

In Person Board Minutes



April 12, 2019

Behchoko, NT

Minutes by Kirsten Jensen

List of Acronyms/Terms Used

Note that we aim to add the three main Saktú dialects wherever possible, but when necessary note the specific dialect being used. Where no indication is provided, the term is generally used by all communities.

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| ʔedə | barren-ground caribou (K'áhsho Got'ine/Delá Got'ine dialect) |
| ʔehdzo Got'ine Gots'é Nákedı | Helpers of the ʔehdzo Got'ine (Saktú Renewable Resources Board) |
| ʔehdzo Got'ine | Renewable Resources Council; trap people |
| ʔekwé | barren-ground caribou (Délıne Got'ine dialect) |
| BNE | Bluenose East caribou |
| BNW | Bluenose West caribou |
| dechıta hé gorekó hé | forest and fire (Délıne dialect) |
| Dene ts'ııı | Dene way of life/foundations of being Dene |
| DGG | Délıne Got'ine Government |
| dıga hé ʔekwé hé | wolves and caribou (Délıne dialect) |
| ENR | Environment and Natural Resources – Government of the NWT |
| náts'eze | hunting (Délıne dialect) |
| Nę K'ádı Ke | Keepers of the Land (Guardians) |
| NWT | Northwest Territories |
| Saktı ʔekwó | Bluenose East caribou (Tıchó dialect) |
| SAR | Species at Risk |
| TAH | Total Allowable Harvest |
| tódzı | boreal woodland caribou |
| SRRB | ʔehdzo Got'ine Gots'é Nákedı (Saktú Renewable Resources Board) |
| WRRB | Wek'èezhı Renewable Resources Board |

Agenda

- Reflections on Wek'èezhı Renewable Resources Board Saktı ʔekwó (Bluenose East Caribou) Public Hearing
- ʔedə/ʔekwé conservation decisions: path forward for SRRB
- Staffing update
- Species At Risk listing of ʔedə/ʔekwé
- Next steps

- Proposed motions for future meetings

Participants:

Board Members

George Barnaby (Acting Chair), Camilla Rabisca

Staff

Deb Simmons, Alexa Scully, Kyanna Dolphus Lennie, Kirsten Jensen

Invited Guests

Lorraine Land (legal counsel, Olthuis Kleer Townshend LLP), Walter Behza (SRRB Research Associate, Délı̨nę Got'ı̨nę Government)

Opening

Prayer by George Barnaby

- Quorum check: 1/3 Board members present, no quorum.

Reflections on WRRB Sahtı̨ ʔekwò Hearing

Discussion led by Deborah Simmons

- Discussion on the creation of the land claims and their implementations, followed by a discussion on self-government agreements in the Sahtı̨.
- Self-government in the Sahtı̨ is going to be community based. DGG has control over education on language and culture, which is part of the caribou plan even though the self government says the land claim conservation management holds true and isn't given to DGG
- At the 2007 BNW hearing, lots of elders spoke but the board didn't have a way to fully accommodate their evidence.
- Moving forward forest stewardship/management is going to be a new focus for the Board. There needs to be discussion on ecology.
- We heard at the hearing from elders that changes are happening fast and that is the case for caribou as well. This was also a discussion item at the SRRB's 2016 BNE Caribou Hearing.
- There are challenges in adapting public hearings to a Dene ts'ı̨ approach in sharing knowledge - including ceremony, a talking circle process for building on the knowledge contributed by others, and relationship-building.
- There are some knowledge-oriented questions that have arisen out of our work and are reinforced by the WRRB hearing:
 1. Relationship between wolves and caribou. Look at the natural cycle more.
 2. The role of fire and what to do about it. (look at Australian model of doing managed fires – controlled burns) and the definition of forest. We don't know what

connection between fire and food growth. Does it affect lichen growth? We need to gather traditional knowledge on fire management.

3. How do we keep track of what's happening with caribou?
 4. How do we scale up dialogue among different indigenous groups. Ex: Tłıchǫ and Délıne, Colville Lake and Paulatuk?
- The WRRB was created by a land claim that included self government and as result WRRB's mandate is a bit distanced from the communities, since some of the functions of the SRRB are assumed by the Tłıchǫ Government. They don't have ʔehdzo Got'ıne. We have an opportunity to be more engaged and active in co-production of knowledge with communities.
 - At the 2016 Hearing we had a youth workshop and a youth intervenor was able to make statements that lead to inclusion of a decision about youth participation in the SRRB's Hearing Report. But we could do better in the future including youth. The Youth Caucus during the Nıo Ne P'ene meeting came up with the idea of wellness being a major topic and that is what wellness being included as part of the Ne K'edi Ke training. Youth statements and being involved really do make a difference so we need to have them included in a meaningful way.

Break

11:30 am-12:50 pm Tour with Sean Richardson Tłıchǫ Government Land Protection Department and lunch break

ʔedə/ʔekwé conservation decisions: path forward for SRRB

Discussion led by Deborah Simmons

- A meeting in Colville Lake will take place in early June concerning the BNW herd.
- Instead of doing a traditional Public Hearing, SRRB will explore options for designing a culturally appropriate "Public Listening." A set of four Public listening will take place over 2 years. Funding for the Public listening needs to be sorted out before June due to federal election.
 - Náts'ezé or Dene Ts'ıli – K'áhbamıtúé
 - Ecology/changes – Délıne
 - Díga hé ʔekwé hé – Rádelıhkó
 - Dechıta hé gorekó hé – Tulıt'a

Staffing update

Joe Hanlon will be leaving mid-June. Staff will develop a job description and initiate the hiring process.

SAR listing of Barren ground caribou

Discussion led by Deborah Simmons

- We agreed to ʔədʒi being threatened and this unleashed some more range planning.
- The Sahtú will be taking a community conservation planning approach to range planning.

Next steps

- Meetings with Délı̨nę (April 17) and Colville (to be confirmed), including planning for first two Public Listening Sessions.
- Job description – Youth and Wellness
- Board teleconference to advise on recent decisions, approve budgets, etc.
- In-person Board meeting in last week June in Fort Good Hope to plan for Public Listenings, approve finalized Strategic Plan, and approve updated Policy and Procedures Guide.

Proposed motions to be discussed in future meetings

1. Convene a series of “Public Listenings” (a Hearing) on ʔedə/ʔekwé with respect to the following four topics: 1. Náts’eze (Hunting); 2. Ecology/changes; 3. Díga hé ʔekwé hé (wolves and caribou); 4. Dechı̨ta hé gorekó hé (forests and fire).
2. Create a new Youth and Wellness Manager position, with at least one additional intern position.
3. Approve the Federal listing of ʔedə/ʔekwé as Threatened under the Federal Species At Risk Act, based on evidence, and citing risks and benefits noted, from:
 - ▶ The 2016 Bluenose East ʔekwé Hearing
 - ▶ ACCWM (Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management) community engagement and status assessments
 - ▶ The 2018 community engagements in Fort Good Hope, Norman Wells, Tulıt’a, and Délı̨nę, in June 2018

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm approximately.

Approval of Minutes

Approved by Board decision, June 17, 2019.



George Barnaby, Acting Chair

Summary of Motions

No motions made.