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**Subject:** Notice of Déljné 2021 Public Listening Postponement  
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Dear Parties to the Déljné 2021 Public Listening Session – On January 29, the SRRB received a response to our Colville 2020 Public Listening Report and Reasons for Decision from the GNWT Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Shane Thompson. The SRRB posted the Minister’s response on the [public registry](#) on February 1, along with an invitation to the Parties to respond to new information, new public interest concerns or new legal positions in the Minister’s response that were not otherwise raised and considered during the Colville 2020 Public Listening Session by February 15.

Based on a preliminary analysis of the Minister’s response, the SRRB has decided to postpone the Déljné 2021 Public Listening Session (PLS), for the following reasons:

- The Minister varied or set aside and replaced some of SRRB’s decisions and recommendations. The SRRB prefers to make time so the Minister’s response can be properly reviewed and the decisions from the 2020 Colville Public Listening Session are final. The next steps include the SRRB’s Final Decisions and Recommendations before the Minister finalizes the decisions and proceeds with their implementation. The SRRB is committed to the Public Listening Session in Déljné and anticipates recommencing before summer.
- The COVID-19 public health emergency continues to interfere with the SRRB’s desire for a full and open hearing process, including presenting obstacles to important community work leading up to the next PLS.

The SRRB is sensitive to these issues and does not seek to rush this process. The SRRB is committed to completion of the series of Public Listening Sessions on topics related to the core question, “What is the most effective way to conserve caribou?” within a reasonable timeline.

The SRRB understands that the Colville 2020 PLS Hearing Report, and the Minister’s January

29 response, results in an uncertain situation for advancing this discussion to the next stage. For this reason, the SRRB considers it reasonable to slow down the proceeding planned for 2021.

Please do not hesitate to contact the SRRB at 867-588-4040 or [info@srrb.nt.ca](mailto:info@srrb.nt.ca) if you have any questions or concerns.

Máhsi,  
Catarina Owen

On behalf of Camilla Tutcho, Chair

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