERPRETED FROM  
10 NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

11

12 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

13

14 ELDER HYCINTHE KOCHON: When -- when  
15 you look at the young people, you wish they were like  
16 you in -- in the sense that they were able to grasp  
17 the knowledge, and the culture of our people. I don't  
18 talk very often about -- I -- the -- what I'm talking  
19 about is that -- the -- the caribou. It just -- it  
20 feels like -- I feel like there's just too much being  
21 said about it right now, and so I'm thankful. Thank  
22 you very much.

23

24 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

25

1 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi. Any more  
2 Colville Lake?

3 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: We have one (1)  
4 more Elder that would like to put in their short  
5 insight.

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. (NORTH SLAVEY  
7 LANGUAGE SPOKEN).

8 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: His name is John  
9 Blancho Sr. He's going to sing for you first.

10

11 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

12

13 ELDER JOHN BLANCHO: I'm going to  
14 speak a little bit. I can't go away from a meeting  
15 without saying something, and I'm very pleased to be  
16 amongst you people again. Thank you.

17 I am -- I've been thinking of -- having  
18 thoughts. This living thing that we've been talking  
19 about, when I was a young child, I saw the first  
20 migration of the caribou, and it was -- it was on the  
21 lake. The -- you couldn't even see the lake, there  
22 was that many. And that year -- and for one (1) whole  
23 year, it was there.

24 And then following that, it -- and the  
25 -- and then there was caribou there, but sometimes it

1 would disappear. And then for a long period of time,  
2 it -- it disappeared. It -- it -- we'd never -- it  
3 never was there, but we never ever talked about it in  
4 terms of it disappearing. When there is people that  
5 shot moose, then we were very grateful with that. And  
6 then when they brought all these things back, like the  
7 things that they got off the land, they always  
8 distributed amongst the community members.

9           In -- right now, people are saying that  
10 the caribou is disappearing. I don't believe -- I  
11 don't believe -- in -- in me, I don't believe -- I  
12 don't even think that the caribou is disappearing.  
13 When they are going to travel, they're going to  
14 travel. And if they're going to reappear, they will  
15 reappear.

16           And when I was a young person when the  
17 caribou lessened -- only now they -- they say that  
18 even though it -- it didn't disappear even then. It -  
19 - it keeps coming back. It keeps reappearing even  
20 though in the past sometimes, there was less, but it  
21 always reappeared. And then when the migration, and  
22 sometimes one (1) -- two (2) different come -- like,  
23 from three (3) different directions, the migration  
24 would come.

25           And now today, they seem to have gone

1 in a different route this year. And the -- and so  
2 people have been going to a totally different place to  
3 get the -- the caribou now. When the caribou listen -  
4 - when it listened, the -- the -- we've always been  
5 told that we've never -- we never put -- that we never  
6 burn the bones of the caribou because the Elders  
7 believe that, if you be -- if you burn the bones, then  
8 they would disappear. And not only that, even you  
9 cannot touch it.

10                   And -- and a long time ago, the Elders  
11 used to tell us Elders that, if you shoot it with a  
12 stick even once, it will go away. I remember these  
13 kind of things that were being said back when I was  
14 young.

15                   The Elders -- when we were really young  
16 and when we saw the migration of the caribou the  
17 Elders always used to tell us to be careful, to be  
18 very respectful around them. And then they used to  
19 make sure that we killed -- made our kill in the  
20 morning. And not only that, the Elders really helped  
21 us a lot.

22                   Not only our fathers, but all the  
23 Elders of the community would make sure that we  
24 understood the laws of the caribou, and that's what I  
25 remember. And the things that the -- the tagging of

1 the caribou, for us, we think that when you put tags  
2 on the caribou they probably really suffer from it.  
3 And -- and they are probably not very pleased about  
4 that, as well.

5                   Those tags that they put on the... And  
6 they -- they look at the tags and stuff and say, This  
7 is where it's travelling and this is where it's  
8 travelling, and stuff like that. And so -- and so  
9 it's going to that one (1) place because it doesn't  
10 like the co -- the -- the tags -- the collars that is  
11 placed on it, so it's telling you this is where it's  
12 going to go and that's where -- what it's doing.

13                   And they want to -- and they want to  
14 count the -- the caribou. And they came across -- and  
15 -- and they -- with a plane we came upon the caribou,  
16 and -- and they were all running. The caribou were  
17 all running and he flew right above it. And they're -  
18 - and they were writing down on the piece of paper  
19 this is how many caribou there is, this is how many  
20 caribou there is, and they never even counted it. How  
21 -- how is it that they say that they count the caribou  
22 when it's moving and all they're doing is writing it  
23 down?

24                   In 1971, around the -- around the lake  
25 there was a lot of caribou. And then one (1) -- one

1 (1) day I was walking out -- one (1) -- I was walking  
2 out looking for caribou and I -- and there was a wind  
3 coming upon me. And -- and so we said that that is  
4 way -- where the caribou is -- should be.

5                   So we went over this big muskeg area,  
6 and on the other side we came upon a lake. And we saw  
7 -- and we saw -- and we saw six (6) caribou there.  
8 This was flying above it, and six (6) caribou came.  
9 And three (3) ran towards us. And we shot all three  
10 (3) of them. And we don't know what they did. And  
11 they grabbed...

12

13                   (BRIEF PAUSE)

14

15                   ELDER JOHN BLANCHO: For us, it was  
16 just like I -- I am -- when -- the areas that the  
17 caribou suffer, they don't go back there. And  
18 wherever the tracks of the white people or tracks of  
19 people, they don't go in that area, as well.

20                   And -- and on the second -- we went  
21 over to the area where we always saw caribou, and I  
22 would shoot one (1). And right beside there was a  
23 road. And the -- and -- and the road that -- the road  
24 was -- the -- the vehicles were making a lot of -- a  
25 lot of noise, and -- and the caribou came out after

1 that. And then they left, and they -- it was really  
2 difficult to know where they went to.

3                   And me and Yemadea (phonetic), we were  
4 talking about that. And today, now there's -- and --  
5 and there is -- where the white man hasn't gone is  
6 where the caribou is. And they don't disappear.  
7 Every year they come back, and sometimes it's -- if it  
8 is to be, they may reappear in abundance but the  
9 Elders, this is the way that they used to talk.

10                   When there's a lot of meat they always  
11 told us, Don't say that there is a lot of meat because  
12 -- also especially in the wintertime. They cautioned  
13 us not to say that there was a lot of meat, and -- and  
14 as a young people -- person I was -- always heard  
15 that.

16                   And -- and they said that if you talk  
17 about meat in terms of richness of it and the  
18 abundance of it, especially in the cold weather, they  
19 always used to tell us not to do that. These are all  
20 like laws of how you go caribou hunting, and your  
21 attitude. And the traditional knowledge and values of  
22 the caribou.

23                   I wanted to talk a little bit about  
24 this, and that's all I wanted to say. Thank you.

25

1 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

2

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. If that's it  
4 for Colville Lake, we can start with questions from  
5 the parties. So that's Tulita, Deline, and ENR so --  
6 and Fort Good Hope. Okay. Maybe we could start with  
7 ENR.

8 MS. LYNDA YONGE: Thank you, Mr.  
9 Chair. Lynda Yonge, for ENR. I'm wondering if we  
10 could have a couple of moments before we ask our  
11 questions? Thank you.

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Break is --  
13 take a few minutes break? Okay. Let's take a ten  
14 (10) minute break.

15

16 --- Upon recessing at 8:30 p.m.

17 --- Upon resuming at 8:41 p.m.

18

19 QUESTION PERIOD:

20 THE CHAIRPERSON: Colville Lake  
21 delegation, the first set of questions will be coming  
22 from ENR, and then Deline, and then Tulita, and Fort  
23 Good Hope, and the Sahtu youth. And then the last one  
24 would be the -- the Board. So, Colville Lake, are you  
25 ready? Okay. Interpreters? Okay. ENR, go ahead.

1 MS. LYNDA YONGE: Thank you, Mr.  
2 Chair. Lynda Yonge, for ENR. We'd very much like to  
3 thank the Colville panel for their presentation, and  
4 we do look forward to working with you on -- on this  
5 in the future.

6 You talked about the plan, the Colville  
7 plan that you're developing. We're wondering when you  
8 think that plan might be ready, and whether or not you  
9 see any role for ENR in either developing that plan or  
10 supporting that plan once it's developed?

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Colville Lake...?

12 MR. DAVID CODZI: We were thinking  
13 about maybe April, May-ish. What we're trying to do  
14 is we're trying to wait until after the -- you know,  
15 our -- our time would -- that -- that season is ended  
16 before we truly have a good picture because it's kind  
17 of -- to give you earlier -- something earlier would  
18 kind of be half the picture.

19 And, yeah, we do look forward to  
20 working together. It's that we have to make sure that  
21 we're adequately protected and, you know, just to make  
22 sure that that's always respected, yeah.

23 THE CHAIRPERSON: Go ahead, Colville  
24 Lake.

25 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Just following

1 that, we -- we did have a meeting with SSRB (sic) and  
2 an ENR representative. And we are developing the  
3 plans as to the go-forward, so we have a meeting set  
4 up with the biologist from Norman Wells. So we're  
5 going to meet sometime next week. And we'll start  
6 developing our plans to go forward, so. Thank you.

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Joseph.  
8 Anybody else from Colville Lake want to respond? Go  
9 ahead, ENR.

10 MS. LYNDA YONGE: Thank you, Mr.  
11 Chair. Lynda Yonge, from ENR. And so just to  
12 clarify, you're talking about April or May of 2016 for  
13 that plan?

14 MR. DAVID CODZI: 2025. No. Yeah, 20  
15 -- yeah. Yeah, this year.

16 MS. LYNDA YONGE: So the 2025. You  
17 want to wait until you're an Elder until you put it  
18 in? Thank you for that.

19 Okay, our second question is about you  
20 have a series of monitoring projects that you're doing  
21 on the Bluenose West and a number of pla -- a plan for  
22 the Bluenose West and quite a bit of information on  
23 the Bluenose West. And so we'll wait for that plan.  
24 And -- and Heather will work with you in whatever way  
25 that works out.

1                   We're wondering in the meantime if you  
2 have any ideas about what we should be doing about the  
3 Bluenose East herd?

4                   THE CHAIRPERSON:   Colville Lake,  
5 question regarding Bluenose East, do you have any  
6 ideas?

7                   MR. DAVID CODZI:   There's quite a bit  
8 of ideas.  And I think we have to kind of work with  
9 Deline on that because they're the First Nation that  
10 kind of work on the plan and I think we'd work better  
11 with them, and then go from there.  We don't really  
12 want to jump over what they're doing.  We have to  
13 respect what they're doing already with Bluenose East.

14

15                   And we do hunt in the area of the  
16 district, but that's only where -- in the district.  
17 So I think that's we'll do first, and then work with  
18 you guys in trying to develop all together.  Does  
19 that answer your question?

20                   THE CHAIRPERSON:   Yeah, go ahead,  
21 Lynda.

22                   MS. LYNDA YONGE:   Than you, Mr. Chair.  
23 Lynda Yonge, for ENR.  Just one (1) last question.  
24 We're wondering whether your presentation will be put  
25 on the public record.

1 THE CHAIRPERSON: The question was  
2 asked if your presentation could be put on the public  
3 register, the record.

4 MR. DAVID CODZI: I -- I think it has  
5 to be because we're doing it right now, right? Yeah.

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Yes, I think that's  
7 already been done. Yes. Oh, it's being in the  
8 process right now. Colville Lake, yeah, it's okay?

9 MR. DAVID CODZI: I made a couple of  
10 references to Dela Got'ine. It's the name of our  
11 people, just to clarify that.

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Go ahead,  
13 Joseph.

14 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Just to further  
15 clarify, you know, collectively with Fort Good Hope  
16 we're called K'asho Dene. And to be more specific,  
17 we're called Dela Got'ine. And to interpret Dela  
18 Got'ine, it means the most northerly people that are  
19 way over here.

20 So we -- we took that and we applied to  
21 our -- our south government, so we call it south  
22 govern -- Dela Got'ine law or Dela Got'ine. Thank  
23 you.

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, ENR...?

25 MS. LYNDA YONGE: Thank you, Mr.

1 Chair. Lynda Yonge, for ENR. We have no more  
2 questions.

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi. Okay, the  
4 next one, Deline, questions for Colville lake?  
5 Walter...?

6 MR. WALTER BAYHA: Yeah, Masi,  
7 Michael. The -- I think one (1) of -- some of the  
8 things that -- in the presentation the -- they  
9 referred to the -- to the 2007 public hearing for the  
10 Bluenose West herd. They do have -- the Board must  
11 have information on that process and the decision that  
12 was made then.

13 So I think I'm -- I want to just make  
14 sure that information, you know -- Dela Got'ine  
15 brought it up, so you must remember that we -- the  
16 hearing today is about Bluenose East.

17 But when people bring up other -- other  
18 hearings, then you have a chance to -- to speak to it.  
19 And that's what I'm doing. I'm just reminding the --  
20 the Board that we do have a -- a hearing. A decision  
21 was made in 2007, and, you know, you may want to look  
22 at how well that's working.

23 You know, there is a quota on the  
24 Bluenose West. I want to also mention that the quota  
25 -- Deline is not part of that quota. So I think I --

1 I think the -- the Board must review that. And I  
2 think it may help to see how well that's working.

3                   That's one (1) piece of information.  
4 The other one is I tried -- I wrote a -- a whole bunch  
5 of things down, and then I -- I realized that, you  
6 know, Dela Got'ine are -- are working towards coming  
7 out with their own plan. Like Lynda was saying, it  
8 would be nice to see that.

9                   I'm -- I'm always so interested in the  
10 -- you know, the laws of the Dene people. I mean, we  
11 talk so much about laws of the Dene people, and I ask  
12 myself all the time, Well, what are they? And I  
13 think, in our plan, we -- I went over it, and I talked  
14 about those laws.

15                   And I think those are the things that I  
16 would be really interested in with the -- with the --  
17 the Col -- or the Dela Got'ine if their plan comes up,  
18 because one (1) of the things I've learned, that  
19 whenever there's certain laws that we talk about, it's  
20 similar, pretty well similar across the territories,  
21 across even North America.

22                   In fact, a lot -- lot of stories that I  
23 -- I've looked at are similar. Maybe a few things  
24 that are different, because different people tell from  
25 different areas. But the main stories is usually the

1 same.

2                   So I would really encourage -- and I  
3 think one (1) of the things that we've done with this  
4 plan is really -- we've really dug hard to get those  
5 laws put down on paper. It's a difficult thing, but  
6 that's what we've done. And sometimes with some of  
7 those things create conflicts.

8                   And I think one (1) of the things that  
9 they mentioned was the fact that they -- you know,  
10 it's their information, so they take ownership of it.  
11 And we do the same thing. So that I ask that -- and -  
12 - and I think Joseph mentioned that this plan is --  
13 is, you know -- if -- if it's on the news and it's all  
14 over the place, well, I think we're -- we're fine with  
15 it. There's nothing that we want to hide.

16                   So I think what we did is we put names  
17 beside the information that we have, okay? And that's  
18 one (1) of the things I -- I always said to -- to my  
19 people and right -- even at the beginning. A lot of  
20 the information that I have, especially about Dene  
21 laws, comes from my grandfather. And I stated that  
22 right at the beginning.

23                   There is a -- there's a lot of concerns  
24 and issues about collective information. But again,  
25 the plan is -- you know, one (1) of the -- one (1) of

1 the -- we -- we talk about how these things are  
2 triggered.

3                   And one (1) of them is that we --  
4 eventually, we all have to deal with the quotas,  
5 quotas coming down from -- not from Deline, because  
6 that came -- came about. And I think that I -- you  
7 know, just talking about my -- my Elder that got  
8 concerned very much, I think he -- he thought that we  
9 were talking -- we were accepting a quota. Well, no,  
10 and then he thought that we -- maybe we had something  
11 to do with it.

12                   Well, maybe we do in terms of going to  
13 the -- the territorial meetings, and meetings where I  
14 said all of the First Nations are there. The last  
15 meeting we went to, all of the First Nations were  
16 there. And I think when the ENR did the presentation  
17 you seen, you know, they come out with a number like  
18 nine hundred and fifty (950). This is what we're  
19 going to take from the Bluenose East.

20                   So you -- you line them up. We start  
21 out with the -- the -- Nunavut. They're going to take  
22 so much. Tlicho is going to take so much. Deline is  
23 going to take so much. First Nat -- or the Metis --  
24 South Slave Metis are going to take some, and you go  
25 on along the line.

1           And that's develop -- if you go look at  
2 it, that comes from co-management boards like this one  
3 here we're talking to. They have the authority to  
4 make -- to make decisions for their region. You  
5 cannot say -- you cannot say to Deline because -- and  
6 sometimes maybe that's confusion, the -- this plan  
7 created those quotas. No, our plan has nothing to do  
8 with those quotas. Hopefully our plan helps us deal  
9 with those quotas in the future, and I think they're  
10 coming down very quickly.

11           The other thing I want to mention is  
12 the ACCWM was mentioned a few times. I was part of  
13 the -- the -- I used to work -- or I was Chair at the  
14 time when the -- this organization came into being.  
15 The ACCWM does not have any powers. It doesn't make  
16 decisions. The only thing it does is share  
17 information with other co-management boards,  
18 especially Chairs, so that they don't make decisions  
19 that is too far to live with.

20           That's all it does. It doesn't -- it  
21 doesn't make -- you can get rid of it tomorrow. I  
22 think sometimes other organizations, and I think ENR -  
23 - it -- it became convenient for ENR to use it,  
24 because you had all of the Chairs there. But that's  
25 not possible. You can't have -- you can't bring all

1 the boards together. You -- you can't afford to do  
2 that.

3                   So I want to clarify that. It does not  
4 have any powers. It's just a -- a cooperative  
5 agreement, exactly what it -- it says, you know, a  
6 cooperative agreement to -- to make sure that the  
7 wildlife authorities don't make decisions that are too  
8 far out, and they do talk to each other.

9                   There's a lot of information on those  
10 slides. I had -- I wrote a few things, but I think a  
11 lot of it has to do with -- with our processes, our  
12 land claims. Right now, I'm -- I'm really interested  
13 in our own plan, the -- the Dene people, or certain,  
14 our Elders, because that's -- that's what's missing.  
15 I think that was mentioned a few times, about TK --  
16 our information as Dene people, that information has  
17 to get -- get to be on paper so that our Board can use  
18 it as information to make decisions. That, I'm  
19 interested in.

20                   That is very important for me as a Dene  
21 person, and this plan that we have provides that.  
22 There's -- like I said, there's a lot of information,  
23 but I -- I think -- I don't really have a -- a  
24 question. I think I have comments about making sure  
25 the information is correct, or at least, the way I

1 understand it.

2                   So I think that's -- that's all I  
3 wanted to say. You know, I'm -- I'm glad that the --  
4 Colville Lake has made a presentation. And I think  
5 we're -- I think we're -- we're at nine o'clock now  
6 when we -- that -- I talk anymore, and we'll be here  
7 till ten o'clock, I think.

8                   But anyway, thank you, Mr. Chair, and  
9 thank you to Colville Lake for their presentation.  
10 Masi.

11                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Walter. Okay,  
12 the next community, Tulita? Frank...?

13                   Oh, sorry, Frank -- no, Joseph,  
14 Colville Lake?

15                   MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Thank you, Mr.  
16 Chair. I just wanted to respond a little bit on what  
17 Walter's saying. The 2007, you know, we said this was  
18 a learning curve for us, so we had to make sure that  
19 it was up there so that people clearly understand what  
20 the intent of the -- the hearing was and the results,  
21 et cetera.

22                   So we mentioned in our -- our comments  
23 that we have learned from that. So now we are  
24 prepared. We do have our -- our people here to -- to  
25 respond to -- to questions or the go-forward.

1                   And we -- we did indicate that this is  
2 a learning process for us. And the plan that we're  
3 developing, we're doing it together with ENR and  
4 representative of -- of the SSRB (sic), so it's not  
5 going to be done in isolation. And the only thing  
6 that we asked of each party is that -- that some of  
7 the contents of the -- the plan has to be intellectual  
8 property. It is something that will stay with us. We  
9 don't want it to go out and -- and somebody use that  
10 information later on against us.

11                   So I just want...

12

13                                           (BRIEF PAUSE)

14

15                   MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: And, you know, you  
16 mentioned that -- that there's a total allowable  
17 harvest in the -- our Bluenose West. We didn't agree  
18 to any total allowable harvest in our area, so we --  
19 we do not believe that we're under any quota system.  
20 So thank you.

21                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi. Okay, we have  
22 Tulita. Frank Andrew...?

23                   CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Frank Andrew,  
24 from Tulita.

25

1 (BRIEF PAUSE)

2

3 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: You know, you put  
4 your plan together. That's good. But the other thing  
5 -- not but, but the thing that -- when I talk about  
6 the plan with Walter, about the same things, because  
7 we have a -- a right to hunt within the Sahtu region,  
8 so, you know, we -- we have to think about that. We  
9 all have to work together on that.

10 You know, even though we're far away,  
11 when I look at the allocation before on the permits,  
12 there was permits given to the Colville Lake. There's  
13 permits given to Fort Good Hope. There's permits  
14 given to Norman Wells. And Tulita, we didn't get  
15 anything.

16 So at that time, I said, I think it  
17 means that we -- we still can hunt anywhere we want,  
18 because we had no tags. So it looks the same for me  
19 today yet, you know. And I also see the same thing  
20 with Deline, you know. So for Tulita, it -- it look  
21 like the door's wide open to hunt right in the Sahtu  
22 region. That's all I'm going to say. Thank you.

23 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Frank.  
24 Response, anybody? Colville Lake...? Okay, go ahead,  
25 Joseph.

1                   MR. JOSEPH KOCHON:    You mentioned the  
2 -- the Colville Lake plan.  The plan is to how we're  
3 going to work together to -- to count caribou and  
4 provide data to -- to the general public.  Over the  
5 years, ENR has been doing it themselves, and we didn't  
6 feel comfortable.

7                   So now that we're in the -- in the  
8 2016, we've agreed to work with ENR-SSRB (sic) so that  
9 we can develop -- develop some of the -- the data  
10 together.  We want to be involved.  We can't always be  
11 observers in the back or the only time we get the  
12 information is after the count.  And sometime, we're  
13 kind of scratching the back of our heads.

14                  Where's our input?  Have we been out  
15 there to -- you know, to be a part of that count?  We  
16 -- we haven't been flying around in, you know, the --  
17 in the planes and how they've conducted their count.

18                  Over the years, ENR has provided a lot  
19 of information how they've conducted their count.  And  
20 so this time around, we're saying, We want to be a  
21 part of it.  We want to work together to develop it.

22                  Maybe putting restrictions and  
23 everything is maybe not the answer.  Our people have  
24 said that really clearly, so those are the ideas that  
25 we want to explore together.  Maybe there's no need to

1 do that. And that's what we mean -- mean by working  
2 together.

3                   Today's day and age, everything is  
4 written down. It's written right into our Sahtu  
5 comprehensive land claims, and we do have rights  
6 inside there that we want to make sure is used and  
7 used the right way.

8                   So far, it's been relaxed. We haven't  
9 used it. We haven't exercised our right. So now  
10 we're saying we want to exercise our right to be a  
11 part of a process, to be a part of collecting data for  
12 our people.

13                   You know, us, we live our life on the  
14 land, we're out there. You know, even though we're on  
15 the table here, whenever we have the chance, we're out  
16 there. We know if a tree fell, no matter how big the  
17 land is. Those are the things we know. If the ice  
18 has changed, we know.

19                   So it was wrong for us to see just a --  
20 a one (1) sided approach. And now we want to change  
21 that, said, Let's do it together. Maybe we'll make it  
22 more accurate results for not only the Sahtu people,  
23 but if all regions can -- can do that, where they're  
24 participating.

25                   The only stumbling block is that the

1 communities are not given adequate funding. Whenever  
2 reports and everything comes out, you have biologists,  
3 you have the doctors that are presenting things to  
4 you. And sometime the -- some of the -- the -- some  
5 of the interpretations are not fully explained and --  
6 into English to -- to our language. So sometimes,  
7 there's miscommunication.

8                   So that's the simplest way we can put  
9 it is that we want to be involved, not only ourselves.  
10 We're hoping every community be involved, because this  
11 is your life. You have a right, so we want you to  
12 exercise it.

13                   Whatever plan we develop is what our  
14 ancestors have done. We've always -- we've been here  
15 for a long time, the people before us. We have a -- a  
16 -- we have a life. We have a way of monitoring our  
17 caribou. We have a way of taking care of it.

18                   Those principles and laws are instilled  
19 in us. It's right into our hearts and into our souls.  
20 Every Dene person in this room, their ancestors have  
21 given them that knowledge. So that knowledge is what  
22 we want to bring forward, to work hand-in-hand with  
23 the sci -- scientific knowledge.

24                   For far too long, that information has  
25 kept behind, because it's not written into a modern

1 context. So that's what we're going to do. That's  
2 where we're going to get our thesis and start writing  
3 what you have in your scientific knowledge and what we  
4 have in our -- ourself. Thank you.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Go ahead.

6 CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON: Thank you, Mr.  
7 Chair. Chief Wilbert Kochon. I just wanted to answer  
8 Frank that it seems like they're always in the middle,  
9 caught in the middle of where to hunt and where not to  
10 hunt

11 But when I went to Tulita, so people  
12 asked me if they can come to my community and do some  
13 hunting. And I said, Go ahead, come around, but come  
14 to us first, and we'll allow you to go hunting out  
15 there, but as long as we're with them, because they  
16 don't know our land. And when people come to our land  
17 to hunt, we -- we enjoy that. We'll never stop a  
18 First Nation from hunting in our traditional lands.

19 The Sahtu claim is signed. It's all  
20 for the whole Sahtu. The only reason they have  
21 district is for economic benefits, not for wildlife.  
22 And so for that reason, yes, we'll allow you to come.  
23 But if you come, we'll help you out there, but you can  
24 only have one (1) caribou. I'm just kidding.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: That's very generous

1 of you, Colville Lake. Masi.

2 Questions? Any -- got you -- oh, go  
3 ahead, Frank.

4 CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: The -- the reason  
5 I'm saying that is because the allocation of a tag has  
6 already happened, you know, but I know that the people  
7 refused it, you know, but we didn't get anything in  
8 Tulita. So it seems to be like that from here, from  
9 the other side, even though we have the rights to hunt  
10 within the Sahtu region.

11 That's why I'm saying that, you know,  
12 because some day -- you never know. We might be over  
13 there. I know it's a good offer, but I don't know how  
14 you guys feel about it across the table. Thank you.

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. I just want  
16 to say something. I know this is a Bluenose East  
17 hearing, so I don't know -- like, we seem to be  
18 talking about Bluenose West and -- go ahead.

19 MR. DAVID CODZI: I think right now  
20 we're talking about -- oh. My name is David Codzi,  
21 president of the Ayoni Keh Land Corporation.

22 I think we're presenting this just as  
23 an alternative, you know. We're talking about  
24 methodology. We're talking about, you know, how we're  
25 going to be making decisions.

1                   What we're doing is we're throwing this  
2 out there as -- you know, just to add more -- I guess  
3 a little bit more to it. I know that we're talking  
4 about Bluenose East, but at the same time, we're all  
5 in this together, and there's -- this is not just the  
6 first hearing that's going to happen. There's another  
7 one scheduled down the road.

8                   Sometimes this one will set another  
9 precedence for another one so, you know, we're just  
10 kind of -- make sure that we -- we have more variety.  
11 Yeah.

12                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Okay. The next one,  
13 next community to ask questions, Fort Good Hope.  
14 Harry...?

15                   MR. HARRY HARRIS:    Yeah. Just a  
16 couple of comments. Just before this winter, I -- I -  
17 - like, myself, I -- I'm not in a office. I don't  
18 work in a office. I -- I sit as a Board member on the  
19 council -- Renewable Resource Council in Good Hope.  
20 And I -- I -- so I'm not directly involved in what's  
21 being made up here.

22                   I think it's a -- and I -- like, I -- I  
23 -- from what I gathered from my board, we -- we  
24 support what Colville Lake is doing. We -- we --  
25 like, we're sort of -- when the -- when the tags came

1 out, we didn't -- we -- we refused it. We -- we  
2 didn't want it that way. It's like we're being told,  
3 you know -- or we're sort of being punished, like in  
4 residential school.

5                   It's -- and we adopt that life, that  
6 way of thinking is from residential school, where we -  
7 - we agreed to, you know, things. I -- I just wanted  
8 to talk about that. And what I wanted to really talk  
9 about is the past management, like buck hunting. A  
10 few years -- back in the '40s, they -- they did a wolf  
11 kill to pick up the population of ungulate animals.

12                   And what happened, they're in Yukon,  
13 all the, you know, elk, moose, caribou, all ate up and  
14 -- all ate up their food, and they all ate up into the  
15 trees. We -- we should take an example from that, you  
16 know.

17                   Some good -- good research those --  
18 those kind of things like -- or -- or the duck hunting  
19 laws. In the '30s/'40s, they created duck hunting  
20 laws. It -- it didn't apply to us because we -- we  
21 don't get ducks in the fall time. Back in -- we don't  
22 get ducks. We don't -- they fly -- they fly over us.  
23 Just in the springtime we get ducks.

24                   So this left us out of -- from the '30s  
25 left us out of the duck hunting. And up until about

1 1995 there's an overpopulation of water fowl in the --  
2 in the high arctic where they -- you know, they ate  
3 all their vegetation and ate into the lichen.

4 I just -- I just figure we could  
5 research those -- those kind of events and have a --  
6 come -- come out with a better management plan. But I  
7 -- as -- as people, we all have to get involved in  
8 this. This is something that has to work.

9 And we don't want, you know, people  
10 make a mistake or, you know, I know it's going to help  
11 the caribou, but we've got to think the -- you've got  
12 to involve everybody in traditional knowledge and  
13 scientific knowledge. It's something I wanted to talk  
14 about it.

15 I guess that's it. I have no  
16 questions, but just some comments I -- you know,  
17 provide some questions to each one (1) of you from  
18 what I've said. Thank you.

19 THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi, Harry. Good  
20 Hope, any other questions to Colville Lake Dene?  
21 Okay. Okay. Masi.

22 Any -- any youth members here?  
23 Jordan...?

24 Okay. We're getting to -- okay. So  
25 we're next? Okay. The Board is going to be asking

1 questions toward Colville Lake, the Sahtu Renewable  
2 Resources Board. Okay. Yeah, and then we'll -- we'll  
3 try and go till 9:30 and then we'll -- we'll break  
4 till tomorrow morning. It is getting pretty late.

5                   So who -- which Board member wants to  
6 go first? Lesley...?

7                   MS. LESLEY ALLEN: My name is Lesley  
8 Allen. I'm on the Board. I'm very interested to  
9 Colville Lake in the term 'self-regulation'. I want  
10 to ask you: How do Dene people govern their harvest?

11                   In other words, how do they self-  
12 regulate themselves? How do you see that happening?  
13 Can you explain it to me?

14                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Colville Lake, go  
15 ahead.

16                   MR. DAVID CODZI: Well, we know what  
17 we need. We don't overkill. We don't do it for  
18 exploitation purposes. We're not selling our meat.  
19 You know, we know what we need for our families and  
20 that's about it.

21                   I guess, you know, we're not putting  
22 things in storage for such a long time. We understand  
23 that things need to survive and that the population  
24 has to be kept. We're not -- you know, we don't shoot  
25 the cows or -- you know, we look at things so that

1 they're -- they're sustainable.

2 I observe my people when they hunt.  
3 Those are the things they look at. And they're, you  
4 know, the -- after the hunts we talk about, you know,  
5 how the animal is. Is it healthy? All these  
6 different things are brought into the conversation.

7 And we talk about how they're  
8 surviving. But it's never overshoot. It's, you know,  
9 it's just for the purpose of feeding.

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Another  
11 question, Lesley?

12 MS. LESLEY ALLEN: Just a question on  
13 that. What if there was a problem? Like what would  
14 you do if -- if there was a problem in your area, how  
15 would you -- how -- what would you do about that?

16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Colville Lake?

17 CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON: Is that the  
18 wastage of meat or is that what -- how you treat  
19 caribou? Pretty simple -- simple way that -- by  
20 experiences through Elder.

21 An Elder sometimes would talk to that  
22 young person. And we have done that before, and it  
23 worked. The Elder, I don't know how he knew, but he  
24 told the chief at that time, it was my brother, and he  
25 kind of had a problem with this person, something with

1 the caribou, and he wanted to address it.

2                   So what he -- what -- what he went and  
3 did was talk to the chief. And then they went to this  
4 person and they talked to him. And -- and I think  
5 that they dealt with it right there to make sure that  
6 he followed his rules. You can't do this, so -- and  
7 from there, I don't think that person ever done that  
8 again.

9                   But that Elder was my uncle, and he's  
10 passed away already. But it's just the things that  
11 they know how caribou are treated. He know right  
12 away. And he knew something was wrong, so that's why  
13 he went to the chief, so that's how it was handled.  
14 And I think these two (2) are going to answer.

15                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi. Go ahead,  
16 Joseph.

17                   MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Thank you, Mr.  
18 Chair. The -- earlier we did mention that we do have  
19 an existing law that we abide by, and it's passed onto  
20 us by generations and generations. And those are  
21 probably things that we can probably start putting  
22 into some of the -- the drafts that we put forward,  
23 some of the things that we live by, and I say that  
24 it's instilled in us.

25                   Every living Dene person in here, ever

1 since they grew up, they grew up -- the ancestor have  
2 passed on those responsibilities, and they're very  
3 sacred to us. And it's almost the highest law of  
4 animals. And so whenever there's problems, then we --  
5 we deal with it directly. We don't punish people. We  
6 just talk to them and ensure that whatever problems  
7 happen doesn't happen again.

8                   And we work with Fort Good Hope. You  
9 know, a lot of them, they come down for hunting and  
10 everything. We make sure we have that dialogue. We  
11 make sure we have a monitor travelling with them to  
12 ensure that they're safe because you can't just go  
13 anywhere in the country because you don't know the  
14 lakes, the danger area.

15                   So there's a lot of things that we've -  
16 - we're already doing for the longest time to ensure  
17 that the safety of people and -- and the safety of  
18 where people are. Thank you.

19                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Masi. David...?

20                   MR. DAVID CODZI: And, you know, the  
21 resources for going hunting is limited. So if  
22 something is harder to get, then an alternative --  
23 alternative food will be found, right? So those are  
24 the kind of mechanisms in place already.

25                   Now, if things are harder to get, then

1 somebody's going to shoot something else because  
2 you're not just going out there for sports. You're  
3 not getting -- going out there to get a trophy.  
4 You're going out there to get food.

5                   So, you know, it's the resources that  
6 you have in place that are going to allow you to go  
7 out there to get, you know, what you need.

8                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Masi, David. One  
9 (1) more question, Les?

10                  MS. LESLEY ALLEN:    Lesley Allen, from  
11 the Board. You've already alluded to this slightly,  
12 but I just want some clarification on it. It has to  
13 do with: How does Bluenose East management affect  
14 Bluenose West management?

15                  MR. JOSEPH KOCHON:    The --

16                  THE CHAIRPERSON:    Go ahead.

17                  MR. JOSEPH KOCHON:    If you're  
18 referring to this hearing -- is that correct?

19                  MS. LESLEY ALLEN:    Yes.

20                  MR. JOSEPH KOCHON:    Okay, the -- why  
21 we're here today is that we've learned from past  
22 mistakes. We've learned quite a bit from the last  
23 hearing. So whatever is said here, it kind of sets  
24 the stage for future hearings, whatever happens in the  
25 other area. So we have to make sure that everything

1 is -- is brought out, whatever concerns that we've  
2 learned, make sure that our -- our members fully  
3 understand.

4                   So it's a learning process. It's not -  
5 - we're -- it's not something that -- that we just  
6 learned overnight. And we know it's for the public  
7 record, so we're just making sure that is done right  
8 and (UNREPORTABLE SOUND). So thank you.

9                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Okay. The  
10 next -- any other questions?

11                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Yeah, I've got  
12 a few.

13                   THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Go ahead,  
14 Paul.

15                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Sorry. Yeah.  
16 In your presentation, you referred to some monitoring  
17 you were doing in a 150 kilometre-wide corridor that I  
18 think you described as the corridor of main movements,  
19 or something like that.

20                   Without having a map of where that is,  
21 I guess my first question or request would be that  
22 that area be supplied to us on a map, so we can get an  
23 idea of where it is.

24                   MR. DAVID CODZI: Kind of, yeah.  
25 There is -- kind of spread out. We try to -- we have

1 hunters and trappers -- or not -- not hunters, but  
2 trappers that go out in the springtime, and their task  
3 is to make sure that they -- you know, they keep eye  
4 out for caribou to see, you know, their migration  
5 route and just to make sure that they observe.

6                   And then later within the year, the --  
7 they will make trails that are going back to the  
8 community, and that cuts across certain terrain that -  
9 - that follows the corridor. And what we're trying to  
10 do is we're trying to make sure that we have a -- the  
11 -- the best amount of coverage, not just by the camps,  
12 but with the trails as well.

13                   And, you know, we have a big area that  
14 we go over. It's, you know, it's not just a seasonal  
15 thing. It's all the time that people are going out if  
16 they work enough to make the money to go out. And  
17 they -- you know, they live out there.

18                   But, yeah, we can supply the maps.  
19 It's just --

20                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON:    Yeah. I guess  
21 it sounds --

22                   MR. DAVID CODZI:    Yeah.

23                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON:    -- a little  
24 strange, I suppose, on the face of it, but I'm -- I'm  
25 trying to get a -- Paul Latour here, Board member.

1 I'm trying to get a better idea of what  
2 caribou we're talking about here. Is this what --  
3 this movement, this caridor -- this corridor of  
4 movement is strictly the Bluenose West herd, or as you  
5 understand it, is they're -- the way they move at a  
6 particular time of the year, right?

7 MR. DAVID CODZI: Like lately, what  
8 we're trying to do is we're trying to get a pattern.  
9 We know that they're going to come a certain way, but  
10 lately, with -- everything is changing.

11 So those are going to make sure there's  
12 -- it's going to cause a little bit of fluctuations  
13 here and there. We want to make sure that we're --  
14 you know, we get those --

15 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: M-hm.

16 MR. DAVID CODZI: -- so that we -- we  
17 can predict what we're going to do later on. And so  
18 the -- you know, when we were saying that they're  
19 going to move to a different migration route, the  
20 terrain is going to allow for a certain path that  
21 they're going to follow and certain food sources that  
22 they're going to go to. So this way, we could kind  
23 of, you know, precede (sic) those kind of things to  
24 them so that we could count.

25 You know, we don't have planes or we

1 don't have helicopters or anything like that, but we  
2 do have knowledge of what we have around us.

3

4

(BRIEF PAUSE)

5

6

THE CHAIRPERSON: Colville Lake, go  
7 ahead.

8

MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Thank you, Mr.  
9 Chair. Just in -- in response to your -- your  
10 question about the corridor. I guess in my lifetime,  
11 since growing up, the migration route has always been  
12 the same.

13

And I can't go beyond that, and I'll  
14 just say in the last forty (40) years, forty-five (45)  
15 years, the migration route has always been the same,  
16 every year, year after year after year.

17

And the only time we've seen some  
18 slight change is when we had development. And the --  
19 the difference was probably about by 10 miles or so.  
20 Then it cut off, and it'd just head straight out  
21 north.

22

So -- so the migration has always been  
23 the same. And after development left, probably -- in  
24 probably about six (6), seven (7) years, it went back  
25 to -- it went back to the same route.

1                   And this year is different. It's not -  
2 - it's not on the same pattern. So that means we have  
3 to go a little bit further. So as we go along we see,  
4 you know, these are things that are happening.

5                   If you need us to provide you a bit of  
6 insight on a -- on a map, we can do that, but I'm just  
7 trying to make it -- simplify it a bit. There was a  
8 migration route and that hasn't changed for the last  
9 forty-five (45) years, and -- but we do see some  
10 changes as things happen on the area.

11                   So hopefully, that can give an insight.

12                   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Masi. Paul...?

13                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON:   Paul Latour,  
14 Board member.

15                   Sorry, didn't get that. Paul Latour,  
16 Board member. Given this consistency of movement,  
17 could I conclude that over -- well, certainly over the  
18 forty (40) years you mentioned, but perhaps earlier  
19 than that, that this has -- this has been the -- the  
20 focal point of your hunting activity?

21                   This is -- this is where your hunting  
22 activity is confined, given that this particular group  
23 of caribou can consistently be predicted to be in  
24 these places at certain times of the year?

25                   CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON:   Colville Lake.

1 (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE SPOKEN) just -- just -- you're  
2 thinking -- you're talking about the West, but my  
3 experience is that at certain times, some of the East  
4 herd comes in to mix with the West. That's when  
5 you're talking about the Anderson River, all the West,  
6 right.

7                   So I'm -- I'm trying to just draw you a  
8 picture here. But when you go to the east, more  
9 towards this way, a lot of times, then, the caribous  
10 are moving towards us. But they will go to a certain  
11 area and turn back -- come back this way.

12                   And so you're -- right now, you're only  
13 referring to West, but I think that sometimes the East  
14 herd comes mixed with the West. And the patterns that  
15 change, even though Joseph said it never changed the  
16 way they went, but this year it really changed, so.

17                   And -- and the way the East came --  
18 came out towards the Horton, further east, and we were  
19 walking out there, so it -- it did change quite a bit.  
20 And it's hard to -- like for us, it's one (1) --  
21 that's what we call one (1) caribou. I can't tell the  
22 difference between East and West, but I can tell where  
23 they came from.

24                   And despite the way they walk, the way  
25 they came, the way caribou travel is pretty well --

1 pretty straight, so the way they -- they migrated, and  
2 -- so that's why I seen the last -- from the last  
3 three (3) years, and it has changed quite a bit. And  
4 I haven't seen the East herd come around, but just the  
5 West.

6                   They go so far to the Anderson, and  
7 they turn back. But this year, I -- I haven't had a  
8 chance to be that far out yet. And I hope to be out  
9 there and see if they're around there. And this fall,  
10 a lot of caribou kind of turned back from -- from the  
11 -- this East herd. They all came this way, and then  
12 suddenly the tracks were right back that way again.

13                   I don't know what happened there, but  
14 sometime I think some people shot some caribou at  
15 Whitefish Creek -- River there. That herd turned  
16 back. But I -- just by telling -- just by looking on  
17 the land and the way their tracks, that's how you  
18 know. And that -- that's part of the East herd, so  
19 you're saying we're not only referring to the West,  
20 we're -- sometimes they mix together.

21                   I don't know if that answers your  
22 question.

23                   THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Yeah, that goes  
24 some distance. Thank you much -- very much. So I  
25 guess to -- just to maybe conclude that line of

1 questioning, you would there -- therefore consider  
2 yourselves to be, at least some of the time, maybe  
3 peripherally harvesters of the Bluenose East herd  
4 also?

5 CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON: Sometimes. But  
6 then we don't really bother. Once they go that way,  
7 and we're always too far away from Colville, so we  
8 never really bother hunting, because it's too far to  
9 bring back. So a lot of times we'll just observe it  
10 and look at it and --

11 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Sorry.

12

13 (BRIEF PAUSE)

14

15 CHIEF WILBERT KOCHON: Sorry.  
16 Sometimes -- Chief Wilbert Kochon. I was -- sometimes  
17 it's too far away and we don't really bother that  
18 herd. And if it's really good shape, and then maybe -  
19 - maybe we'll shoot one (1) or two (2) but that's it.  
20 And never really bother that herd because by the time  
21 you're out there you're probably about 170 kilometres  
22 away. And that's quite a ways to bring meat where you  
23 can get meat closer, so -- so that's the reason we  
24 don't really bother it. Masi.

25 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: One (1) more

1 question --

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

3 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: -- on this one  
4 anyway.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Go ahead.  
6 Last question, and then we're going to adjourn.

7 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Paul Latour,  
8 Board member. So can I conclude, or can the Board  
9 conclude that your plan that you're working on will --  
10 will be dealing predominately with the Bluenose West  
11 herd?

12 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Yes. Yes, that's  
13 correct.

14 MR. DAVID CODZI: Well, it depends on  
15 if the -- it'll be within our area but then sometimes  
16 the caribou are -- you know, they don't always go with  
17 a predicted pattern. Maybe the East would go there,  
18 you know, so that has to include all that. I think we  
19 can't just say we're only going to take care of these.  
20 We just heard them say that the East go there, as  
21 well.

22 So I think it -- just make sure that we  
23 -- we understand this. It's not confined to one area  
24 just because it walks there all the time. They do --  
25 you know, they change.

1 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: The -- it's pretty  
2 hard to say who is Bluenose East and Bluenose West.  
3 All caribou look alike, but then I think ENR has been  
4 tracking them through the collars so we are going to  
5 be working with them. And so those are the  
6 collaborations that we're working on, so thank you.

7 THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Yeah, that --  
8 thank you for that, Richard (sic). That's good to  
9 hear. Thank you.

10 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Joseph Kochon.

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Akad  
12 (phonetic). Masi. Thank you very much for the  
13 questioning. We'll continue that in the morning with  
14 Colville Lake. You're not leaving until later up in  
15 the afternoon?

16 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: We -- we were  
17 going to leave early, but then we thought we have to  
18 be here right till the end to make sure that we hear  
19 every little bit of information, so.

20 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Masi. Okay,  
21 thank you very much, everybody, for coming to --  
22 tonight, and (NORTH SLAVEY LANGUAGE SPOKEN).

23

24 (CLOSING PRAYER)

25

1 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, tomorrow nine  
2 o'clock in the morning.

3

4 --- Upon adjourning at 9:42 p.m.

5

6 Certificate of Transcript

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11 Robert Keelaghan, Mr.

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