

**Gwich'inat Eenjit**  
**Gàatr'igwijiicheii Gidilii**  
*Gwich'in nan, nakhwek'yuu ts'at gawit'it*  
*lthak nakhwidavee gwiheezan eenjit*



**Gwich'in Tribal Council**  
*Gwich'in land, culture & economy for a better future*

November 4, 2009-11-04

Joe Tetlich,   
 Chair, Porcupine Caribou Management Board  
 P.O. Box 31723  
 Whitehorse, Yukon, Y1A 6L3

**Re: Porcupine Caribou Herd Harvest Management Plan**

Dear Mr. Tetlich:

In your letter dated October 19, 2009, the PCMB is requesting all parties to the Harvest Management Plan to provide their respective positions and an indication of what, if any, issues need to be addressed prior to signing the plan.

The Gwich'in Tribal Council Board of Directors decided not to sign the Harvest Management Plan on October 14, 2009. The GTC is committed and willing to participate in resolving differences between the Harvest Management Plan parties for the long-term conservation of the Porcupine Caribou Herd for future generations. The GTC does consider all impacts to our traditional harvesting practices within our Primary and Secondary Use areas in the Yukon and secondly, failure to acknowledge and recognize our subsistence harvesting rights in those areas in the Harvest Management Plan as established under the Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement is a serious concern.

The GTC recommends a meeting to consider amendments to the Harvest Management Plan that will recognize Gwich'in rights in our Primary and Secondary Use areas in the Yukon. GTC recommends a meeting between all parties on November 19-20 in Whitehorse immediately after the Northern Chiefs Meeting scheduled for November 17 & 18 in Whitehorse, Yukon. Both I and Donald Andre will be in attendance and prepared to enter in full and fair discussion with the aim of reaching an agreement that GTC can support regarding the Harvest Management Plan.

In the interim the Gwich'in Tribal Council has been and will continue to promote and recommend to our membership "a bulls only" harvest until the Harvest Management Plan process has been completed.

Respectfully,

Richard Nerysoo, President  
 Gwich'in Tribal Council  
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