

Porcupine Caribou Management Board Minutes of Meeting

September 18 and 19, 2010
Inuvik, NWT

In attendance

Members

Joe Tetlich, Chair
Lorraine Netro, Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation
Marsha Branigan, Government of Northwest Territories
Doug Larsen, Government of Yukon
Ian McDonald, Government of Canada
Steve Taylor, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in
Billy Storr, Inuvialuit Game Council
Frederick (Sonny) Blake, Gwich'in Tribal Council

Deana Lemke, Secretariat

Regret

Steven Buyck, Nacho Ny'ak Dun

Presenters

Stephen Charlie, GNWT
Martin Callaghan, GNWT
Amy Thompson, Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board
Robert Charlie, Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board
Kristen Callaghan, Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board
James Firth, Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board

Welcome and Opening Prayer

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., and welcomed participants to the meeting. Frederick Blake offered the opening prayer.

Chief Herbert Blake of the Inuvik Band welcomed the Board to Inuvik for this meeting. His comments included the following points:

- Our interest is the well-being of the Porcupine Caribou Herd and other species we rely on.
- Thanks to the Board for taking the high road under much criticism and taking seriously our interest and the importance of managing and protecting the Porcupine Caribou Herd.
- Thanks to Robert Charlie for all his work in the renewable resources area on behalf of our people.

- When some of the changes/recommendations are made, the Board will be challenged regarding rights and responsibilities and the hard work of the Board members is appreciated.

The Chair welcomed Board members and others in attendance to this meeting. It was decided that there would be no community meeting during this Board meeting since there has typically been a lack of participation in communities.

Review Agenda

The Agenda was reviewed by the Board and approved as distributed with the addition of a brief discussion regarding the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Motion to accept agenda as presented
Moved by Marsha Branigan
Seconded by Ian McDonald
Carried

Review Minutes and Action Items

The Minutes of the May 26 and 27, 2010 meeting were approved by the Board and the action items were reviewed and discussed.

Motion to accept Minutes of the May 26 and 27, 2010, meeting as distributed
Moved by Marsha Branigan
Seconded by Billy Storr
Carried

The Minutes of the June 11, 2010 teleconference were approved.

Motion to accept Minutes of the June 11, 2010, meeting as distributed
Moved by Lorraine Netro
Seconded by Marsha Branigan
Carried

Peel River Watershed Land Use Plan

The public consultation process is currently underway on the Peel Land Use Plan and will be completed soon. There seems to be overwhelming support for 100-percent protection of the Peel area. Joe mentioned that he submitted an article to the *Yukon News* that reflects his own personal opinions, not the perspective of the Board, although they erroneously referenced him as the Chair of the PCMB. The newspaper agreed to make a correction.

Richard Nerysoo, President of Gwich'in Tribal Council, spoke about the importance of understanding one's role with a public board – comments made

are not independent and individuals should not be taking on political positions. Members are always a representative of the public board.

Richard spoke about how the current consultation process is undermining the chiefs who indicated they want 80-percent protection of the Peel Watershed; 20 percent was removed below the Snake River area for potential development, consistent with rules for any development or economic activity. If there is no development, that means there is no provision to develop cabins, etc. He said he is not prepared to take that position, as a leader. No one disagrees that the key watershed should be completely protected. We are in agreement with the 80-percent protection. This is the first time our people are opposing what the leadership has agreed to. That is very significant and it undermines what the leadership has agreed with, which is saddening. Similarly, we've all agreed to work through the established processes through the HMP and citizens need to support what leadership has agreed to.

Joe responded that Board members have a responsibility to bring forward concerns from their communities/organizations. Better communication in this respect would be beneficial, to aid in better understanding of the issues and positions.

Steve Taylor said that he is a member of the Peel Watershed Planning Commission. Since the recommended plan was released, there has not been a meeting of the Commission. Following public consultation, Parties will likely come together to discuss any potential variations to the plan. Steve has requested the Chair of the Commission to call a meeting to discuss current issues.

James Firth agreed that consistent messaging is important and needs to be disseminated to all. Gwich'in speaking with one voice is important. Gwich'in should get together and figure out who should be the primary spokesperson.

Joe appreciated the comments made. Communication is important so the Board can better appreciate the perspectives of the First Nations and governments.

International Porcupine Caribou Board

Wendy Nixon recently advised the Board that US appointments to the International Porcupine Caribou Board are in the works and could be made by this fall. US Fish & Wildlife Service in Alaska has forwarded names to the Secretary of the Interior, who is responsible for making the decision with respect to US appointments. Once appointments have been made, Canada would like to convene a meeting to review the history of the International Board and set out operating procedures and terms of reference.

Marsha advised that GNWT is working on changing their member on the International Board to Susan Fleck instead of Ray Case, as he is now in a different position.

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

Lorraine said she appreciates the Gwich'in leaders in attendance at this Board meeting and mentioned this year is 50th Anniversary of the lobbying work to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and it would be good to have Gwich'in representation at the special activities this December.

Interim Measures/GY Porcupine Caribou Regulations:

Doug advised that currently there is a bulls-only and mandatory harvest reporting requirement on the Yukon side (aboriginal subsistence regulations). The legislation states that this regulation would be revisited once the Harvest Management Plan was signed and the government is starting to have discussions about how to do that.

Doug added that, currently, Government of Yukon is taking a soft approach to enforcing mandatory bulls only and is not pursuing it aggressively for the time being. Mandatory reporting is in effect, as this is a requirement in the HMP as well. Government of Yukon will be sending out more COs to do more enforcement – not to charge initially but to do education. Field monitors will also be in Old Crow to assist hunters complete the harvest reporting form.

Richard Nerysoo related that Government of Yukon agreed to voluntary bull harvesting. The gathering of harvest information should be done by the aboriginal governments, not COs. Governments need to understand this important principle; otherwise we will never get to a point where we're really working together cooperatively.

Jozef Carnogursky inquired who had the opportunity to comment on the interim regulations before they were put in place, to which Doug responded that, as part of the consultation process, Government of Yukon engaged in discussions with the NWT communities, at which time there was opportunity to make comments.

Jozef disputed the thoroughness of the consultation and felt that it should not have been considered consultation, as indicated in the information on the Website. Doug responded that Government of Yukon did not agree that it was not consultation.

Richard commented that there is a process outlined in our agreement, none of which was followed (harvest work, research, etc.). Legal action has been taken and the matter is currently in abeyance, pending the discussions with

government. If Government of Yukon is continuing to apply the regulation, they need to advise Gwich'in Tribal Council so it can proceed with its court action.

Steve Taylor feels the interim measures need to now be removed or the Harvest Management Plan is only a piece of paper.

Doug comments that Government of Yukon is committed to the Harvest Management Plan and working through that. The regulations have a clause that states the interim regulations will be reviewed. This requirement is not in the act, it's in the regulations. Intent was to always revisit the regulations when the HMP was signed off. In terms discussion about voluntary reporting and voluntary bulls only harvesting, Government of Yukon is considering how that is defined in the HMP: rigorous and verifiable reporting, to strive for 100-percent bulls. That means you get as many harvesters to report as possible. Need to see if Parties agree on the definition of rigorous and verifiable reporting. The review of those regulations has already started; still don't know what the outcome will be. Will take request back to Government of Yukon to attempt to clarify this.

Jozef asked: was Doug involved in drafting the interim measures? He was part of the discussions/communications that should have provided input to the regulations.

Doug responded that, no, he was not involved in drafting those regulations and not involved in review of regulations. This goes back to discussion on conflict of interest. Doug stated that it's clear in his mind that he is on the Board as a government representative and is not in a conflict going out to communities for consultation. Nor would he be in conflict if he went back and helped government draft the regulations. That's his job as a Government of Yukon representative. In fact, based on the legal opinion received by Government of Yukon, he would be in conflict if he did not come back and do his job. This issue goes back to Board member roles and responsibilities.

Doug related that the Chair's role is not to represent anyone; government members represent their government; First Nation reps represent First Nations.

Lorraine commented that her role on the Board is as a representative of her community at a broader level, separate from the position of her First Nation government. Discussion about the interim measures and the HMP need to be had at the appropriate level, with the Senior Officials.

Ian related that he had an internal discussion about his role on the Board as a Government of Canada representative. The PCMA is clear, he is here to represent government but this is a cooperative Board. He represents the Government of Canada, first of all to make decisions that are of benefit to the caribou herd, users and habitat. He is permitted to make decisions that would potentially go against the official GC position if it's in the best interest of herd,

users, habitat, etc. Government can go against other positions of other governments as well. And ultimately, the governments may not automatically support the decisions/recommendations of the Board.

Richard felt that final determinations on these things would be done by the governments and discussions have been started on these matters. PCMA needs to be revised to reflect current treaties and agreements. Internationally, any conversations between GC and US government need to include First Nations.

Jozef said that he has a problem with way the regulations were put in place in that a proper process was not followed. There was no urgency to warrant the action taken by Government of Yukon.

Doug responded that Government of Yukon did follow the established process.

Donald Andre commented that there is a process to be followed. There was no indication a regulation was going to be put in place. Government of Yukon didn't share the regulation with anyone before it was implemented.

Doug said that Government of Yukon attempted to sit down with Gwich'in Tribal Council for several months; the regulation reflects what was outlined that Government of Yukon would be consulting on.

Donald said that the debate is not about whether or not Government of Yukon wanted to meet with GTC. It's the actual content of what was going to be discussed that is at issue. GTC was not aware it was a regulation.

Lorraine related that this discussion needs to be the hands of the Senior Officials. The Signatories need to come to an agreement on these types of issues. We can take it only so far at this PCMB table.

Jozef related that in June 2009, PCMB recommended a HMP to signatories. Since that time, there were changes made to the plan. How did those changes get made? What process was followed?

Joe clarified the process. The Working Group recommended a HMP to PCMB with a few unresolved issues to decide on by the PCMB. PCMB accepted all the recommendations made by the Working Group and made its decisions on the outstanding unresolved items, and then recommended the HMP to the Parties as the decision-makers. Signatories made their revisions and signed off on the final plan.

Joe thanked everyone for their comments.

Caribou Herd Update

Dorothy provided a written report as she was not able to be in attendance in person. The update included:

Census photos

Alaska Department of Fish and Game staff reported that the photos from the July 2010 census came back from the developer and are good quality. They plan to count the photos in early winter and have a herd size estimate in January 2011.

Caribou Calculator revisions

Craig Nicholson has been contracted by GY on behalf of the PCTC to revise the Caribou Calculator. He envisions breaking the population model into two parts: a "herd size estimator" and "risk analyzer". The herd size estimator will be used in the HMP process in years when we don't have a census. The risk analyzer will be designed for use by the PCMB to run different harvest scenarios during the Annual Harvest Meeting. The expectation is that there will be good, workable versions of both models by the first AHM in February 2011.

HMP highway signs

The herd status signs have been designed and ordered, as called for in the HMP. They should be ready for installation by the end of September 2010. Currently, the plan is to install one at the south end of the Dempster, one in Old Crow, one in each of the NWT user communities and one at the Peel River crossing.

South Dempster Check Station

The south station will open on September 15 and will run for three months. This should catch the majority of southbound harvest. There is still an option to reopen the station if there is a pulse of spring hunting. GY does not plan to run a check station on the north Dempster this year but will be patrolling with conservation officers.

Planned for the near future

- A rut composition count is planned again this year; will work with the Alaskans to do the count during the rut in October.
- March composition count and captures are planned again.
- A Dempster shooting workshop will hopefully be planned for October or November.
- Plans are to work with hunters in Old Crow to collect body condition samples again this year.

NWT update was provided by Marsha, Stephen Charlie and Martin Callaghan.

Marsha noted the following:

Body Condition

Sample kits were handed out last year and this year at the check station and by ENR officers and HTC offices. Last year we had 31 kits returned. This year so far we have samples from 23 animals turned into ENR, Inuvik.

Harvest Data Collection

Permission from GRRB and IGC to use IHS and GHS data in report the summary of harvest report. Numbers from Harvest Data Collections run by ENR and the HTCs\RRCs have all been entered into the computer and checked for errors. The information now needs to be summarized and returned to the HTCs\RRCs. GRRB has taken over coordination of data collections with RRCs and hunters. CSU of JS will be doing collections with the HTCs and hunters in Aklavik, Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk. ENR will provide check station data to the GRRB and CSU to help ensure the active harvester list is complete and compare reporting by the two methods.

Communications on HMP

ENR has been involved in the working group to develop and distribute material/information on the HMP and what it means for the harvester. The side table has many of the materials that were developed.

Hunter Education Program

There was a teleconference of a working group working on the hunter education program for the Porcupine caribou herd. The plan is to have a program that is designed as modules. There is a draft outline developed and various people have been assigned sections to work on. Target date for completion is March 31, 2011.

Planned for the near future:

- Check station operations continue until ferry closes
- Complete Harvest Data Report with Dorothy Cooley
- Conservation Officers and others were to run sight-in-your-rifle workshops in each community but there are now liability issues.
- Continue to do communications on the HMP
- Continue to work on implementing the HMP
- Continue working with hunters to collect Body Condition samples
- Prepare information for the AHM

Martin Callaghan was also in attendance. Martin works for ENR, GNWT and has been responsible for overseeing the operation of the check station being run by Tetlit RRC. He reported the following points:

- GNWT's working relationship with our co-management partners is critical and it's a solid relationship that has developed over time.
- One sight-in-your-rifle workshop was delivered at Shingle Point. There has been a liability issue raised that will need to be worked out in the delivery of any further similar workshops.
- Appreciate work done by Deana, Marsha, Amy and Kristen and others re communications.
- Check station was up and running July 30. It has been running really well. Reporting is being done on a voluntary basis. There has been a 50-percent increase in reporting since last year. Numbers should trump people's opinions, such as those expressed by Kirby Meister in his recent update by e-mail. People are becoming more aware of the regulations and what we would like to see in terms of harvesting behaviours.

Stephen Charlie related that in NWT it's not against the law for beneficiaries to take a cow. Of the 226 animals reported taken this year at the check station, one cow has been reported. This has been a big shift – more people are reporting and fewer cows are being taken. It's not mandatory but it is really being encouraged. We have had 117 reports from individuals so far. Responsibility needs to be put in the beneficiaries' hands to empower them; then they take that responsibility and govern themselves.

Doug Larsen responded that those stats are encouraging (up 50 percent and fewer cows). He asked: How do you assess people who don't stop and report? The check station is off the road. Are you able to see vehicles that go by?

Martin responded that, yes, the check station is in a highly visible spot beside the ferry. There are signs on both sides of the highway alerting people to the location of the check station. Those who don't stop are generally identified by the staff at the check station. Some drive through and then come back later and report. There are very few driving through without reporting (approx. 20 percent), which means we are capturing a significant portion of the harvest.

Marsha clarified that NWT reporting will be primarily done through door-to-door surveys.

Doug commented that Yukon has a check station on the southern end of the highway near Dawson but not on the north end of the highway. It is hoped the Peel check station will capture the north highway harvest numbers.

Kirby Meister's e-mail update of September 16, 2010, was read and briefly discussed.

Stephen stated that the Yukon CO should not be commenting about the NWT reporting or check station activities.

Charlie Snowshoe commented that before the Dempster Highway was put in, there was never a harvest like this at this time of year. The Dempster has caused many problems. Some are smart enough to avoid the check stations and reporting their harvest. The way it is now is not really working that well. We should establish a no-hunting zone on the Dempster to protect the caribou. We are losing the traditional ways of hunting. The only way they do traditional hunting is in Old Crow. Young people don't have enough opportunities to learn their traditional ways of hunting now that the Dempster Highway is there.

Stephen Charlie agreed to follow up with Charlie to address some of his concerns raised.

Marsha stated that she and Stephen are on the Senior Officials group dealing with the HMP Implementation Plan. Lots of effort has been put into communications, working with Deana. The HMP Implementation Plan has also been provided to WMAC (NWT) for comment; they make recommendations to the government.

Billy said that it is not against the law to shoot 10 caribou if you need caribou; we are taking fewer anyhow, but no one is hiding caribou.

Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board Update

Robert Charlie is no longer the Chair of GRRB since August 28, but he was asked to attend to provide an update, along with Amy Thompson, James Firth and Kristen Callaghan. Robert talked about the Bluenose Management Plan. There has been a lot of controversy about the Porcupine Caribou HMP but we need to move forward. Robert has been involved with wildlife management for past 15 years and criticism is inevitable. Suggestions on how to improve should accompany criticisms given. Communication is very important. It's incumbent on all of us to share information so we can avoid some issues that would otherwise be non-existent. The RRCs play an important role in the GRRB's mandate so it's critical to share information and do a good job of communicating. Board representatives also have a responsibility to community people. This should be strengthened.

Cape Bathurst, Bluenose-West and Bluenose-East management plan has been worked on for about two years and the first draft was completed at the end of March, following a community engagement tour where input was received. More funding was obtained to hire a consultant to prepare a second draft.

NWT is revising its *Wildlife Act* and will hopefully have a draft to go out to the communities in November/December this year.

Amy Thompson added that the consultation process on the “Bluenose” Plan followed the rules developed for consultation by the GRRB, developed in consultation with communities/user groups. Those policies are available on the Website if anyone is interested in them.

Robert said that the PCMB’s work is very challenging. What has been done is done and we need to move forward on behalf of the caribou and the user groups.

James added that GRRB will be trying to bring more youth to the meetings in order to train them and put more thought into succession planning. This will cost a bit of extra money but will be of benefit at the end of the day.

Marsha thanked Robert for all his work at the GRRB and his willingness to work with us as a Board.

Joe commented that the relationship between PCMB and GRRB is very positive, with much thanks to Robert. Robert has been a strong advocate for the caribou which makes the work easier, especially when others work cooperatively with the PCMB. GRRB has shown that we can work together.

Sonny asked a question about harvest of predators (grizzly) in PCH areas. Amy agreed to provide the information they have with respect to this.

Chair’s Update (Joe Tetlich)

The Chair updated the Board on his activities since the last meeting, as follows:

- Went to Midway when check station was open
- Some reported occurrences involving grizzly bears
- Attended VGFN GA which was postponed after a day and a half due to an accidental death
- Spoke to several individuals regarding their experiences with harvesting this season
- Attended GTC General Assembly in Aklavik; however, no PCMB presentation was made as the agenda was full
- When organizations invite Board to be at their meetings, we should be able to speak to Porcupine Caribou issues for at least 15 minutes or so on the agenda to provide an update and answer questions
- Attended Senior Officials meeting regarding the Implementation Plan in July
- Participated in Arctic Borderlands meeting and reviewed interview questions and provided input

Doug related that there was a meeting in Whitehorse focusing on Inuvialuit co-management groups last week, which included discussion about Arctic Borderlands and its value to organizations. Chairs of the groups in attendance agreed to prepare a summary. WMAC (NS) has serious concerns about the data collected and whether or not it can be analyzed adequately and the value of the Co-op and whether or not it's serving a useful purpose.

Deana reminded that a year ago Don Russell presented to the Board his analysis of the caribou data and his findings. If there are suggested revisions to the caribou interview questions, they can be forwarded to the Co-op.

Marsha was also at the meeting and added that she felt people did see a positive aspect to the Co-op and were looking at moving forward with it.

Joe said that it's important for Board members to bring back up-to-date information from organizations/communities on perspectives/positions. For example, no Board members have heard anything in terms of discussions to reopen the PCMA with a view to renegotiating it.

Administrative and Financial Report (Deana Lemke)

Secretariat provided a written administrative report on activities since the last meeting. A significant focus over the summer has been work with Lindsay Staples and the Senior Officials who are working on the development of the HMP Implementation Plan. Various meetings have been held with the Senior Officials, Communications Working Group and the Hunter Education Working Group.

Dempster Best Practices Brochure

Dempster Best Practices brochure draft was reviewed. The Board acknowledged Dorothy Cooley for her hard work on the initial draft of the brochure. Final revisions will be made and forwarded to members for final approval before printing and distributing.

Action 10-23: Revise Best Practices Brochure and distribute to Board members for final approval prior to printing and distribution.

COSEWIC Caribou Designatable Units

The Board received an invitation from the Wildlife Conservation Society of Canada to review the COSEWIC Special Report, *Designatable Units for Caribou in Canada*. The Board discussed a response outlining that the PCH should be recognized as a discreet designatable unit as opposed to being combined with other caribou herds when being assessed. Should the designatable unit be determined to be larger, the assessment would need to recognize the population status and trend of individual herds within these designatable units, and that management actions need to reflect the status of each herd within the designatable unit rather than for the unit as a whole.

In addition, the HMP outlines management actions and should be given serious consideration if a management plan or recovery strategy is developed for the designatable unit that includes caribou.

Action 10-24: Secretariat will finalize and send letter re COSEWIC designatable units.

FINANCE

A financial update was provided for year-to-date expenditures and variance on budget.

The Board approved the 2008-09 Financial Audit completed by MacKay and Associates.

***Motion to approve 2008-09 Financial Audit
Moved by Billy Storr
Seconded by Frederick Blake
Carried***

Contribution Agreements for 2010-11 have been signed with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Environment Canada — Parks Canada Agency and Canadian Wildlife Service, Government of Yukon and Government of the Northwest Territories.

In addition, funding agreements have been signed with Na-Cho Nyäk Dun, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in, for the facilitator's costs of the development of the Implementation Plan. A similar funding agreement is waiting to be signed off by Vuntut Gwitchin Government.

NWT Wildlife Act

Marsha related that NWT is revising its *Wildlife Act* and will hopefully have a draft to go out to the communities in November/December this year.

The public document outlining the proposed concept is currently out for consultation, input being sought. Community meetings will be done on the draft legislate on in the winter, to be put forward to government by February 2011.

Sale, Trade and Barter Guidelines

The draft Sale, Trade and Barter Guidelines were reviewed and revised, based on comments received and further discussion by the Board. The revised draft will be sent to user communities/organizations for review and feedback.

Action 10-25: Secretariat to revise and distribute Sale, Trade and Barter Guidelines to user communities/organizations for review and feedback.

Conflict of Interest Policy

In follow-up to last meeting, the Board went in camera for a further discussion on conflict of interest and Board member roles and responsibilities.

***Motion to go in camera
Moved to go in camera Lorraine Netro
Seconded by Billy Storr
Carried***

***Motion to go out of camera
Moved by Frederick Blake
Seconded by Billy Storr
Carried***

The next PCMB meeting will be primarily dedicated to discussing Board Member Roles and Responsibilities. Lindsay Staples will be asked to facilitate a workshop for the Board to assist with coming to an agreed-upon understanding.

Action 10-26: Lindsay Staples to be requested to facilitate the Board's November 27 and 28 meeting, to deal primarily with Board member roles and responsibilities.

Harvest Management Plan

HMP Implementation Plan

Senior Officials are continuing their work on the Implementation Plan and are making progress. The Board has been involved in communications and education related to the Harvest Management Plan.

Communication

Secretariat reported that copies of the signed Harvest Management Plan were distributed to Parties – one bound and one unbound copy to photocopy and distribute as Parties see fit.

Deana provided an update on the communications activities. The Communications Working Group has met several times, working through the communications plan. There has been a lot of recognition and positive comments on work of the working group, which has been a true collaboration.

Terms of Reference – Annual Harvest Meeting

The Board discussed the Annual Harvest Meeting Terms of Reference and made some revisions. The draft will be provided to the Senior Officials for review and approval.

Members' Concerns

Each Board Member provided closing comments/concerns:

Frederick Blake: concern about lack of access to the caribou and some who could be possibly hunting bulls in the rut in the next few weeks. Looking forward to getting the HMP Implementation Plan finalized and in the works. Glad that the signatories reached an agreement on the HMP – we've come a long way since the spring.

Steve Taylor: Dawson land use plan coming up on the horizon.

Billy Storr: no concerns right now. Good meeting; a lot was accomplished. Wish everyone a safe trip home.

Doug Larsen: we accomplished some things this meeting; no other concerns to raise. Look forward to next meeting.

Ian McDonald: my term is expiring in October so this could be my last meeting, depending on what happens. Mike Gill with CWS will likely be the member appointed and the alternate will either be me or someone else from Parks in Inuvik.

Lorraine Netro: good meeting; we accomplished lots with the Sale, Trade and Barter Guidelines. This has been a long time coming and it's good we're finishing that. There are concerns in Old Crow that they're not seeing as many caribou as they typically do this time of year. Hopefully we'll see a large herd soon before it gets too cold and before rutting season starts. In process of going through changes as Natural Resources – change of directors. Will take a bit to adjust. Shel Graupe is no longer there; Lance Migwan is the new director.

Marsha Branigan: good meeting; was concerned about getting the ToR for AHM out – will be good to get this finalized. There was a suggestion yesterday at the meeting that the Board ask Government of Yukon when they are planning to review the interim measures, in accordance to what is stipulated in the regulations. What does the board want to do about that? Doug mentioned that review is in process but no one really knows about it – it's in-house.

Doug committed to bring suggestion back to Department and write a letter to groups.

Action 10-27: Doug Larsen to take suggestion from this meeting to Government of Yukon, to write letter to Parties clarifying when it will be reviewing the interim measures (subsistence harvesting regulations) and if input from Parties and the PCMB will be sought.

Steve Taylor: could send a letter to Parties recommending they get on with the review of the interim measures now that that the HMP is signed. Remind chiefs and ministers.

Doug: suggest to hold off until we see if Government of Yukon can get a letter off from the Department of Environment.

Joe Tetlich: was a really good meeting; interesting to have observers here yesterday, many leaders. Shows communication is very important right from the top down. Looking forward to the implementation of the Harvest Management Plan.

Deana: Acknowledge Ian and his work on behalf of the Board, he's been integral in positive relationship building and moving things along procedurally. He has been a strong supporter of the Board and the co-management process, and that is greatly appreciated. Board members thanked Ian for his work over the past several years.

Next Meeting and Closing Prayer

The next meetings will be held as follows:

- November 27 and 28, 2010, Whitehorse, Yukon (Inn on the Lake).
- February 8 to 10, 2011 – Annual Harvest Meeting, Inuvik, NWT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m. and the closing prayer was offered by Billy Storr.