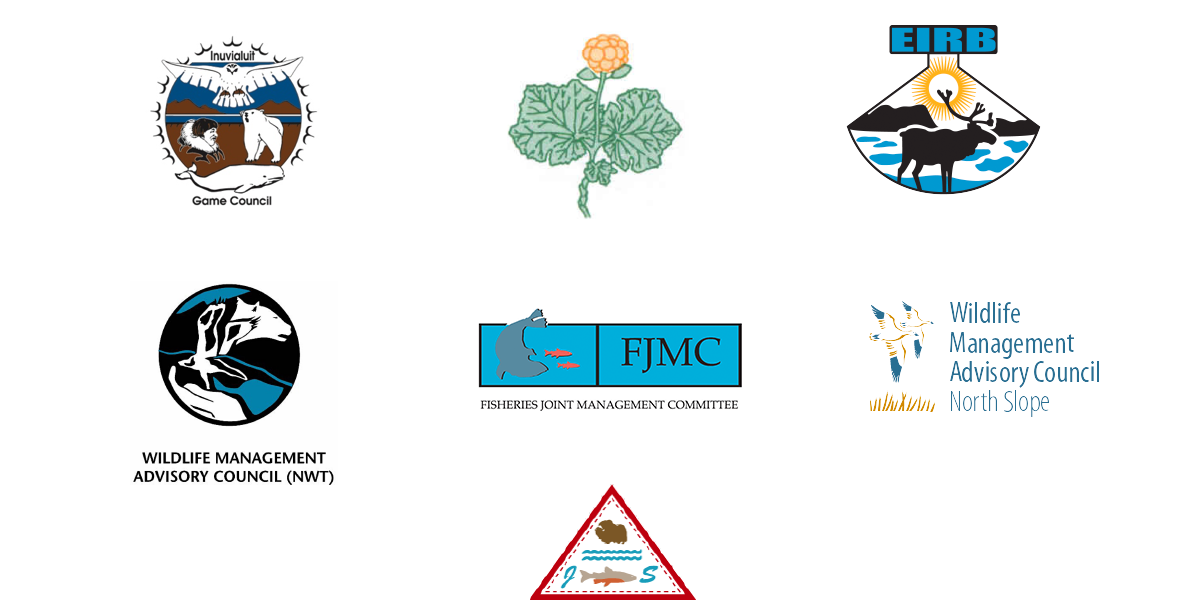
Annual Report of the Committees established under Sections 11–14 of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement and the Joint Secretariat for the 2017/2018 fiscal year.



About the Report

Presented here are annual reports for the 2017/2018 fiscal year of five[[1]](#footnote-1) of the six bodies established in Sections 11–14 of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA), as well as the report of the Joint Secretariat (JS). The reports provide a summary of organizational mandates, membership, finance, and key activities for the year. The six bodies are:

* Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC)
* Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC)
* Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB)
* Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC),
* Wildlife Management Advisory Council – NWT (WMAC (NWT))
* Wildlife Management Advisory Council – North Slope (WMAC(NS))

These bodies are collectively referred to as the *IFA committees*. Each committee has unique responsibilities defined in the IFA. The efforts of each IFA committee support the effective implementation of the IFA, which is guided by three overarching principles:

* To preserve Inuvialuit cultural identity and values within a changing northern society;
* To enable Inuvialuit to be equal and meaningful participants in the northern and national economy and society; and
* To protect and preserve the Arctic wildlife, environment, and biological productivity.

Sections 11–14 of the IFA describe Environmental Impact Assessment (Section 11: EISC and EIRB); the Yukon North Slope (Section 12: WMAC (NS)); Wildlife Compensation (Section 13); and Wildlife Harvesting and Management (Section 14: IGC, WMAC (NWT), and FJMC). The Joint Secretariat is established as a Society by agreement of the parties to the IFA in order to provide technical and administrative support to the IFA committees.

These annual reports will be incorporated into the yearly Inuvialuit Final Agreement – Implementation Coordination Committee annual report. They will also be used to meet reporting requirements to various funding agencies. For more information on individual committees or the Joint Secretariat, please contact the Joint Secretariat directly or visit the website.

**\*Please note – the financial information recorded in this version of the report is subject to change based on completion of the Joint Secretariat 2017-18 audit.**

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# Introduction from Joint Secretariat Chair

Submitted by Larry Carpenter – Chair of the Joint Secretariat Board

The 2017/2018 fiscal year was one of significant positive change for the Joint Secretariat (JS). Building on the taking-stock efforts of the previous year, in 2017/2018 we took action and implemented organizational change with largely positive results in matters of human resource management, financial accountability, and overall office culture. On funding specifically, I am pleased to report that through the hard work of the Joint Secretariat and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNA) staff, the IFA committees entered into a renewed long-term and increased funding arrangement with Canada. New funding will allow committees to better achieve their mandates as described in the IFA. Building on the strong relationships developed over the past two years, it is my hope we can ensure adequate levels of IFA committee funding moving forward.

The Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR) environment is continually changing, and the IFA co-management regime must be able to adapt. The impacts of a warming climate on regional ecosystems have Inuvialuit observing incremental changes in many areas. Changes to wildlife migration patterns and their habitat are impacting harvest success. Introduction and proliferation of new and sometimes invasive species are impacting traditional food security. Major landscape change due to permafrost melt is creating challenges for travelers as well as impacts on water quality. The opening up of new shipping routes has resulted in new opportunities for shipping, generally, and the cruise ship industry, specifically. All of these impacts have placed new challenges before the IFA’s wildlife management and environmental impact assessment committees to try to help mitigate. It is therefore imperative that the relevant institutions established under the IFA be properly supported – be it financially or in other ways – to adequately address the impacts of a warming ISR. I look forward to developing innovative solutions to these challenges with our Inuvialuit and government partners and all regional stakeholders.

Looking ahead to 2018-19, the Joint Secretariat will build on initiatives to ensure more transparency, efficiency, and a positive working environment for our dedicated staff. The transition of three Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC) staff will offer new opportunities for unique support to IFA committees. Administration staff will take steps to reduce bureaucracy while improving transparency and efficiency. The hiring of three new positions will improve the JS ability to effectively communicate with partners and stakeholders, provide much needed support to Inuvialuit Hunters and Trappers Committees, and increase internal management capacity.

# Report of the Inuvialuit Game Council



## Foreword

The Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC) was established in 1978 and incorporated under the Society Act in 1983 to represent the six Inuvialuit communities of the Western Arctic on wildlife management issues. When the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) was signed in 1984 and proclaimed through the promulgation of the Western Arctic (Inuvialuit) Claims Settlement Act, the Inuvialuit Game Council acquired a legislated mandate for its activities.

This Annual Activity Report summarizes the activities of the Inuvialuit Game Council during the 2017/2018 fiscal year (April 1, 2017, to March 31, 2018).

## Introduction

Under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement, the Inuvialuit Game Council represents the collective Inuvialuit interest in wildlife and environmental matters. The Council derives its mandate from Section 14(74) of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (see Appendix A). The Inuvialuit Game Council is one of the major Inuvialuit organizations established to implement the Inuvialuit Final Agreement and works in parallel with the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC).

The Inuvialuit Game Council is responsible for upholding and administering Inuvialuit harvesting rights acquired under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement. The Council also has a mandate to represent the collective Inuvialuit interest in all matters related to renewable resource management in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR) (see Figure 1).

The Inuvialuit Game Council appoints Inuvialuit representatives to all of the joint wildlife and environmental co-management committees established under the IFA. In addition to its responsibilities under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement, the Game Council acts as the regional representative of Inuvialuit hunters, trappers, and fishermen.

## Membership

The Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC) is comprised of two representatives from each of the six Inuvialuit Hunters and Trappers Committees (HTCs). Each HTC appoints from its Board an IGC Director – the voting member – and an IGC Alternate, who may or may not be an HTC Director.

The IGC Chair is elected by all 42 HTC Directors. The Chair can be any active HTC member who is 18 years of age or older. The Vice-Chair and Treasurer are elected by the IGC Directors from amongst themselves. The Inuvialuit Game Council Resource Management Coordinators/Executive Secretary are not required to be members of any Hunters and Trappers Committee.

Membership of the Inuvialuit Game Council during 2017/2018

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Community** | **Name** | **Position** | **Fiscal Term** |
| Inuvik | Patrick Gruben | Chair | April 2017 – June 2017 |
| John Lucas Jr. | Chair | July 2017 – March 2018 |
| Aklavik HTC | William Storr | Director | April 2017 – December 2017 |
| Jordan McLeod | Director | January 2018 – March 2018 |
| Jordan McLeod | Alternate | April 2017 – December 2017 |
| Dean Arey | Alternate | January 2018 – March 2017 |
| Olokhaktomiut HTC | Gibson Kudlak | Director | April 2017 – December 2017 |
| Fred Akoaksion | Director | January 2018 – March 2018 |
| Joshua Oliktoak | Alternate | April 2017 – December 2017 |
| John Alikamik | Alternate | January 2018 – March 2018 |
| Inuvik HTC | Hans Lennie | Director | April 2017 –March 2018 |
| Jimmy Kalinek | Alternate | Feb 2017 – March 2018 |
| Paulatuk HTC | Lawrence Ruben | Director | April 2017 – March 2018 |
| Joe Illasiak | Alternate | April 2017 – March 2018 |
| Tuktoyaktuk HTC | Chuck Gruben | Director | April 2017 – March 2018 |
| John Noksana | Alternate | April 2017 – December 2017 |
| Richard Gruben | Alternate | January 2018 – March 2018 |
| Sachs Harbour HTC | Manny Kudlak | Director | March 2017 – December 2017 |
| Vernon Amos | Director | January 2018 – March 2018 |
| Jeff Kuptana | Alternate | March 2017 – December 2018 |

## Officers and Staff

The Inuvialuit Game Council is incorporated as a Society under the Northwest Territories Societies Act, and is required to elect Officers.

Officers during the 2017/2018 Fiscal Year

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Chair | Patrick Gruben | April 2017 – June 2017 |
| John Lucas Jr. | July 2017 – March 2018 |
| Vice-Chair | Lawrence Ruben | April 2017 – March 2018 |
| Treasurer | Hans Lennie | June 2017 – March 2018 |
| Executive Secretaries | Jennifer Lam | April 2017 – March 2018 |
| Chanda Turner | November 2017 – March 2018 |

The Joint Secretariat in Inuvik provides support staff for the Inuvialuit Game Council with two Resource Management Coordinator (RMC) positions. One of the IGC RMCs also acts as the Executive Secretary for IGC meetings. Jennifer Lam and Chanda Turner fulfilled these roles for the Inuvialuit Game Council. Peter Enitilo, Shawna Kaglik, Bernice Joe, Eunice Thrasher, and Arsalan Malik provided financial administration and clerical support during the 2017/2018 fiscal year. Mike Harlow, Executive Director of the Joint Secretariat, served as a technical and administrative advisor during the 2017/2018 fiscal year.

### Directors’ and Regular Meetings

The Directors’ meetings are attended by the appointed Directors (with the December IGC meetings attended by Directors and Alternates) from the community Hunters and Trappers Committees. During the IGC meetings, each community reports on issues and concerns from its respective Hunters and Trappers Committee. The Inuvialuit Game Council also discusses internal issues during the Directors’ meetings. Directors’ meetings are held the day before and the day after the Regular meetings.

Regular Members’ meetings are open to the various co-management committees, government departments, and others that wish to update the IGC on their activities within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region.

During the 2017/2018 fiscal year the Inuvialuit Game Council met as follows:June 9- 12, 2017 Paulatuk, NT

September 7-10, 2017 Whitehorse, YT

December 5-8, 2017 Inuvik, NT

March 7-10, 2018 Inuvik, NT

## IGC Activities During 2017/2018

### Meetings Attended by Inuvialuit Game Council Members or Appointed Representatives

Representatives from the Game Council attended the meetings and workshops listed below during the 2017/2018 fiscal year. The Inuvialuit Game Council made presentations at several of the events. Government departments or other sources of funding covered some of the costs for representatives to attend some of these meetings. The costs for the Game Council’s resource management coordinators to attend meetings are covered under the Joint Secretariat’s budget.

Teleconferences and meetings held throughout the fiscal year

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Organization** | **Attendee(s)** |
| CIMP Working Group | Charles Pokiak |
| Beaufort Sea Partnership and Regional Coordinating Committee | John Lucas Jr. |
| Porcupine Caribou Management Board | William Storr, Charles Pokiak |
| Inuit Communication Group (to coordinate and collaborate with other Canadian Inuit land claim groups and Environment and Climate Change Canada on shared polar bear issues) | Patrick Gruben, John Lucas Jr. |
| Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment | Patrick Gruben, John Lucas Jr. |
| Inuit Circumpolar Council Food Sovereignty Advisory Committee | John Lucas Jr., Lawrence Ruben |
| Beaver Management meetings | John Lucas Jr. |

Other meetings by month

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Month** | **Meeting** | **Attendee(s)** |
| April 2017 | ENR/NASA Climate Change Education Course: Apr. 19-21, Yellowknife, NT | Joshua Oliktoak |
| Transport Canada Cruise Ship Guidelines Working Group: Apr. 19-21, Ottawa, ON | Manny Kudlak |
| Barren Ground Caribou Input Meeting: Apr. 22, Whitehorse, YT | William Storr |
| Joint Secretariat Board meeting: Apr. 25-27, Vancouver, BC | Patrick Gruben |
| May 2017 | Inuvik Tuktoyaktuk Highway Corridor Working Group: May 16 | Patrick Gruben |
| Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans – Marine Protected Areas: May 29, Inuvik, NT | Patrick Gruben |
| IFA-ICC: May 30-31, Inuvik, NT | Patrick Gruben |
| June 2017 | Polar Bear Framework for Actions Workshop: June 1, Inuvik, NT | Charles Gruben, Billy Storr, Joshua Oliktoak |
| Marine Conservation Target Site Identification Advisory Group meeting: June 20, Inuvik, NT | Patrick Gruben |
| July 2017 | Porcupine Caribou Management Board Native User Agreement meeting: July 5, Dawson, YT | William Storr |
| Polar Bear Administrative Committee: July 13, Iqaluit, NU (via teleconference) | Lawrence Ruben |
| RSEA Co-chair meeting: July 20, Inuvik, NT | Lawrence Ruben |
| August 2017 | Federal Legislation Review meeting: Aug. 2, Inuvik, NT | John Lucas Jr. |
| Marine Conservation Target Site Identification Advisory Group meeting: Aug. 10, Inuvik, NT | John Lucas Jr. |
| ANMPA/Ocean’s Day: Aug. 11, Paulatuk, NT | John Lucas Jr. |
| Inuvialuit Inupiat Polar Bear Joint Commission Agreement meeting: Aug. 22-23, Barrow, AK | John Lucas Jr., Charles Gruben |
| Inuvialuit-Inupiat Beluga Management Committee: Aug. 24, Barrow, AK | John Lucas Jr., Charles Pokiak, John Noksana Jr. |
| September 2017 | IFA Research Day: Sept. 6, Whitehorse, YT | Whole Council |
| JS Board meeting: Sept. 5-6, Whitehorse, YT | John Lucas Jr. |
| Porcupine Caribou Management Board: Sept. 11-12, Whitehorse, YT | William Storr |
| Inuvialuit Water Board meeting: Sept. 12, Inuvik, NT | Gibson Kudlak |
| MCT Site Identification Advisory Committee: Sept. 18-19 | John Lucas Jr. |
| OHTC Annual General Meeting: Sept. 27, Ulukhaktok, NT | John Lucas Jr. |
| October 2017 | Inuit Circumpolar Council Coastal Experts Workshop: Oct. 12-13, Anchorage, AK | Charles Gruben |
| Porcupine Caribou Management Board Native User Agreement: Oct. 11-12, Dawson, YT | William Storr |
| Beaufort Sea Partnership Meeting: Oct. 24-26, Inuvik, NT | Lawrence Ruben |
| Wildlife Act Section 15: Oct. 24-25, Yellowknife, NT | John Lucas Jr. |
| Arctic Shipping North America: Oct. 30-31, Montreal, QC | Hans Lennie |
| IFA- ICC: Oct. 30, Edmonton, AB | John Lucas Jr. |
| November 2017 | Wildlife Act Working Group: Nov. 2-3, Yellowknife, NT | John Lucas Jr., Gibson Kudlak, Manny Kudlak |
| Northern Marine Transportation Corridor Workshop: Nov. 1-2, Iqaluit, NU | Hans Lennie |
| Inuit Circumpolar Council Wildlife Management Summit: Nov. 6-8, Ottawa, ON | John Lucas Jr., Lawrence Ruben |
| Inuit Groups and ECCC meeting: Nov. 9, Ottawa, ON | John Lucas Jr. |
| Sachs Harbour HTC Annual General Meeting: Nov. 17, Sachs Harbour, NT | John Lucas Jr. |
| ACCWM Status meeting: Nov. 21-23, Yellowknife, NT | John Lucas Jr., Joe Illasiak |
| Inuvik Tuktoyaktuk Highway Corridor Working Group: Nov. 29, Inuvik, NT | Hans Lennie, Charles Gruben |
| Beluga Tagging Tour: Nov. 27-30, various ISR communities | John Lucas Jr. |
| December 2017 | International Arctic Change: Dec. 11-15, Quebec City, QC | John Lucas Jr., Charles Gruben |
| January 2018 | Beaufort RSEA Advisory Committee: Jan. 9 by teleconference | John Lucas Jr. |
| Fisheries Joint Management Committee: Jan. 16-19, Winnipeg, MB | John Lucas Jr. |
| Grizzly Bear Management Boundary meeting: Jan. 26, Tuktoyaktuk, NT | John Lucas Jr. |
| Porcupine Caribou Summit: Jan. 31- Feb. 1, Whitehorse, YT | William Storr |
| February 2018 | Polar Bear Range States meeting: Feb. 2-4, Fairbanks, AK | John Lucas Jr. |
| Polar Bear Technical Meeting: Feb. 6-8, Inuvik, NT | John Lucas Jr., Charles Pokiak, Jody Illisiak, Lenny Emaghok, Danny Gordon Jr. |
| Transport Canada Ocean Protection Plan meeting: Feb. 8, Inuvik, NT | John Lucas Jr., Hans Lennie |
| Porcupine Caribou Management Board Annual Harvest meeting: Feb. 13-15, Dawson City, YT | Jimmy Kalinek, William Storr |
| Porcupine Caribou Native User Agreement: Feb. 15, Dawson City, YT | William Storr |
| Beaufort RSEA Community Tour: Feb. 26- Mar. 1, various ISR communities | John Lucas Jr. |
| March 2018 | Fisheries Act Amendments meeting with DFO: Mar. 2, Inuvik, NT | John Lucas Jr. |
| CircumArctic Rangifer Monitoring and Assessment: Mar. 6-7, Whitehorse, YT | Richard Gruben |
| Regional Coordination Committee (Beaufort Sea Partnership): Mar. 6, Inuvik, NT | John Lucas Jr. |
| Beaufort RSEA Community Tour: Mar. 19-20, Tuktoyaktuk and Inuvik, NT | John Lucas Jr. |
| Tuk Peninsula and Cape Bathurst Calving Grounds meeting: Mar. 21, Tuktoyaktuk, NT | John Lucas Jr. |
| ICC Alaska Food Sovereignty Advisory Committee: Mar. 28-29, Nome, Alaska | John Lucas Jr. |

### Committee Summaries and Activities During 2017/2018

Over the years, committees were established to implement provisions of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement and to deal with on-going issues (including national and international issues) related to the management of wildlife species that directly or indirectly affect the Inuvialuit of the Western Arctic. These committees are separate from the co-management structures established under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA).

Below is a list of the committees to which the IGC has appointed members, including the co-management committees established under the IFA, followed by a brief summary of each committee’s activities during the 2017/2018 fiscal year. Also listed is the length of members’ terms. Some committees that appeared in previous years’ Annual Reports have not been listed here because those committees have been inactive during this fiscal year. Contact information is provided for committees that publish their own annual reports.

#### Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program Steering Committee

Both the Gwich’in and the Sahtu Dene and Métis Land Claim Agreements require the development of a method to monitor land and water use cumulative impacts on the Mackenzie Valley environment. This group was established to guide this development with the federal department, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNA).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **IGC Appointee** | **Term** |
| Charles Pokiak | Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2018 |
| Hans Lennie | Mar. 2014 – Sept. 2015 |

#### Environmental Impact Screening Committee (3 years)

The Environmental Impact Screening Committee conducts primary environmental screening of developments proposed for the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. The EISC was established under section 11(5) of the IFA.

Contact information to obtain EISC Annual Activity Reports or Operating Guidelines and Procedures:

P.O. Box 2120, Inuvik NT XOE OTO

Phone: (867) 777-2828 Fax: (867) 777-2610

Email: [eisc@jointsec.nt.ca](mailto:eisc@jointsec.nt.ca)

Web: [www.screeningcommittee.ca](http://www.screeningcommittee.ca)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **IGC Appointee** | **Term** |
| Shannon O’Hara | Oct. 2016 – Sept. 2019 |
| Ray Ruben | Oct. 2016 – Sept. 2019 |
| Gerald Inglangasuk | Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2018 |

#### Environmental Impact Review Board (3 years)

Environmental Impact Review Board conducts reviews, through a public hearing process, of projects referred to it by the EISC and recommends what development projects should proceed and any terms and conditions for those projects. The EIRB was established under section 11(22) of the IFA.

Contact information to obtain EIRB Annual Report:

P.O. Box 2120, Inuvik NT XOE OTO

Phone: (867) 777-2828 Fax: (867) 777-2610

Email: [eirb@jointsec.nt.ca](mailto:eirb@jointsec.nt.ca)

Web: [www.eirb.ca](http://www.eirb.ca)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **IGC Appointee** | **Term** |
| Crystal Lennie | Oct. 2016 – Sept. 2019 |
| Ethel-Jean Gruben | Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2018 |
| Roland Kikoak | Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2020 |

#### Fisheries Joint Management Committee (members – 3 years; alternates – 2 years)

The Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC) advises the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans on ISR fish and marine mammals management matters under section 14(61) of the IFA. The FJMC works with government and renewable resource user groups in Canada and Alaska to oversee common migratory stocks.

Contact information to obtain FJMC Annual Report:

P.O. Box 2120, Inuvik NT XOE OTO

Phone: (867) 777-2828 Fax: (867) 777-2610

Email: [fjmc-rp@jointsec.nt.ca](mailto:fjmc-rp@jointsec.nt.ca) or [fjmc-rb@jointsec.nt.ca](mailto:fjmc-rb@jointsec.nt.ca)

Web: [www.fjmc.ca](http://www.fjmc.ca)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **IGC Appointee** | **Term** |
| John Noksana | Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2018 |
| Gerald Inglangasuk | Oct. 2016 – Sept. 2019 |
| Charles Pokiak (Alternate) | Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2019 |
| Joshua Oliktoak (Alternate) | Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2019 |

#### Inuvialuit Final Agreement Implementation Coordinating Committee

Contact information to obtain IFA/ICC Annual Report:

Inuvialuit Regional Corporation

P.O. Box 2120, Inuvik, NT X0E 0T0

Phone: (867) 777-2737 Fax: (867) 777-2135

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **IGC Appointee** | **Term** |
| John Lucas Jr. | Oct. 2017 – indeterminate |
| Mike Harlow (Alternate) | Oct. 2017 – indeterminate |

#### Inuvialuit - Inupiat Beluga Management Committee (3 years)

The Beaufort Sea Beluga Whale Agreement was signed on March 3, 2000. As per the Agreement, the FJMC has been sending Inuvialuit Settlement Region beluga harvesting data to the Alaskans. They meet to exchange research and harvest data and to coordinate future work.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **IGC Appointee** | **Term** |
| John Noksana | Oct. 2017 – Sept 2020 |
| Jimmy Kalinek | Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2020 |
| Charles Pokiak | Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2020 |

#### Inuvialuit–Inupiat Polar Bear Joint Commission & Technical Committee (3 years)

These two committees discuss the status, health and harvesting of the shared population of polar bears in the Southern Beaufort Sea region.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **IGC Appointee** | **Term** |
| John Lucas Jr. | Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2020 |
| Charles Gruben | Mar. 2017 – Sept. 2020 |
| Bradley Carpenter (Alternate) | Oct. 2016 – Sept. 2018 |

#### NWT Protected Areas Strategy (PAS) Implementation Advisory Committee

The PAS Strategy was approved in September 1999. This committee guides the establishment of protected areas. Several regions outside of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR) established protected areas in the Northwest Territories under the PAS. This is ongoing. The Inuvialuit set aside 29 percent of land within the ISR with some form of protection. This 29 percent includes three national parks, five migratory bird sanctuaries, one territorial park, one marine protected area, and numerous national historic sites. It also includes the Beluga Management Zones (being established as marine protected areas) and two special management areas.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **IGC Appointee** | **Term** |
| Richard Binder | Dec. 1999 - indeterminate |

#### Polar Bear Technical Committee (federal)

This committee of resource users and scientists holds its annual meeting in February. Members discussed the management and research of polar bears in Canada, with additional information from the United States.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **IGC Appointee** | **Term** |
| Charles Pokiak | Oct 2016 – Sept. 2019 |
| John Lucas Jr. | Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2020 |
| Jody Illisiak (Alternate) | Oct. 2016 – Sept. 2018 |

#### Porcupine Caribou Management Board (2 years)

Contact information to obtain PCMB Annual Report:

Box 4999, Whitehorse YT Y1A 4S2

Phone: (867) 633-4780 Fax: (867) 633-4780

Email: [pcmb@taiga.net](mailto:pcmb@taiga.net)

Web: [www.taiga.net/pcmb](http://www.taiga.net/pcmb)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **IGC Appointee** | **Term** |
| William Storr | Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2020 |
| Charles Pokiak | Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2019 |

#### Tuktut Nogait National Park Management Board (2 years)

Contact information to obtain Annual Report:

Box 91, Paulatuk, NT X0E 1N0

Phone: (867) 580-3233 Fax: (867) 580-3234

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **IGC Appointee** | **Term** |
| Noel Green | Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2020 |
| John M. Kudlak (Alternate) | Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2019 |

#### Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) (members – 3 years; alternates – 2 years)

Contact information to obtain WMAC (NS) Annual Report:

P.O. Box 5928, Whitehorse YT Y1A 5L9

Phone: (867) 633-5476 Fax: (867) 633-6900

Email: wmacns@wmacns.ca

Web: [www.wmacns.ca](http://www.wmacns.ca)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **IGC Appointee** | **Term** |
| Danny C. Gordon | Sept. 2014 – Sept. 2017 |
| Ernest Pokiak | Sept. 2016 – Sept. 2019 |
| Michelle Gruben (Alternate) | Sept. 2016 – Sept. 2018 |
| Gerry Kisoun (Alternate) | Sept. 2017 – Sept. 2019 |

#### Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT) (members – 3 years; alternates – 2 years)

Contact information to obtain WMAC (NWT) Annual Report:

P.O. Box 2120, Inuvik NT XOE OTO

Phone: (867) 777-2828 Fax: (867) 777-2610

Email: [wmacnwt@jointsec.nt.ca](mailto:wmacnwt@jointsec.nt.ca)

Web: [www.jointsecretariat.ca/wmacnwt](http://www.jointsecretariat.ca/wmacnwt)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **IGC Appointee** | **Term** |
| Jody Illisiak | Sept 2017 – Sept. 2020 |
| Bradley Carpenter | Sept 2016 – Sept. 2018 |
| Charles Pokiak | Sept. 2016 – Sept. 2019 |
| John Lucas Jr. (Alternate) | Sept. 2016 – Sept. 2018 |
| Joshua Oliktoak(Alternate) | Sept. 2017 – Sept. 2019 |
| Devalynn Pokiak (Alternate) | Sept. 2017 – Sept. 2019 |

## Funding Summary

Implementation Funding: $627, 890. Received from the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Implementation funding is used to carry out core functions of the Inuvialuit Game Council as described throughout this report.

## Inuvialuit Game Council Highlights Summary

Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC) members or representatives attend meetings that address issues related to the IGC’s mandate regarding wildlife and habitat in the ISR at the community, territorial, national, and international levels. The list of meetings that IGC members or their representatives attended and the committee summaries included in this annual report indicate a number of the issues in which the Game Council was involved. The following are highlights of Inuvialuit Game Council activities during the 2017/2018 fiscal year.

The Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) was signed over 30 years ago, but many older (and some newer) pieces of government legislation do not reflect the harvesting rights of the Inuvialuit. Although the IFA supersedes existing and future legislation to the extent of any inconsistency, the IGC feels that it is important to ensure that when legislation is being written or amended, it is made consistent with the IFA. With that in mind, the IGC provides ongoing input into various territorial and national Acts and Regulations. During the 2017/2018 fiscal year, the IGC continued to be engaged in the development of new NWT Wildlife Act Regulations, which involved meetings with other aboriginal groups in the NWT and the GNWT Department of Environment and Natural Resources. In light of changes in the sea ice cover and climate change, the IGC has increased its participation in marine shipping issues. The IGC also registered its concern with the federal government about inconsistencies between the IFA and the *CEAA (2012)* in light of the possibility it could be amended in the near future. In addition, the IGC participated in the federal legislative review for the *Fisheries Act* and the National Energy Board modernization review. The IGC continues its role as co-chair of the Beaufort Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment, alongside the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada.

This fiscal year the IGC and the Hunters and Trappers Committees (HTC) again spent time meeting with government agencies, researchers, industry representatives, and consultants regarding proposed projects to address the wildlife and environmental management obligations under the IFA.

There has been increasing international focus on issues related to polar bears. The IGC has taken a proactive role to ensure that it continues to be involved in any management decisions for polar bears that would affect the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. The IGC worked closely with other Inuit groups in Canada, and with the Government of Canada and Territorial governments to ensure proper and robust adaptive management of this species on a regional, national, and international level.

## Appendix A. Inuvialuit Game Council’s Role under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement

Section 14 (73)

The Inuvialuit Game Council shall be established and shall have a Chairman and at least one representative from each of the Hunters and Trappers Committees referred to in subsection(75).

As amended January 15, 1987

Section 14 (74)

For the purposes of this Agreement, the Inuvialuit Game Council shall represent the collective Inuvialuit interest in wildlife. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Inuvialuit Game Council shall, among its other activities:

(a) appoint Inuvialuit members for all joint government/Inuvialuit bodies having an interest in wildlife, including those referred to in Sections 11, 12 and 14;

As amended January 15, 1987

(b) advise the appropriate governments through the Wildlife Management Advisory Councils (NWT and North Slope) or otherwise as appropriate on policy, legislation, regulation and administration respecting wildlife, conservation, research, management and enforcement;

(c) assign community hunting and trapping areas within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region for the purposes of Inuvialuit wildlife harvesting where appropriate;

(d) review and advise through the Wildlife Management Advisory Councils (NWT and North Slope) or otherwise as appropriate, the appropriate governments on existing or proposed wildlife legislation;

(e) review and advise the government on any proposed Canadian position for international purposes that affect wildlife in the Inuvialuit Settlement region;

(f) where appropriate, allocate Inuvialuit quotas among the communities;

(g) appoint members whenever possible or appropriate for any Canadian delegation that deals with international matters affecting wildlife harvesting by the Inuvialuit.

(h) appoint members for any committee or group whose purpose is to investigate any aspect of wildlife usage in the Inuvialuit Settlement region; and

(i) on request, assist the Wildlife Management Advisory Councils (NWT and North Slope) in carrying out their functions.

# Report of the Environmental Impact Screening Committee



## Foreword From the Chair

As Chair of the Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC), I am pleased to present the EISC’s 2017/2018 Annual Report.

I was appointed in August 2017 by the Government of Canada. Prior to my appointment, Albert Ruben Sr. held the Interim Chair position. The EISC has been without an appointed Canada Member since March 2017 when Mr. Rudy Cockney’s term ended. The other members of the EISC are Mr. Bengt Pettersson, Mr. Ray Ruben Sr, Mr. Albert Ruben, Mr. Gerald Inglangasuk, and Ms. Shannon O’Hara. The EISC Coordinator position was vacant from June 2017 until October 2017 following the resignation of Mr. Dez Loreen and his predecessor Mr. Darrell Christie. Ms. Michel Lindsay accepted the role of EISC Coordinator in October 2017.

Section 11 of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) sets out the core mandate of the EISC, which is to carry out the screening of relevant proposals. Provisions governing the activities and operation of the EISC are described mainly within IFA sections 11, 12, and 13.

The IFA requires the EISC to screen proposals in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, including the Yukon North Slope, that could have a significant negative impact on the environment or wildlife harvesting. Regulatory agencies must not issue licenses or approvals that permit any development to proceed in the ISR prior to environmental screening and, if necessary, review.

Members attended screening meetings approximately every six weeks to “expeditiously determine if the proposed development could have a significant negative environmental impact”, pursuant to IFA section 11.(17). Eight of the regular meetings were held in Inuvik and one regular meeting was held via teleconference. In addition to the regular EISC meetings, the Pre-screening Subcommittee (PSC) met electronically to determine whether or not a project proposal required an environmental impact screening. Members also undertook related duties as required to fulfill the mandate of the EISC. As Chair, I attended several meetings of the Joint Secretariat Board.

Over the 2017/2018 fiscal year, a total of 47 projects were submitted to the EISC. Of those, 34 proposals were exempt from screening for various reasons as set out in the respective pre-screening decision forms. The EISC screened 13 projects: 2 research projects, 1 infra-structure project, 3 remediation projects, 3 tourism projects, and 4 cruise ship projects. No projects were referred to environmental impact review. Three submissions received in the 2017/2018 fiscal year are currently being screened by the EISC, 2 files require the submission of a Project Description, and 3 proponents failed to complete the requirements to screen before the proposed activities were to take place.

My sincere thanks and appreciation to all members of the EISC and to Ms. Lindsay for their commitment to the important work of the EISC. My particular thanks to Albert Ruben Sr. for his work as Interim Chair and for his thoughtful guidance following my appointment.

Sincerely,



David Livingstone

Chair, Environmental Impact Screening Committee

## Introduction

On June 5, 1984, the Committee for Original Peoples’ Entitlement (representing the Inuvialuit) and the Federal Government of Canada signed the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA), which was subsequently legislated under the Western Arctic (Inuvialuit) Claims Settlement Act [S.C. 32-33 Elizabeth II C.24.]. Provisions of the IFA enable the Inuvialuit to participate, and be meaningful partners, in all decisions-making processes dealing with the management of the environment and wildlife within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR). Section 1 of the IFA expresses the following principles.

* To preserve the Inuvialuit cultural identity and values within a changing northern society.
* To enable the Inuvialuit to be equal and meaningful participants in the northern and national economy and society.
* To protect and preserve arctic wildlife, environment and biological productivity.

As one of five co-management groups established under the terms of the IFA, the EISC plays a vital role in achieving these stated goals through implementing the screening portion of the IFA Environmental Impact Screening and Review Process.

The EISC’s mandate is to undertake a preliminary assessment of a proposed development and its environmental effects to determine whether a proposed development “…could have a significant negative environmental impact”. The EISC is not required to determine whether a proposed development “will” have a significant negative impact, rather the decision is whether it “could” have a significant negative environmental impact. This test of significance has a relatively low threshold, which is appropriate at a preliminary environmental screening stage. If the EISC determines that the proposed development “could” have a significant negative environmental effect then the proposed development will be referred to an environmental impact review process for further assessment and review. Further responsibilities of the EISC, as outlined in the IFA, can be found in Appendix A.

This Annual report summarizes the EISC’s activities for the fiscal period of 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018.

## Membership

The following individuals comprised the EISC as of 31 March 2018.

#### Chair

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| David Livingstone  Yellowknife, NT | Nominated by Canada/Appointed August 14, 2017  Present Term: August 14, 2017 – August 13, 2021 |

#### Members

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Bengt Pettersson  Whitehorse, YT | Nominated by the YG/Appointed August 5, 2016  Present Term: August 5, 2016 – August 4, 2019 |
| Vacant | Nominated by Canada/Appointed |
| Ray Ruben Sr.  Paulatuk, NT | Appointed by the IGC October 1, 2016  Present Term: October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2019 |
| Albert Ruben  Paulatuk, NT | Nominated by the GNWT/Appointed September 6, 2005  Present Term: March 22, 2016 – March 21, 2019  Previous Term: May 25, 2012 – May 25, 2015  Previous Term: March 2, 2009 – March 1, 2012  Previous Term: September 6, 2005 – September 6, 2008 |
| Gerald Inglangasuk  Inuvik, NT | Appointed by the IGC October 1, 2015  Present Term: October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2018  Previous Term: October 17, 2012 – September 30, 2015 |
| Shannon O’Hara  Inuvik, NT | Appointed by the IGC October 1, 2016  Present Term: October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2019 |

## Administrative and Technical Support

The EISC receives administrative, technical, and clerical support from the Joint Secretariat – Inuvialuit Settlement Region, situated in Inuvik, NT. The EISC Coordinator serves as the Secretary to the EISC and provides full-time office support. Ms. Michel Lindsay is the EISC Coordinator.

The EISC Coordinator position was not fully staffed during the period of this report. The EISC Coordinator position was vacant from June 17, 2017, until October 23, 2017, following the resignation of Mr. Dez Loreen (ended June 16, 2017) and his predecessor, Mr. Darrell Christie (ended May 1, 2017). Ms. Michel Lindsay accepted the role of EISC Coordinator October 23, 2017.

During the period of this report the EISC also received administrative support from various employees of the Joint Secretariat, including: Mike Harlow, Executive Director; Arsalan Malik, Senior Administrative Officer; Peter Enitilo, Office Manager; Eunice Thrasher, Finance Officer; Shawna Kaglik, Travel/Accommodation Coordinator; and Bernice Joe, Secretary/Receptionist.

John Donihee of Willms & Shier provided contractual legal services.

## Committee Activities

Members attended screening meetings approximately every six weeks and participated in other activities on behalf of the EISC, as required, to fulfill the mandate of the EISC and to “*expeditiously determine if the proposed development could have a significant negative environmental impact*” as stated in section 11.(17) of the IFA.

### Regular Meetings

The EISC held eight of nine regular meetings in Inuvik, NT: April 19-21, 2017; June 7-9, 2017; July 12-14, 2017; August 23-25, 2017; October 4-6, 2017; November 15-17, 2017; February 1, 2018; and March 12-13, 2018. The EISC held one regular meeting over teleconference on December 21, 2017.

In addition to the regular EISC meetings, the Pre-screening Subcommittee (PSC) met electronically, as and when required, to determine whether or not a project proposal required an environmental impact screening.

### Submissions

It is the responsibility of the proponent to submit a project description to the EISC for environmental screening. Under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA), section 11(36), “no license or approval shall be issued that would have the effect of permitting any proposed development to proceed unless the provisions of [IFA section 11(36)] have been complied with.” This requirement has the effect of requiring competent authorities to give notice of applications for licenses, permits, or other authorizations to the EISC. These applications for proposed developments must be reviewed by the EISC to determine if they are subject to environmental impact screening.

A pre-screening decision as to whether or not a project proposal requires an environmental impact screening is made by a subcommittee of three of the seven EISC members. A panel of five EISC members makes environmental Impact Screening decisions. The Panel consists of the Chair, two Inuvialuit members, the Canada member, and the Territorial member nominated by the territory (YT or NT) within which the project is to occur. Decisions are made on a majority vote basis, with the Chair voting in the case of a tie.

Over the period of the 2017/2018 fiscal year, a total of 47 projects were submitted to the EISC.

Of the total submissions, no projects were referred to the Environmental Impact Review Board.

In summary, 34 of the 47 proposals were exempt from an Environmental Impact Screening. The EISC screened 13 project descriptions during 2017/2018 fiscal year, including: research projects (2); infrastructure projects (1); remediation (3); tourism (3); and cruise ships (4).

It should be noted that three submissions received in the 2017/2018 fiscal year are being screened by the EISC during the 2018/2019 year, two files require the submission of a Project Description, and three proponents failed to complete the requirements for screening before the proposed activities were to take place.

In addition to developments that are screened, the EISC asks to be informed of other projects that are proposed for the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, but that are exempt from the screening process for various reasons. This task is undertaken so that the EISC can maintain a broad picture of the activities being carried out within the ISR for the purposes of cumulative impact assessment. The EISC greatly appreciated the efforts of the other Joint Secretariat co-management groups, the government agencies, the Aurora Research Institute, and the Inuvialuit Land Administration during the reporting year to keep the EISC apprised of such activities.

Please see Appendix C: EISC Submissions for a chart showing all the above activity.

### Other Activity

Internal administrative projects were undertaken by the EISC during this reporting period in order to fulfill section 11.(14) under the IFA which states: “The Screening Committee may establish and adopt by-laws and rules for its internal management and procedures in order to ensure reasonable and expeditious consideration of applications.”

#### EISC Arctic Marine Guidelines for the ISR

With increased accessibility to the Northwest Passage (NWP), offshore marine traffic within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR) has increased. Of concern to the EISC is the steadily increasing cruise-ship traffic. One tangible outcome of this increased marine traffic, as realized by the EISC, is the commencement of a new guideline document tentatively to be titled “EISC Arctic Marine Guidelines to the ISR” (including all supporting materials, such as MARPOL, etc.). The guideline document will be produced and published to the EISC website and then made available to all interested parties /proponents. The EISC will consult with the Joint Secretariat Co-Management Boards during the ISR Shipping Workshop on June 25-27, 2018, in Inuvik. The second phase of consultations with affected parties/stakeholders will follow the June Shipping Workshop. The projected release date for this guideline is the Fall of 2018.

#### Updates to the EISC Guidelines and Rules of Procedure

As publicly stated in the EISC Guidelines, the Screening Committee will review the Screening Guidelines and Rules of Procedure at a minimum of every five years in order to maintain procedural fairness and transparency in the screening process. Initial drafting and editing of documents were initiated. References to EIRB were removed to maintain the distinction between the two Boards. It will also be necessary to add provisions from the IFA, which set out the EISC’s responsibility. When the draft is complete, it will be presented to impacted parties for comments. This phase will take approximately three months. After reviewing comments and incorporating any additional material, the document will be made publicly available on the EISC website.

### Presentations and Guests

The EISC routinely accepts presentations from proponents with project descriptions before the EISC, particularly when the proposal is controversial or complex. Guests are invited to sit in on these presentations or to speak on topics of mutual interest. Following are the presentations and guests received during 2017/2018.

July 12-14, 2017: Inuvialuit Water Board

Mr. Roger Connelly, Ms. Mardy Semmler, Mr. Bijaya Adhikari

February 1, 2018: Inuvialuit Water Board

Mr. Roger Connelly, Ms. Mardy Semmler, Mr. Bijaya Adhikari

### Events Attended

During the fiscal year, the Chair, Members, and/or Coordinator attended the meetings, conferences, or workshops listed below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Month** | **Event** | **Attendee** |
| April 2017 | IAIA 17th Conference (Montreal, QC) – Apr. 4-7 | Dez Loreen |
| Transport Canada Meeting (Ottawa, ON) – Apr. 19-21 | Darrell Christie |
| May 2017 | CMAC Meeting (Montreal, QC) – May 17-18 | Dez Loreen |
| September 2017 | Northern Contaminants Program (NCP) Results Workshop (Yellowknife, NT) – Sept. 26-28 | Ray Ruben Sr. |
| October 2017 | Ocean Innovation 2017 (St John’s, NF) – Oct. 16-18 | Albert Ruben Sr. |
| November 2017 | NWT Board Forum meetings (Inuvik, NT) –Nov. 28-30 | David Livingstone, Michel Lindsay |
| December 2017 | Arctic Change Conference (Quebec City, QC) – Dec. 11-15 | Ray Ruben Sr. |
| IGC Meetings (Inuvik, NT) |  |
| January 2018 | PAME 6th Ecosystems Assessment workshop (Seattle, WA) – Jan. 9-11 | David Livingstone |
| February 2018 | NWT Board Forum – Terms of Reference workshops (Yellowknife, NT) – Feb. 15 | David Livingstone |
| March 2018 | IFA 101 Workshop (Inuvik, NT) – Mar. 13-15 | All Committee Members and Staff |
| NWT Board Forum Training courses – Board Orientation (Yellowknife, NT) – Mar. 19-20 | Gerald Inglangasuk, Shannon O’Hara, Ray Ruben Sr., Michel Lindsay |
| NWT Board Forum Training courses – Administrative Law (Yellowknife, NT) – Mar. 21-22 | David Livingstone, Gerald Inglangasuk, Shannon O’Hara, Ray Ruben Sr., Michel Lindsay |

## Funding

As stated in section 11.(7) of the IFA, “permanent members shall be appointed, remunerated and replaced by the respective appointing parties.”

Funding of all renewable-resource-related activities associated with the implementation of the IFA is provided by Canada and coordinated through Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs (CIRNA). Funding received in the 2017/2018 fiscal year represented both the 14th year of what is described as a 10-year funding cycle and the 1st year of a 10-year funding cycle.

The overall process of the funding agreement is coordinated by CIRNA, while the Joint Secretariat is responsible for overseeing the budget forecasts to the Treasury Board. The resulting allocations for the EISC become part of the committee’s annual budget. The funds received under the contribution agreement between CIRNA and the Joint Secretariat support operational activities of the committee. These costs, which include operational costs, Chair costs and salary, Canada member costs and salary, and operational costs for the committee’s Coordinator (secretary), are detailed in Appendix C.

Remuneration of meeting costs associated with the Inuvialuit members appointed to the EISC is coordinated through the Government of the Northwest Territories, “as provided through funding agreements between Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories” (s.11.(8), IFA).

A summary of the finances for the fiscal year 01 April 2017 to 31 March 2018 is attached as Appendix B.

## Summary

The 2017/2018 fiscal year was a moderately busy period for the EISC. The EISC experienced several staff changes and the appointment of a new Chair. The number of file submissions during this reporting period was relatively low in terms of commercial or industrial undertakings and was reflective of the state of the economy during this time. This lull in file submissions allowed the EISC to focus on internal activities that required attention, such as efforts to update the EISC Guidelines and Rules of Procedures, and the drafting of the EISC Arctic Marine Guidelines for the ISR. These internal activities will continue into the new fiscal year. As noted in Appendix B of this report, the EISC generated a surplus during this reporting period. Future funding requirements and allocations were identified for the new fiscal year, based on past expenditure trends and projected expenditures as required to fulfill the EISC’s responsibilities under the IFA and to the Government of Canada.

## Appendix A. Environmental Impact Screening Committee Responsibilities under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement

As described in the Inuvialuit Final Agreement, The Environmental Impact Screening Committee shall, among its other activities:

**Section 11.(14)** The Screening Committee may establish and adopt by-laws and rules for its internal management and procedures in order to ensure reasonable and expeditious consideration of applications.

**Section 11.(15)** A register shall be kept of all decisions of the Screening Committee and the decisions shall be made available to the public on request.

**Section 11.(1)** The developments subject to environmental impact screening include:

(a) developments described in subsection 13(7);

(b) developments in the Yukon North Slope region described in section 12;

(c) developments in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region in respect of which the Inuvialuit request environmental impact screening; and

(d) subject to any agreement between the Inuvialuit and the Dene/Metis, developments in areas including the Aklavik land selections where the traditional harvest of the Dene/Metis may be adversely affected, on request by the Dene/Metis or by the Inuvialuit

**Section 11.(17)** On receipt of a project description, the Screening Committee shall expeditiously determine if the proposed development could have a significant negative environmental impact and shall indicate in writing to the governmental authority competent to authorize the development that, in its view:

(a) the development will have no such significant negative impact and may proceed without environmental impact assessment and review under this Agreement;

(b) the development, if authorized subject to environmental terms and conditions recommended by the Screening Committee, will have no such significant negative impact and may proceed without environmental impact assessment and review under this Agreement.

(c) the development could have significant negative impact and is subject to assessment and review under this Agreement; or

(d) the development proposal has deficiencies of a nature that warrant a termination of its consideration and the submission of another project description.

**Section 11.(37)** No licence or approval shall be issued that would have the effect of permitting any proposed development to proceed unless the provisions of this section have been complied with.

## Appendix B. Financial Summary for Year Ending 31 March 2018

The following pages present unaudited financial summaries for information purposes and should not be considered as definitive statements of account. For full financial details, the audited financial statements of the Joint Secretariat should be consulted. For further information, contact:

Executive Director

Joint Secretariat-Inuvialuit Settlement Region

Box 2120, Inuvik, NT X0E 0T0

Phone: (867) 777-2828 Fax: (867) 777-2610

Email: [execdir@jointsec.nt.ca](mailto:execdir@jointsec.nt.ca)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Revenue** | **Expenditure** |  |
| CIRNA Contribution (Implementation Funding) | $199,067.00 |  |  |
| Chair’s Expenses |  | $101,170.28 |  |
| Other |  | $19,974.39 |  |
| Services |  | $14,562.69 |  |
| Canada Member |  | $133.87 |  |
| **Total Expenditures** |  | **$135,841.23** |  |
| **Excess Revenue (Expenditure)** |  |  | **$63,225.77** |
|  | | | |
|  | **Revenue** | **Expenditure** |  |
| GNWT – Environment & Natural Resources Contribution | $126,349.00 |  |  |
| Inuvialuit Expenses |  | $75,466.39 |  |
| **Total Expenditures** |  | **$75,466.39** |  |
| **Excess Revenue (Expenditure)** |  |  | **$50,882.61** |
|  | | | |
|  | **Revenue** | **Expenditure** |  |
| CIRNA Contribution (Implementation Funding) | $208,606.00 |  |  |
| Staffing |  | $72,710.14 |  |
| Overhead |  | $72,170.32 |  |
| Other |  | $11,235.99 |  |
| **Total Expenditures** |  | **$156,116.45** |  |
| **Excess Revenue (Expenditure)** |  |  | **$52,489.55** |

## Appendix C. Submissions to EISC April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018



# Report of the Environmental Impact Review Board



## Foreword From the Chair

It was my privilege to be appointed Chair of the Environmental Impact Review Board January 19, 2018. In fiscal year 2017/2018 (the Past Year), the Board was also served by members Herbert Felix and Catherine Cockney as Acting Chairs, and their diligence and hard work is much appreciated.

The Board did not conduct any reviews during the Past Year. Its activities were restricted to administrative matters, ongoing training of members and, as required, public outreach and education in respect of the system of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) found in the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA).

There were vacancies on the Board in the Past Year which have now been filled and we go forward with a full complement of members. The Board remains prepared to address any referrals which might result from screenings in 2018-2019.



John Donihee, Chair

Environmental Impact Review Board

June 26, 2018

## Introduction

The Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB) is established under the terms of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) between Canada and the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement (COPE), representing the Inuvialuit. The IFA was approved, given effect, and declared valid by the *Western Arctic (Inuvialuit) Claims Settlement Act* [S.C. 32-33 Elizabeth II, C.24.] on June 28, 1984.

The IFA sets out a framework for a two-stage Environmental Screening and Review Process the first stage of which is the responsibility of the Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC). Where the EISC determines that a development could have a significant environmental impact in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR) it may refer the development for environmental impact review by the EIRB. Sections 11 and 13 of the IFA contain the relevant provisions for EIA in the ISR.

The EISC conducts environmental screenings of developments (as defined in the IFA) proposed for the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. The EIRB carries out detailed environmental impact assessments and public reviews of developments referred to it by the EISC pursuant to the IFA.

Historically, the mandate of the Board also included the responsibility to set criteria for acceptable environmental standards for the Husky Lakes area. See section 8 of the IFA. Appendix E is a map of portions of the Husky Lakes area to which section 8 applies.

The Board’s mandate is thus set out in sections 8, 11 and 13 of the IFA. This mandate is exercised in support of the goals of the IFA as set out below. Provisions of sections 8, 11 and 13 of the IFA relevant to the EIRB mandate are found below in Appendices B, C and D.

#### Goals of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement

1. To preserve Inuvialuit cultural identity and values within a changing northern society;
2. To enable Inuvialuit to be equal and meaningful participants in the northern and national economy and society; and
3. To protect and preserve the Arctic wildlife, environment, and biological productivity.

## Committee Membership and Support Staff

The EIRB is composed of seven members.[[2]](#footnote-2) Three members are appointed by the Government of Canada, three members appointed by the Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC); and a chair is appointed by the Government of Canada with the consent of the IGC.

Of the three members appointed by Canada, one is nominated by the Government of the Northwest Territories, one is nominated by the Yukon Government, and one is selected by the Government of Canada.

#### Chair

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| John Donihee Kingston, ON | Appointed by the Government of Canada (2018)  Present Term: January 19th, 2018, to January 2021 |

#### Canada and Territories Members

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Jim Umpherson  Yellowknife, NT | Appointed by the Government of Canada (2018)  Present Term: March 2, 2018 to March 1, 2021  Previous Terms: Member since December 2011 |
| Catherine Cockney Inuvik, NT | Nominated by the Government of the Northwest Territories  Present Term: October 31, 2016, to October 30, 2019  Previous Terms: Member since December 2006 |
| Ian Robertson  Whitehorse, YT | Nominated by the Yukon Government  Present Term: February 8, 2018, to February 7, 2021 |

#### Inuvialuit Members

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Ethel-Jean Gruben Inuvik, NT | Appointed by the Inuvialuit Game Council  Present Term: July 14, 2015, to September 20, 2018 |
| Crystal Lennie  Inuvik, NT | Appointed by the Inuvialuit Game Council  Present Term: October 1, 2016, to September 30, 2019  Previous Terms: Member since November 2013 |
| Roland Kikoak  Tuktoyaktuk, NT | Appointed by the Inuvialuit Game Council  Present Term: September 22, 2017, to September 30, 2020  Previous Terms: Member since September 2008 |

#### Other Members for 2017/2018 Period

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Herbert Felix  Inuvik, NT | Appointed by the Inuvialuit Game Council  Expired Term: October 1, 2014, to September 30, 2017  Previous Terms: Member since September 1995 |
| Bruce Chambers  Whitehorse, YT | Nominated by the Government of Yukon  Appointed by the Government of Canada (2008)  Expired Term: December 22, 2014 to December 22, 2017  Previous Terms: Member since 2008 |

The EIRB receives administrative, technical, and clerical support from the Joint Secretariat (JS) office staff in Inuvik, NT. Lenora McLeod assumed the responsibility of the EIRB coordinator in January 2018. Previously, Richard Binder had held the position since December 2013.

#### Joint Secretariat Administration Staff

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Office Manager | Peter Enitilo |
| Administrator | Bernice Joe |
| Casual Admin Staff | Michelle Firth |
| Travel Coordinator | Patricia Rogers |
| Senior Finance Officer | Arsalan Malik |
| Finance Officer | Eunice Thrasher |

#### Co-Management Boards Committee Staff Personnel

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| IGC | Jennifer Lam (RP) and Chanda Turner (RB) |
| FJMC | Emily Way-Nee (RP) and Vanessa Cunningham (RB) |
| WMAC (NWT) | Jodie Maring (RP) and Allison Thompson (RB) |
| WMAC (NS) | Jennifer Smith (RP) and Kelly Milner (RP) |
| EISC | Michel Lindsay (RP) |
| EIRB | Lenora McLeod (RP) |
| CSU/CBM | Vacant |

## Board Activities

### Regular Board Meetings

If there are no reviews underway, the Board meets approximately four times per year to conduct its business. In the past year, these meetings were held:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Location** | **Participants** |
| June 28, 2017 | Inuvik, NT | Acting Chair: Herbert Felix  Participants: Ethel-Jean Gruben, Crystal Lennie, Catherine Cockney, Jim Umpherson, Bruce Chambers, Richard Binder |
| Aug 17, 2017 | Inuvik, NT | Acting Chair: Herbert Felix  Participants: Crystal Lennie, Catherine Cockney, Jim Umpherson, Mike Harlow, Richard Binder |
| Sept 7, 2017 | Whitehorse, YT | Acting Chair: Herbert Felix  Participants: Jim Umpherson, Ethel-Jean Gruben, Crystal Lennie, Catherine Cockney, Stephanie Muckenheim, Richard Binder |
| Jan 19, 2018 | Inuvik, NT | Acting Chair: Catherine Cockney  Participants: Ethel-Jean Gruben, Crystal Lennie, Roland Kikoak, Michel Lindsay |
| Mar 4, 2018 | Inuvik, NT | Chair: John Donihee  Participants: Catherine Cockney, Ian Robertson, Crystal Lennie, Roland Kikoak, Lenora McLeod |
| Mar 23-24, 2018 | Edmonton, AB | Chair: John Donihee  Participants: Jim Umpherson, Catherine Cockney, Ian Robertson, Ethel-Jean Gruben, Crystal Lennie, Roland Kikoak, Lenora McLeod |

### Board Training and Development

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Event/Location** | **Participants** |
| Sept 6, 2017 | IFA Research Day in Whitehorse, YT | Participants: Jim Umpherson, Ethel-Jean Gruben, Crystal Lennie, Catherine Cockney, Herbert Felix, Richard Binder |
| Mar 13-15, 2018 | Joint Secretariat – IFA 101 Workshop in Inuvik, NT | Participants: Roland Kikoak, Ian Robertson, Crystal Lennie, Catherine Cockney, Lenora McLeod |
| Mar 19-20, 2018 | NWT Board Forum – Board Orientation in Yellowknife, NT | Participant: Lenora McLeod |
| Mar 21-22, 2018 | NWT Board Forum – Admin Law in Yellowknife, NT | Participants: Ian Robertson, Lenora McLeod |

### Other Meetings/Workshops/Conferences/Activities

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Event/Location** | **Participants** |
| Dec 10-15, 2017 | Arctic Net in Quebec City, QC | Participants: Catherine Cockney, Jim Umpherson, Herbert Felix, Crystal Lennie, Roland Kikoak, Ethen-Jean Gruben, Bruce Chambers, Richard Binder |
| Feb 12-14, 2018 | Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act Workshop | Participant: Lenora McLeod |
| Mar 21-22, 2018 | Arctic Oil and Gas Symposium in Calgary, AB | Participants: Catherine Cockney, Crystal Lennie, Roland Kikoak |

## Funding and Expenditures Summary

Funding for the Chair, Canada member, Yukon member, NWT member, Coordinator of the EIRB, and for project reviews conducted by the EIRB is provided by way of Contribution Agreements with Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNA).

Funding for the Inuvialuit members is provided by the way of a Contribution Agreement with the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Details of the funding and expenditures are set out in Appendix A below.

## Conclusion

The operation of the Review Board can be more difficult and challenging when one or more member positions are vacant. This is especially true when one of those positions is the Chairperson. In the 2018-2019 operations year, we will proceed without these challenges as a result of new appointments.

## Appendix A. Financial Summary

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Government and Inuvialuit Y.T.D 2017/2018[[3]](#footnote-3)** | | |
| **Revenue** | | |
| CIRNA Contribution (Implementation Funding) | 110,169.00 |  |
| NWT Contribution (Inuvialuit) | 32,471.00 |  |
| **Total Revenue** | **142,640.00** |  |
| **Expenses** | | |
| Chair Expenses |  | 33,913.00 |
| Overhead |  | 8,188.56 |
| Services |  | 27,060.19 |
| Canada Member |  | 11,634.07 |
| Inuvialuit Members |  | 53,868.67 |
| **Total Expenses** |  | **134,664.49** |
| **Net Income (Loss)** | **$ 7,975.51** |  |
|  | | |
| **Resource Person/Office Y.T.D 2018[[4]](#footnote-4)** | | |
| **Revenue** | | |
| CIRNA Contribution (Implementation Funding) | 200,354.00 |  |
| **Total Revenue** | **200,354.00** |  |
| **Expenses** | | |
| Staff |  | 100,196.35 |
| Overhead |  | 71,778.64 |
| Other |  | 6,065.18 |
| **Total Expenses** |  | **178,040.17** |
| **Net Income (Loss)** | **$ 22,313.83** |  |
|  | | |
| **Total Revenue** | **342,994.00** |  |
| **Total Expenses** |  | **312,704.66** |
| **Net Income (Loss)** | **$ 30,289.34** |  |

## Appendix B. IFA Section 8 – Husky Lakes/Cape Bathurst Areas

8.(1) With respect to Area Number 2 as shown in Annex D, approval for any development activity shall be withheld unless the developer proves that the proposed development activity meets acceptable environmental standards and accounts for his standard of performance. The criteria for establishing acceptable environmental standards for the project and evaluating the developer's standard of performance shall be set by the Environmental Impact Review Board.

As amended by P.C. 1987-26, January 15, 1987

8.(2) Where approval is withheld pursuant to subsection (1), there shall be a right of appeal to the Minister who shall make the final decision. The procedure on appeal shall be the same as that provided in section 45 of the Territorial Land Use Regulations as amended from time to time.

8.(3) Where permits are relinquished by oil and gas developers within Area Number 2 as shown in Annex D, the relevant areas shall not be opened for future oil and gas development by Canada without prior consultation with the Inuvialuit Land Administration. For greater certainty, the Minister shall not enter into exploration agreements for those areas nor permit Petro Canada to select those areas nor issue oil and gas leases for those areas without the agreement of the Inuvialuit Land Administration or, if the Inuvialuit Land Administration does not agree, without the approval of the Governor in Council.

As amended by P.C. 1987-26, January 15, 1987

8.(4) No dredging or development activity, such as the building of drilling platforms or fuel storage facilities, shall be carried on in the waters of the areas shown as Areas Number 1 and Number 2 as shown in Annex D.

As amended by P.C. 1987-26, January 15, 1987

8.(5) The title to the 800 square miles of land selected in Cape Bathurst (the "Cape Bathurst selection") pursuant to subparagraph 7(1)(a)(ii), shown as Area Number 3 as shown in Annex D, shall be subject to permits 4954 and 4955, as approximately shown in the parts marked "a" within Area Number 3 as shown in Annex D.

As amended by P.C. 1987-26, January 15, 1987

8.(6) Any new subsurface development with respect to the Cape Bathurst selection shall be subject to the consent of Canada.

8.(7) Where Canada wishes to approve development of land under permits numbered 4954 and 4955, any approval for access shall be withheld unless the developer proves that the proposed development activity meets acceptable environmental standards and accounts for his standard of performance. The criteria for establishing acceptable environmental standards for the project and evaluating the developer's standard of performance shall be set by the Environmental Impact Review Board. The provisions of subsection (2) apply with such modifications as the circumstances require.

## Appendix C. IFA Section 11 – Roles and Responsibilities

11.(22) The Environmental Impact Review Board is hereby established to be the review body for any development referred to it pursuant to this Agreement. The Review Board shall have seven (7) permanent members, three (q) appointed by Canada, three (3) appointed by the Inuvialuit and a Chairman appointed by Canada, with the consent of the Inuvialuit. Of the three (3) permanent members appointed by Canada, each of the Governments of the Northwest Territories and the Yukon shall designate one (1). The representation of the Government of Yukon Territory for matters north of the watershed and of the Government of the Northwest Territories for matters in the Western Arctic Region shall increase as their respective jurisdictions increase and shall form a majority of appointees for matters exclusively within their respective jurisdictions. The membership of the Review Board may be increased or decreased from time to time at the discretion of Canada, but the same proportion of representation for Canada and the natives shall be maintained.

As amended by P.C. 1987-26, January 15, 1987

11.(23) The Review Board shall deal with each development subject to environmental assessment and review in accordance with the applicable provisions of this Agreement. For greater certainty, subsections (9) to (12) apply to the constitution of the Review Board panels, with such modifications as the circumstances require.

As amended by P.C. 1987-26, January 15, 1987

11.(24) The permanent members of the Review Board shall be appointed, remunerated and replaced by the respective appointing parties. The term of office of all permanent members, including the Chairman, shall be three (3) years and they are eligible to be re-appointed on the expiration of the term.

11.(25) The remuneration required for the Inuvialuit members appointed to the Environmental Impact Review Board, referred to in subsection 11(24), and reasonable travel and accommodation costa, to attend regular meetings of the Review Board shall be reimbursed by the Government of the Northwest Territories, as provided through funding agreements between Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories as are negotiated from time to time. These funding agreements shall not form part of the Agreement.

11.(26) Where any of the parties fails to nominate a sufficient number of persons within a reasonable time, the Review Board may discharge its responsibilities with such members as have been appointed.

As amended by P.C. 1987-26, January 15, 1987

11.(27) A person may be a member of both the Screening Committee and the Review Board.

11.(28) Canada shall provide to the Review Board the staff required to enable it to fulfil its functions. The Review Board may establish and adopt by-laws and rules for its internal management and its procedures.

11.(29) The Review Board shall expeditiously review all projects referred to it and on the basis of the evidence and information before it shall recommend whether or not the development should proceed and, if it should, on what terms and conditions, including mitigative and remedial measures. The Review Board may also recommend that the development should be subject to further assessment and review and, if so, the data or information required.

11.(30) Decisions of the Review Board shall be made by majority vote of the panel appointed, shall be in writing and shall be signed by all panel members.

11.(31) A register shall be kept of all decisions of the Review Board and the decisions shall be made available to the public on request.

11.(32) The decision containing the recommendations of the Review Board shall be transmitted to the governmental authority competent to authorize the development. That authority, consistent with the provisions of this section and after considering, among other factors, the recommendations of the Review Board, shall decide whether or not, on the basis of environmental impact considerations, the development should proceed and, if so, on what terms and conditions, including mitigative and remedial measures.

11.(33) If, pursuant to subsection (32), the competent governmental authority decides that further impact assessment and review is required, the proposed development shall be subject to further impact assessment and review based on the same or different information, requirements or specifications as the governmental authority considers appropriate.

11.(34) If the competent governmental authority is unwilling or unable to accept any recommendations of the Review Board or wishes to modify any such recommendations, it shall give reasons in writing within thirty (30) days, stating why it has not accepted the recommendations.

As amended by P.C. 1987-26, January 15, 1987

11.(35) The decision of the competent governmental authority shall be transmitted to the interested parties and made public.

11.(36) No licence or approval shall be issued that would have the effect of permitting any proposed development to proceed unless the provisions of this section have been complied with.

11.(37) For greater certainty, nothing in this section restricts the power or obligation of the Government to carry out environmental impact assessment and review under the laws and policies of Canada.

## Appendix D. IFA Section 13 – Wildlife Impact Assessment

13.(7) Every proposed development of consequence to the lnuvialuit Settlement Region that is likely to cause a negative environmental impact shall be screened by the Screening Committee to determine whether the development could have a significant negative impact on present or future wildlife harvesting.

13.(8) If the Screening Committee determines that a proposed development could have a significant negative impact on present or future wildlife harvesting, it shall refer the proposal for an environmental impact assessment and review in the manner provided by subsections (9) and (10).

13.(9) Where a proposed development is subject to environmental impact review that, in the opinion of the Screening Committee, adequately encompasses or will encompass the assessment and review function and includes or will include in its evaluation adequate terms and conditions of development and . limits of liability, the Screening Committee shall refer the proposal to the body carrying out the environmental impact review.

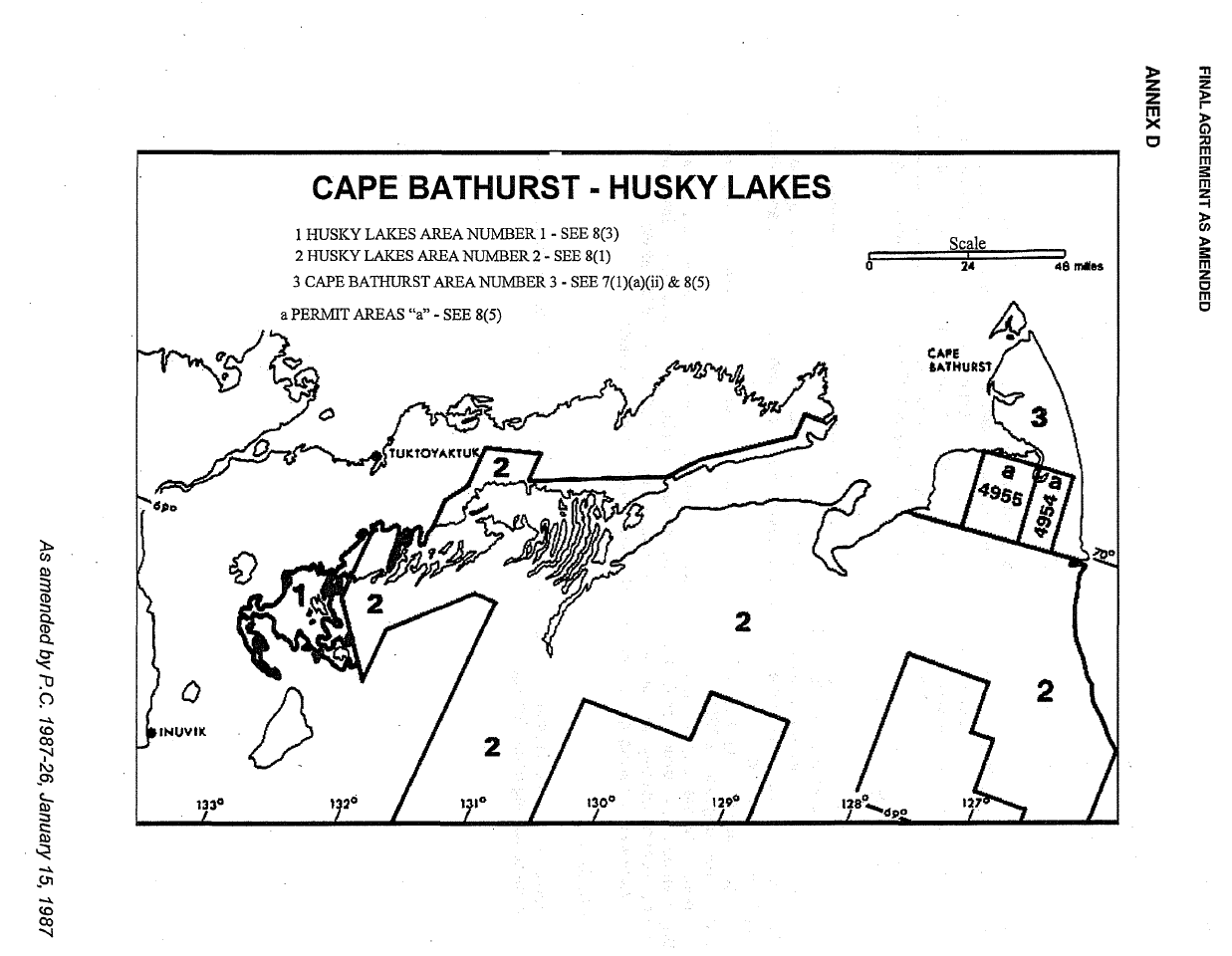
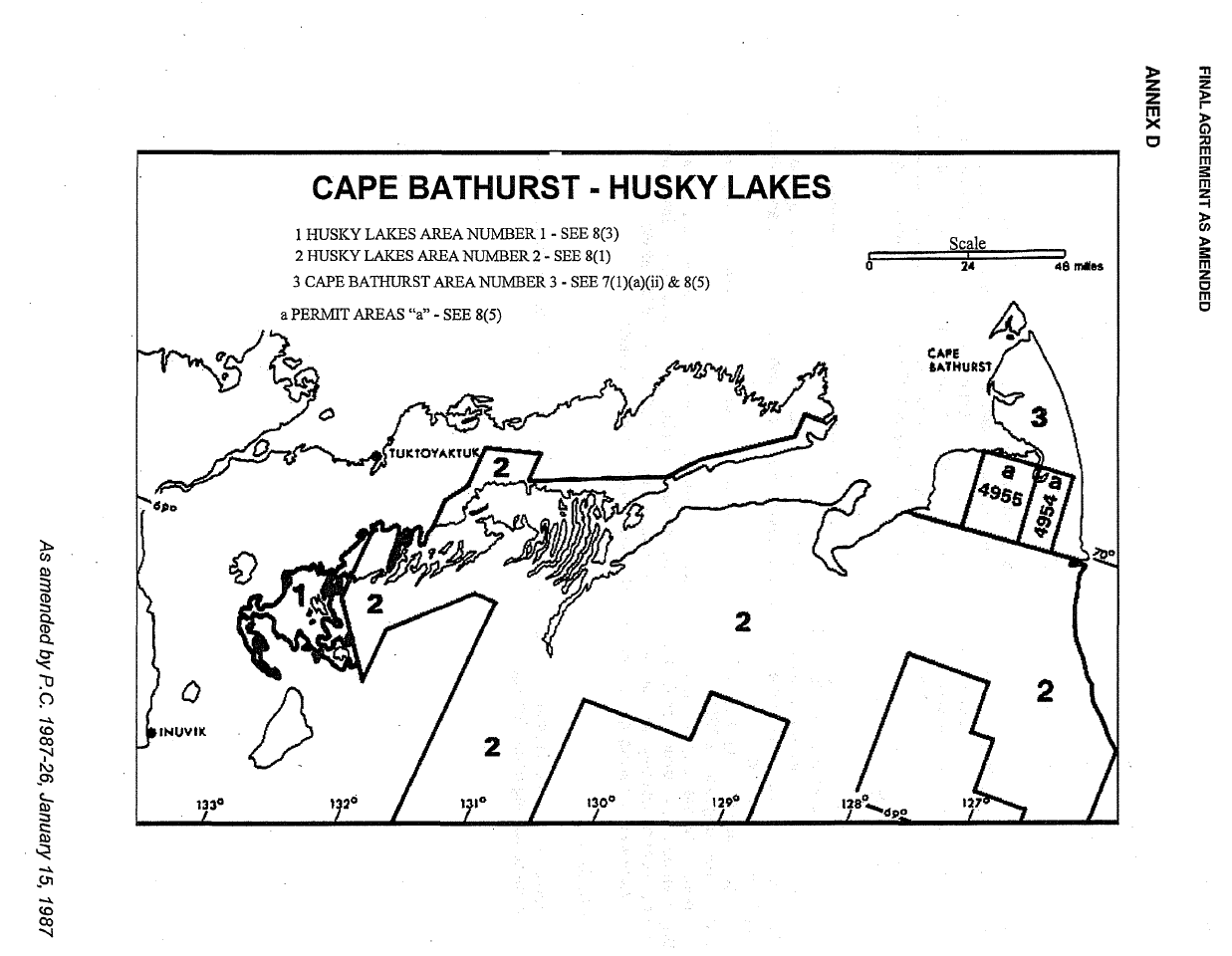
13.(10) If, in the opinion of the Screening Committee, the review body does not or will not adequately incorporate within its review each element of the process set out in subsection (9), or if the review body declines to do so, the proposal shall be referred to the Review Board.

13.(11) Where, pursuant to subsection (10), a proposal is referred to the Review Board, it shall, on the basis of the evidence and information before it, recommend to the government authority empowered to approve the proposed development:

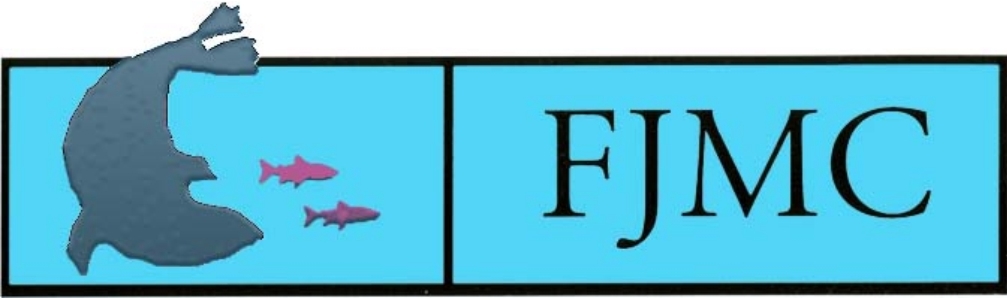
1. terms and conditions relating to the mitigative and remedial measures that it considers necessary to minimize any negative impact on wildlife harvesting; and
2. an estimate of the potential liability of the developer, determined on a worst case scenario, taking into consideration the balance between economic factors, including the ability of the developer to pay, and environmental factors.

13.(12) The Government agrees that every proposed development of consequence to the lnuvialuit Settlement Region that is within its jurisdiction and that could have a significant negative impact on wildlife habitat or on present or future wildlife harvesting will be authorized only after due scrutiny of and attention to all environmental concerns and subject to reasonable mitigative and remedial provisions being imposed.

## Appendix E. Cape Bathurst/Husky Lakes Annex D



# Report of the Fisheries Joint Management Committee



## Foreword

The Inuvialuit Final Agreement sets out the terms of the contract between the Committee for Original Peoples’ Entitlement, representing the Inuvialuit of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, and the Government of Canada, representing all citizens of Canada.

As outlined in that Agreement, the Fisheries Joint Management Committee was established to provide advice to the Inuvialuit and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) on fishery management and related issues within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. During the reporting year, the Fisheries Joint Management Committee continued to work closely with government agencies, renewable resource user groups, and resource councils and committees established under the Agreement and by other land claim settlements on a variety of activities and programs. This report provides a summary of the committee’s activities for the fiscal year commencing April 2017 and concluding March 2018.

## Introduction

Canada’s Minister of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) established the Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC) in 1986, pursuant to the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) of 1984. The FJMC has the following responsibilities: (1) to assist Canada and the Inuvialuit in administering the rights and obligations related to fisheries under the IFA, (2) to assist the Minister in carrying out his responsibilities for the management of fisheries and marine mammals in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR), and (3) to advise the Minister on all matters relating to Inuvialuit and ISR fisheries. The specific responsibilities of the FJMC are provided in Appendix D. The committee maintains an office at the Joint Secretariat in Inuvik and employs two resource specialists to manage its programs. At different points during the 2017/2018 fiscal year, Fisheries Resource Coordinators Vanessa Cunningham, Kristin Hynes, Laura Murray, and Emily Way-Nee staffed the FJMC resource positions.

## Membership

#### Chairman

David Victor Gillman

#### Members

George Burton Ayles – Canada Member

Brian Zytaruk – Canada Member

Gerald Inglangasuk – Inuvialuit Member

John Noksana Jr. – Inuvialuit Member

#### Inuvialuit Alternate Members

Charles Pokiak (resigned February 2018)

Joshua Oliktoak

#### Resource Specialists

Vanessa Cunningham

Emily Way-Nee

Kristin Hynes (resigned January 2018)

Laura Murray (resigned July 2017)

## Committee Activities

### Consultation and Planning

In keeping with the co-management philosophy of the IFA, consultation with local Hunters and Trappers Committees (HTCs), the Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC), DFO, and other government agencies formed an important part of the committee’s activities.

The committee held five regular meetings, and three community tour meetings in Paulatuk, Ulukhaktok, and Inuvik in June 2017. These community meetings are held with the local HTC, FJMC and DFO staff (Fisheries Management, Science, Conservation and Protection, Oceans) to discuss issues of concern related to fish, marine mammals, and to assist in establishing the FJMC research priorities for the region. The FJMC and WMAC-NWT successfully brought together the six HTC Presidents or their alternates to Inuvik in September 2017 to discuss ISR-wide issues, best practices in program delivery, and to assist in finalizing the program priorities of the FJMC for the coming year. The HTC Presidents held an in-camera session and presented a list of ISR-wide priorities for the FJMC and WMAC (NWT) to consider in planning their annual programming.

The Chair also provided activity updates to all IGC meetings, attended one meeting in person, and participated in one liaison meeting with the Wildlife Management Advisory Council for the Yukon North Slope (WMAC (NS)). The Joint Secretariat Board met three times during the year, and the FJMC Chair participated in all meetings, undertaking action items on a variety of topics as part of the board’s organizational review, which included a human resources review and a policy review in the past year. The Chair also participated in a number of meetings associated with the business cycle and projects of the FJMC, such as the Beaufort Sea Fisheries Management Framework Steering Committee, Dolly Varden Integrated Fisheries Management Plan Steering Committee, ISR Community-Based Monitoring Program Steering Committee, Western Arctic Marine Protected Area Steering Committee, CITES, COSEWIC, high Arctic fisheries, and the projects under the Integrated Oceans Management Plan for the Beaufort Sea. The Chair also completed a draft work plan for the renewal of the IFA funding submission to CIRNA for the extension of the 2016 due date, which was finished in November 2017.

Additional meetings included FJMC participation in the Inuvialuit–Inupiat Beluga Whale Commission (IIBWC) meeting in Barrow in August 2017, where potential transboundary collaborative work was discussed.

The committee participated in the ArcticNet meetings in December of 2017 and provided several project reports on joint activities. In the areas of the Beaufort Sea Fisheries Framework, work was deferred on the increased shipping stressor with potential application in the ISR until further direction is provided by the Beaufort Sea Fisheries Management Framework Steering Committee.

The committee also participated in the 2017 communication event IFA 101, organized for all Joint Secretariat committee members and staff. IFA 101 focused on a detailed study of IFA sections 11 to 14. This event included a review of each committee’s responsibilities as defined under the IFA, including the HTCs, and an examination of how the co-management boards work collaboratively and supportively throughout fisheries and wildlife protection and management situations.

The committee’s regular meeting in January 2018 was held at the DFO’s Freshwater Institute in Winnipeg to facilitate information exchange and project planning with the Department’s science and management staff. The process by which the FJMC sets its research priorities and develops a work plan is unique among Inuvialuit Joint Implementing Bodies. The committee’s community meetings with HTCs in June and September, the discussions with scientific staff at the Freshwater Institute in January, and the committee’s planning sessions in April, all comprise the essential elements in the committee’s annual work plan and budgeting cycle for the next fiscal year. This process has been combined with the activities and programs of the Western Arctic Marine Protected Areas Steering Committee in order to ensure efficiency and avoid duplication in planning and programming. The committee has committed to reviewing the FJMC research proposal and approval process for 2018-19 to develop the most efficient and effective method moving forward. In addition, DFO Oceans personnel now accompany the FJMC June community tour to assist in establishing areas of concern and research priorities to address through the management and monitoring plans for the Tarium Niryutait Marine Protected Area (TNMPA) and the Anguniaqvia Niqiqyuam Marine Protected Area (ANMPA), which received regulatory approval in November 2016.

The annual business cycle will continue in the foreseeable future. The communities have expressed a concern that the committee should visit all six communities each year. This is difficult due to the increasing costs of charter air operations in the North. However, this concern was recognized and inserted as an additional funding request in the 2017 renewal of the IFA funding package. The FJMC will engage in approaches to ensure the consultation process is improved for coming years in regard to this commitment. This large cost area is to be an item in the FJMC approach to IFA Review that is to be conducted by the federal CIRNA in the coming year.

In addition to the compilation of community issues and concerns in regard to fish and marine mammals through the above annual process, the committee also fosters more specific consultation and involvement of communities and community members in the decision processes for the integrated management of specific stocks in the ISR. This is usually accomplished by the creation of community-based working groups with specific terms of reference for their activities. These provide direct participation for the communities and allow a shared decision process among such agencies as DFO and Parks Canada, other land claimant groups, and the Inuvialuit.

The current roster of these integrated working groups is as follows:

* West Side Working Group – Dolly Varden Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP)
* Tuk-Inuvik Working Group/Imaryuk Monitoring Program Steering Committee – Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk (ITH) Highway Project
* Paulatuk Char Working Group
* Ulukhaktok Char Working Group
* Sachs Char Working Group

These working groups play a key role in addressing the priorities and principles of the IFA. However, as they have increased in number, they have also affected the operational budget of the FJMC, drawing on more project funds in order to ensure good consultative practices are followed. The costs of maintaining these and similar working groups were part of a request for increased funds under the 2017 IFA Implementation Funding request to CIRNA.

### Research and Monitoring

The FJMC was active in numerous research, monitoring, and management programs in 2017/2018. A total of 25 projects were conducted through joint efforts between the FJMC and DFO and a summary is attached to this report (Appendix B). In addition, the committee also conducts various programs through the Joint Secretariat. In 2017/2018, the committee supported the Fish and Marine Mammal Community Monitoring Program, Integrated Fisheries Management (which includes five Working Groups of the FJMC, as described below), and an effort to enhance the FJMC sport fishing registry. FJMC also supports special requests of the communities in regard to fisheries interests in the ISR, if and when that is feasible.

The committee’s support is ongoing for char monitoring projects in Paulatuk and Ulukhaktok that provide information for the existing community-based Arctic char fishing plans, which are currently under revision, as well as the working groups for each community. The FJMC continued to work with community members from Sachs Harbour, through the recently formed Sachs Char Working Group, to increase our understanding toward local Arctic char concerns and priorities and to develop research and monitoring plans for the upcoming year.

The FJMC will continue to support the West Side Working Group (WSWG) in its efforts to implement a community-driven Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP) for Dolly Varden char for the Yukon North Slope and rivers west of the Mackenzie River to Fish Creek near the Alaskan border. The WSWG continued to assess critical scientific and traditional knowledge on North Slope fisheries, information that has provided the foundation for an innovative integrated management plan. The multi-agency IFMP Steering Committee has taken steps with the respective working groups for West Side streams to enact the objectives of the IFMP and to achieve community-based harvest allocations for the Big Fish River. However, the Big Fish River Fish Hole harvest-sampling program in November 2017 did not occur because of poor and unsafe weather conditions.

As a result of recommendations from the Environmental Impact Review Board, the Community Fishing Plan (CFP) and the FJMC’s mandate, the committee is engaged in the development and implementation of a pilot monitoring program for the Inuvik Tuktoyaktuk Highway. The Imaryuk Monitoring Pilot Program is a community-driven-and-led program for which the FJMC and other partners are providing financial and other support. Community members from Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk have been selected as on-the-land ambassadors to promote and educate highway users about the CFP. Additional portions of the monitoring efforts will be led by the FJMC in conjunction with DFO and other agencies. They include an assessment of highway stream-crossing sites, as well as an enhanced biological assessment program for fish stocks along the corridor.

The quality of country foods is a significant concern for the communities. Therefore, the allocation of funds for research involving the collection of samples from harvested marine mammals for analysis was continued. The committee continues to support long-term harvest-monitoring programs that provide essential harvest data required by the principles of the IFA, the committee, and DFO biologists and managers as a basis for making sound management decisions. The FJMC continues to work with DFO and other agencies to keep the HTCs and their hunters informed on issues affecting the well-being of ISR fish and marine mammal populations. Additionally, FJMC helped support a Food Sovereignty and Self Governance project in 2017/2018 by facilitating a visit from Carolina Behe from Inuit Circumpolar Council Alaska to two ISR communities (Aklavik and Ulukhaktok). The purpose was to conduct focus group and individual interviews with community members who harvest and/or value Arctic char and beluga as important traditional food sources.

In cooperation with the HTCs, the FJMC assists in the collection of harvest data for fish and marine mammals in the ISR. The focus has been on those species that are of the greatest value or concern to the communities. The beluga-monitoring program is the longest-standing project. Local Inuvialuit monitors employed by HTCs are stationed in a majority of the active whaling camps within the ISR. They collect biological and harvest information on an annual basis from each community that harvests beluga. The committee’s staff provided training, program and logistic support, coordination of special sample collections, and data collation. The monitors keep track of local observations and aircraft traffic over whale camps and submit incident reports in cases where aircraft may have harassed or disturbed whales and/or harvesters. The FJMC has been working with HTCs to devolve more responsibilities to the communities and to expand the monitoring effort to other species beyond beluga. The program success will be used to adjust the harvest study effort in other communities in future years. As requested by the communities, beluga harvest monitoring remains the principal effort of this program to ensure that this valuable cultural and traditional harvest by the Inuvialuit is continued and recognized as being well within the sustainable harvest level of the beluga population of the Eastern Beaufort Sea (currently estimated by DFO in excess of 40,000 animals). A summary table of the last 10 years of ISR beluga harvest is provided in Appendix C.

The FJMC is continuing its involvement with the development of the ISR Community-Based Monitoring Program (CBMP). The community inputs will guide this program for the future. The governance model for the program has been adjusted in the past year, and the FJMC will work with the new Steering Committee to determine how FJMC and CBMP programs can be coordinated for efficiency. The Imaryuk Monitoring Program has been proposed as a candidate for testing this approach in the coming year.

In accordance with Section 14.(64) of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement, the committee continued with FJMC’s Private Lands Sport Fishing Registry. Efforts have started to update our online Sport Fishing Registry, as well as to develop a database to make reports on the data more readily accessible by the FJMC and HTCs. These efforts will continue in the 2017/2018 fiscal year. The information collected and subsequent analyses will assist the committee’s management of sport fishing within the ISR. With the construction of the ITH and anticipated new access points for fishing, the FJMC is undertaking a review of this work area and will implement any resulting recommendations to improve the program in 2018.

### Hydrocarbon Activities and Development

Although these activities have subsided in the past year, the known reserves within the ISR will continue to prompt exploration and development activity. The FJMC continues to be well positioned to provide sound advice on issues related to oil and gas industry activities in the ISR. The committee has been a regular participant in pre-submission community and agency consultations by industry and acted as an Intervener in the Mackenzie Gas Project. The committee continues to identify proposals, and provide comments if needed, on projects or developments that are posted by the EISC that have the potential to impact on fish, marine mammals, and/or aquatic habitat in the ISR, including those related to oil and gas.

### Beluga Management and Marine Protected Areas

Last year the FJMC continued its support for beluga and fish harvest monitoring and research programs that support areas of priority for the TNMPA and ANMPA. Through the FJMC’s Fish and Marine Mammal Community Monitoring Program (FMMCMP), Inuvialuit monitors continue to be hired by the Inuvik, Tuktoyaktuk and Paulatuk HTCs, as well as on-call monitors in Ulukhaktok, to collect biological information on harvested whales. Additional information is collected at some whaling camps through partnerships with DFO Science programs. An effort to collect the most accurate number of harvested whales will be one of the main focuses for the current year. The FJMC has been active in the development of the ANMPA for the Darnley Bay area and was pleased to see the completion of this area as an MPA in 2017. FJMC Inuvialuit members and staff continue to participate in the implementation of the monitoring and management plans for each MPA. Additional work is anticipated in 2017 to ensure active community participation in the management programs. The WAMPA Steering Committee met in January 2018 to review and plan for the coming year, and research and monitoring funding was allocated on the basis of priorities and objectives. The FJMC will continue to provide oversight to the WAMPA and to support the integration of MPA-funded research with IFA Implementation Funding to avoid duplication of effort and to secure the best information possible within current funding constraints. The FJMC assisted DFO in planning and facilitating community consultation tours in November 2017 and follow-up meetings in March 2018 to consult and communicate about the upcoming beluga tagging program.

### Beluga Entrapments

The FJMC continues to provide support to DFO in regard to entrapment management and the continuing monitoring effort using unmanned deterrent devices, which are set up each summer in the Husky Lakes area. There is potential for entrapment every year; however, no concerted action is necessary under the joint beluga action plan unless agreed to by all parties of the Entrapment Action Plan. The action plan was reviewed at the Beluga Summit in 2016 and minor changes approved in the event of an entrapment in the future. No entrapments occurred in 2017/2018.

### Beaufort Sea Integrated Fisheries Management

In support of the DFO Integrated Oceans Management Plan for the Beaufort Sea, an April 2011 MOU on the creation of a Beaufort Sea Fisheries Management Framework (BSFMF) was completed and signed into being by the FJMC, DFO, the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC), and the Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC). Work has continued on the individual stressors identified for the Beaufort in 2012/2013. Commercial fishing applications are the first area addressed, with a guiding framework and process developed for all agencies to follow. The Steering Committee has selected increased shipping as the next topic of interest and has begun work on a background document on shipping and a risk assessment methodology. No work was undertaken in 2017/2018. However, the FJMC will participate in a shipping assessment program in the coming year and will support the IRC-led initiative with the Tuktoyaktuk HTC on establishing safe shipping corridors in the Beaufort Sea.

### COSEWIC, CITES, and Species-at-Risk Legislation

The committee has continued an active role in ensuring Inuvialuit interests and involvement are represented in the protection of fish and marine mammal species of concern. The FJMC will continue to work with COSEWIC to better define the committee’s role in the federal assessment process for endangered species under the committee’s jurisdiction. The committee participated in the preliminary stages of reassessment of several species in the last few years and will continue to engage in conference calls in the future for this purpose. The FJMC contributed commentary and support to the Species at Risk Act (SARA)’s listing of Western Arctic populations of Dolly Varden char. The FJMC will continue to monitor these files for the ISR and participate as required or requested. The SARA requirements for Dolly Varden will be incorporated into the redrafting of the IFMP in 2018.

### Communications

In partnership with the Joint Secretariat Communications and IT Coordinator the FJMC continues to maintain its existing website (www.fjmc.ca), and plans to continue to update the site in 2018 as a means to inform the public, government, and industry about FJMC and fisheries co-management in the ISR. A variety of FJMC reports and other materials are available on the site for downloading. The FJMC reaches Inuvialuit beneficiaries within the ISR through its annual community tour, distribution of a newsletter to HTCs and other working partners, and maintenance of a Facebook page.

### Student Mentoring Program and Inuvialuit Youth

FJMC’s Student Mentoring Program is aimed at providing skills and experience to Inuvialuit youth interested in pursuing a career related to natural resource management so that they can become the ISR’s future resource managers and biologists. The FJMC hired Jessi Pascal from Aklavik for summer programs. Through her position as a Fisheries Resource Assistant, Jessi assisted with various programs including Tracking Change interviews and water quality data entry. Jessi also participated in a number of co-management meetings during her work term, to provide her with further training on regional fisheries management. The FJMC has decided to structure a trust fund through the IRC to encourage and assist students in the completion of degrees in the natural resources field. The trust and its decision processes are expected to be functional in the coming year and will be aimed at assisting students through a scholarship to support their enrollment and graduation from natural resource courses at universities and technical schools.

## Funding

Funding of all renewable-resource-related activities associated with the implementation of the IFA is provided by Canada and coordinated by CIRNA. Until the current year, funding has been allocated in 5-year blocks, with 2017/2018 representing the15th year of what is described as a 10-year funding commitment. The funding renewal process was completed and renewed implementation funds were provided in February 2018. Due to the lateness of the funding, few program changes were implemented at this time. Workplans will be adjusted in the coming year to account for the increased funding.

Currently, the IFA funding is provided to the Board of the Joint Secretariat, which then allocates funds to the individual resource committees. These committees provide funds to the Joint Secretariat and FJMC programs as needed. The resulting allocations for the FJMC become part of the committee’s annual budget. A portion of the funds are categorized as *Operations and Programs* while the balance is identified as *Grants and Contributions*.

A second funding mechanism also supports the research activities of the FJMC. These funds are applied for through the DFO under an memorandum of understanding with CIRNA to support implementation costs for the identification and understanding of fisheries stocks and harvests in the ISR. For those activities described in the previous section under Research and Monitoring, the projects and their budgets are identified by the FJMC, while the funds to support the projects are administered by DFO. This arrangement is efficient since, for the most part, the projects are carried out by DFO staff. Appendix B lists projects and activities supported through this process for the reporting year. As a result of the MPA additions since 2013, it has been proposed that the funds that are dedicated to research and monitoring projects will be handled in a similar manner. In January 2016, the funds received were assigned to project work for 2016 and, through arrangements with DFO and CIRNA, the support costs for FJMC Canada members were provided under the contribution agreement as well. These arrangements have proven efficient and cost effective for all concerned and are expected to continue in the future.

The other operational activities of the committee, as well as some specific tasks identified in the IFA, are funded through a contribution agreement between CIRNA and the Joint Secretariat. These costs, which are subject to an annual audit, include Inuvialuit participation costs, Chair costs, and salary and operational costs for the committee’s resource specialists. Details are in Appendix A.

Costs of operations have increased in the last few years due to rising airfare and fuel costs, making committee operations more difficult to complete. As the renewed funding was designed mainly to support administrative challenges, program costs will need to be identified in the upcoming exercise by CIRNA identified as IFA Review.

## Summary

The 2017/2018 year has been a very busy and constructive year for the FJMC. As more activities are tackled, a significant leadership role has been undertaken by individual members of the committee and much has been accomplished on committee responsibilities. Significant progress has been achieved on the Imaryuk Monitoring Program, ISR-wide Guardians concept paper, Beluga tagging program, and the refocusing of the ISR CBMP toward the collection of Inuvialuit harvest data. The IOMP is being implemented through the creation of a second MPA in the western Arctic and the consideration of additional oceans programming initiatives and federal targets for increased conservation areas in Canada. The Beluga Management Plan tourism guidelines continue to be updated; finalization of the updated plan and the implementation of tourism guidelines will happen in the coming year. An active and focused research program was conducted, with good results communicated back. The committee continues to address its responsibilities under the IFA to the Inuvialuit and to the Government of Canada.

## Appendix A. Financial Expenditures Summary 2017/2018

*Note: The financial statement provided is pre-audit and does not represent the consolidated statement for the 2017/2018 fiscal year.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Operations** | | |
|  | *Total Budget ($)* | *Total Spent ($)* |
| Inuvialuit members | 109,755.00 | 78,620.82 |
| Other operational costs | 57,810.00 | 53,649.95 |
| Meetings | 59,540.00 | 51,356.66 |
| Staff | 230,694.00 | 339,279.66 |
| Chairman’s expenses | 92,814.60 | 98,434.00 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Programs** |  |  |
|  | *Total Budget ($)* | *Total Spent ($)* |
| Fish and Marine Mammal Community Monitoring Program | 97,500.00 | 129,668.75 |
| Integrated Fisheries Management | 45,000.00 | 18,536.00 |
| Sport Fishing Registry | 12,500.00 | 4,963.64 |
| Activities | 40,435.00 | 31,110.10 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Total | *Total Budget ($)* | *Total Spent ($)* |
| **Total budget for 2017/2018** | **748,071.00** | **805,619.58** |

\*2016/2017 Surplus: $52,905.00

## Appendix B. List of Research Programs 2017/2018

Research projects approved for FJMC IFA implementation, TNMPA, and DFO Oceans funding in 2017/2018.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ID #** | **Project Title** | **Manager** | **Request**  **($)** | **Total Budget**  **($)** | **FJMC IFA**  **($)** | **FJMC TNMPA**  **($)** | **FJMC ANMPA**  **($)** | **DFO Oceans TNMPA /ANMPA**  **($)** |
| 2017-18-01 | Assessment of Arctic char from Fish Lake | Gallagher, Howland | 27,000 | 27,000 | 27,000 |  |  |  |
| 2017-18-02 | Assessment of Arctic char from the Hornaday River | Gallagher, Howland | 33,500 | 56,000 | 33,500 |  |  | 15,000 |
| 2017-18-03 | Population assessment of North Slope Dolly Varden | Gallagher, Howland | 41,000 | 125,000 | 41,000 |  |  |  |
| 2017-18-04 | Indicators to Support Marine Ecosystem Monitoring in the ISR | Hoover, Loseto, MacPhee | 15,000 | 145,000 |  | 15,000 |  |  |
| 2017-18-05 | Sachs and Masik River fish harvest monitoring on Banks Island, NT, 2017. | Hynes | 20,220 | 20,220 | 20,220 |  |  |  |
| 2017-18-06 | Husky Lakes and ITH Guardian-Monitoring program, spring 2017 | Hynes | 30,000 | 30,000 | 20,000 |  |  |  |
| 2017-18-07 | Loche harvest and habitat monitoring in Aklavik and Inuvik, 2017 | Hynes | 20,025.60 | 20,026 | 20,026 |  |  |  |
| 2017-18-08 | Beluga diseases and food borne parasites in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region | Jenkins, Lair | 10,000 | 25,000 |  | 10,000 |  |  |
| 2017-18-10 | Tagging of bowhead whales in the Beaufort Sea, 2017 | Lea | 10,000 | 180,000 | 10,000 |  |  |  |
| 2017-18-11 | Ulukhaktok summer coastal Arctic char harvest monitoring | Lea | 25,000 | 55,000 | 35,000 |  |  |  |
| 2017-18-12 | Reproduction and Body Condition of ringed seals taken in the regular subsistence harvest at Ulukhaktok, NT – 2017 | Lea | 50,000 | 60,000 | 50,000 |  |  |  |
| 2017-18-13 | Assessing Change in Fish Diversity and Habitat in Tuktoyaktuk Harbour | Lea, Whalen | 30,000 | 140,000 | 30,000 |  |  |  |
| 2017-18-14 | Do Arctic Cod have separate spawning aggregations in the Beaufort Sea region? | Loewen | 19,500 | 38,000 | 19,500 |  |  |  |
| 2017-18-15 | Beluga Health Monitoring in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region | Loseto, MacPhee | 30,000 | 300,000 |  |  |  | 30,000 |
| 2017-18-16 | Monitoring Beluga Habitat Use and Environmental Conditions in the TN MPA | Loseto, MacPhee, Whalen | 30,000 | 100,000 |  |  |  | 30,000 |
| 2017-18-17 | ACES (Arctic Coastal Ecosystem Study)/Shingle Point CBM program | Loseto, Neumann, MacPhee | 30,000 | 120,000 |  | 30,000 |  |  |
| 2017-18-18 | Darnley Bay Nearshore Survey | McNicholl | 20,000 | 50,000 | 20,000 |  |  |  |
| 2017-18-19 | Monitoring ecologically relevant habitat metrics to support adaptive management of Dolly Varden | Mochnacz | 10,000 | 15,000 | 10,000 |  |  |  |
| 2017-18-20 | ITH Fish and Fish Habitat Monitoring | Murray | 24,940 | 24,940 | 24,940 |  |  |  |
| 2017-18-21 | Identification of Seal and Beluga Virus Isolates from the ISR and Alaska. | Nielsen | 8,000 | 10,000 | 8,000 |  |  |  |
| 2017-18-22 | Enhancing beluga monitoring in the ISR through the inclusion of local and traditional ecological knowledge. | Ostertag, Loseto | 47,000 | 100,000 |  |  | 45,000 |  |
| 2017-18-23 | Invertebrate Project 2017 | Ruben | 11,504.33 | 11,505 |  |  | 11,505 |  |
| 2017-18-24 | Paulatuk and Ulukhaktok Char Working Group meetings | Snow | 35,000 | 44,500 | 35,000 |  |  |  |
| 2017-18-25 | Ulukhaktok, Paulatuk and Sachs Harbour Harvest Studies | Snow | 21,000 | 14,500 | 14,500 |  |  |  |

## Appendix C. Beluga Harvest Table 2007-2017

Inuvialuit beluga harvest data collected through the FJMC Fish & Marine Mammal Community Monitoring Program (2007-2017).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Harvest Location** | | | | | | | | **Totals** |
| Shingle Point & West Whitefish | Hendrickson Island | Tuktoyaktuk Harbour | Kendall & Gary Island | East Whitefish | Paulatuk | Ulukhaktok | Sachs Harbour |
| 2017 | 3 | 35 | 10 | 8 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 68 |
| 2016 | 2 | 14 | 4 | 6 | 17 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 48 |
| 2015 | 2 | 27 | 2 | 14 | 10 | 17 | 1 | 2 | 75 |
| 2014 | 2 | 20 | 2 | 12 | 17 | 16 | 35 | 4 | 108 |
| 2013 | 3 | 44 | 0 | 12 | 10 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 83 |
| 2012 | 2 | 26 | 0 | 16 | 14 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 69 |
| 2011 | 1 | 28 | 0 | 25 | 7 | 37 | 0 | 0 | 98 |
| 2010 | 4 | 28 | 0 | 17 | 23 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 90 |
| 2009 | 5 | 49 | 0 | 28 | 13 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 96 |
| 2008 | 3 | 32 | 1 | 22 | 11 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 76 |
| 2007 | 6 | 25 | 3 | 20 | 10 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 81 |
| **Totals** | **33** | **328** | **22** | **180** | **142** | **141** | **36** | **10** | **892** |

## Appendix D. FJMC Responsibilities

As described under Section 14(64) of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement, the Fisheries Joint Management Committee shall, among its other activities:

*(a) review information on the state of fishing in waters on 7(1)(a) and 7(1)(b) lands and Crown lands in any areas where the Inuvialuit have an interest and fishery related activities on 7(l)(a) and 7(1)(b) lands;*

*(b) identify areas of waters on 7(1)(a) and 7(1)(b) lands where fishing has taken place and predict where fishing may in the future take place;*

*(c) determine current harvest levels;*

*(d) develop, maintain and control a public registration system for fishing in waters on 7(1)(a) and 7(1)(b) lands and for entry on 7(1)(b) lands for the purpose of fishing;*

*(e) restrict and regulate the public right to enter on 7(1)(b) lands for the purpose of fishing where such restriction and regulation is required for the conservation of a stock, to prevent serious conflict with Inuvialuit activities, to prevent interference with other Inuvialuit use of the land to which they have title or to prevent unreasonable interference with Inuvialuit use and enjoyment of the land;*

*(f) deny entry to persons who abuse the right;*

*(g) allocate subsistence quotas among communities;*

*(h) determine the reporting requirements and review the role of “the Hunters and Trappers Committees” in regulating the subsistence harvest and collection of harvest statistics;*

*(i) make recommendations to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans on subsistence quotas for fish, harvestable quotas for marine mammals, Inuvialuit commercial fishing, allocation of the preferential fishing licences to be granted under subsections (29) to (32), regulations regarding sport and commercial fishing in waters on 7(1)(a) and (b) lands and the identification of waters where such fishing may be prohibited; and*

*(j) advise the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans on regulations, research policies and administration of fisheries generally affecting the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, and on any new international agreements being developed that might apply to Inuvialuit fisheries.*

# Report of the Wildlife Management Advisory Council – Northwest Territories



## Foreword

In 2017/2018, the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT) (the Council) continued to implement its business processes under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement. The Council was created under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA), to give effect to the principles of co-management of wildlife by Inuvialuit and governments, as specified in the IFA Section 14. In 2017/2018, the Council completed its goal to publish the Community Conservation Plans for the six Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR) communities.

## Introduction

The Council was created under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA), to give effect to the principles of co-management of wildlife by Inuvialuit and governments, as specified in the IFA Section 14. The Council began its first full year of activities in 1987/88. This thirtieth annual report describes the activities of the Council during fiscal year 2017/2018 (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018).

The Council’s mandate is to advise appropriate government agencies, the Inuvialuit Game Council, Hunters’ and Trappers’ Committees and other co-management boards or councils on policy, legislation, regulation and administration respecting wildlife, habitat, harvesting, conservation, research and management in the Western Arctic Region within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. For the purpose of these procedures, the Western Arctic Region is that portion of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region which falls within the Northwest Territories.

## Council Membership and Meeting Summary

The Council’s membership consists of three members appointed by the Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC), two members appointed by the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT), one member appointed by the Government of Canada, and a Chair. The Chair is appointed by the Government of the Northwest Territories, with the consent of the Inuvialuit and Canada.

The Council focuses on the conservation of terrestrial wildlife species (including polar bears), and birds. For that reason, the Northwest Territories appoints representatives from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR), and Canada appoints a representative from the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS).

Staff for 2017/2018

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Allison Thompson | Wildlife Biologist | Since January 2017 |
| Jodie Maring | Resource Coordinator | Since September 2016 |

Chair

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Larry Carpenter | Re-appointed August 2016, expires August 2021 |

Government Members

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Rob Gau | ENR Headquarters, GNWT | Appointed September 2008, indeterminate period |
| Marsha Branigan | ENR Inuvik Region, GNWT | Appointed March 2008 for an indeterminate period |
| Eric Reed | Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment and Climate Change Canada | Appointed May 2015 for an indeterminate period |

Government Alternate Members

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Joanna Wilson | ENR Headquarter, Government of the Northwest Territories | Appointed April 2013 for an indeterminate period |
| Norman Snowshoe | ENR Inuvik Region, Government of the Northwest Territories | Appointed August 2017 for an indeterminate period |
| Marie Fast | Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment and Climate Change Canada | Appointed May 2017 for an indeterminate period |

Inuvialuit Members

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Charles Pokiak | Re-appointed September 2016, terminated April 2018 |
| Charles Gruben | Appointed September 2016, resigned August 2017 |
| Bradley Carpenter | Appointed September 2016, expires September 2018 |
| Jody Illasiak | Appointed January 2018, terminated April 2018 |

Inuvialuit Alternate Members

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| John Lucas Jr. | Appointed September 2016, expires September 2018 |
| Jody Illasiak | Appointed September 2016, resigned January 2018 |
| Deva-lynn Pokiak | Appointed January 2018, terminated April 2018 |
| Josh Oliktoak | Appointed January 2018, expires September 2019 |

## Council Activities

The Council activities for fiscal year 2017/2018 included:

* Meetings
* Community Conservation Plans
* By-law Development, Quotas, Seasons and Zones for Wildlife Harvesting
* Legislation Affecting Wildlife Management
* Research
* Other

### Meetings

During the 2017/2018 fiscal year the Council met as listed below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| June 6-8, 2017 | WMAC (NWT) meeting (Paulatuk, NT) |
| Sept 2-4, 2017 | WMAC (NWT) meeting (Whitehorse, YT) |
| Dec 1-3, 2017 | WMAC (NWT) meeting with alternates (Inuvik, NT) |
| Mar 7-9, 2017 | WMAC (NWT) meeting (Inuvik, NT) |

To enable the Council to adequately and knowledgeably fulfill its mandate, Council chair and members participated in the following groups and meetings during the fiscal year:

#### Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management (ACCWM)

The ACCWM membership comprises the chairs of the WMAC (NWT), Gwich’in Renewable Resources Board (GRRB), Sahtu Renewable Resources Board (SRRB), Kitikmeot Regional Wildlife Board (KRWB), Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB), and the Wek’èezhìi Renewable Resources Board (WRRB), as well as the Chair of the Tuktut Nogait National Park Management Board. The *Bluenose Caribou Herds Management Cooperation Agreement*, signed in March 2000, established the committee. The roles of the committeeare to oversee the implementation of a management plan; recommend a system for determining quota limitations; and share harvest information among regions where these herds range.

Some members from the management boards of ACCWM are appointed to two separate working groups: the ACCWM working group and the Communication and Education working group. These working groups have discussions through teleconferences and, if needed, face-to-face meetings.

The second Annual Status Meeting was November 21-23, 2017, in Yellowknife, NT, with Larry Carpenter and Marsha Branigan attending. Charles Pokiak, Marsha Branigan, Allison Thompson, and Jodie Maring participated in 10 ACCWM working group and Communication and Education working group teleconferences.

#### Conference of Management Authorities

The Conference of Management Authorities (CMA) was established under the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*. Membership of the Conference is made up of wildlife co-management boards and governments that share management responsibility for the species at risk in the NWT.

The CMA held two face-to-face meetings and five teleconferences during 2017/2018. Rob Gau, Larry Carpenter, and Jodie Maring attended the face-to-face meeting on May 2-4, 2018, in Fort Smith, NT. Larry Carpenter and Jodie Maring attended the face-to-face meeting February 20-22, 2018, in Inuvik, NT. Rob Gau, Larry Carpenter, Allison Thompson, and Jodie Maring participated in four CMA teleconferences. On October 4, 2017, Rob Gau, Bradley Carpenter, Charles Pokiak and Allison Thompson attended the joint SARC/CMA workshop in Yellowknife, NT.

#### Species at Risk Committee

The Species at Risk Committee (SARC) was established under the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act*. SARC members are appointed by the CMA members, based on their knowledge of NWT plants and animals.

The SARC held one face-to-face meeting and one teleconference during 2017/2018. Allison Thompson attended the meeting April 4-6, 2017, in Fort Smith, NT. In January 2018, WMAC (NWT) appointed Allison Thompson as a SARC member.

#### Wildlife Act Meetings

The *Wildlife Act* working group, which comprises GNWT, Indigenous governments and organizations, and renewable resource boards, is tasked with reviewing the current NWT *Wildlife Act* and regulations, reviewing proposed new regulations and other documentation, and providing comments in a collaborative forum. Larry Carpenter attended the working group meeting November 1-3, 2017, in Yellowknife, NT.

The Section 15 *Wildlife Act* is an annual meeting hosted by the GNWT Department of Environment and Natural Resources to promote cooperative and collaborative working relationships for effective wildlife management at the local, regional, and territorial levels. Larry Carpenter and Charles Pokiak attended this meeting held by ENR October 25-26, 2017, in Yellowknife.

#### Polar Bear Administrative Committee

The Polar Bear Administrative Committee (PBAC) is composed of federal government representatives and representatives from Ontario, Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador, Manitoba, Nunavut, Yukon, and the Northwest Territories. The PBAC provides a forum for the collaborative management of polar bear populations by relevant jurisdictions in Canada to ensure that Canada fulfils all obligations for polar bear conservation, including obligations under the *International Agreement on the Conservation of Polar Bears and Their Habitat*.

Larry Carpenter participated in teleconferences on May 8, 2017, and November 24, 2017, as well as attending the meeting in Iqaluit, NU, on July 13-15, 2017.

#### Polar Bear Technical Committee

The PBAC established the Polar Bear Technical Committee (PBTC) in 1970 to provide support to PBAC by reviewing scientific research and Indigenous Traditional Knowledge and providing an annual status assessment of the polar bear subpopulations in Canada.

The representatives for PBTC are from each jurisdiction where polar bears are found (Manitoba, Newfoundland and Labrador, the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Ontario, Québec, and the Yukon).

Larry Carpenter participated in the teleconference on November 10, 2017. Larry Carpenter, Allison Thompson, and Jodie Maring attended the meeting on February 4-8, 2018, in Inuvik, NT.

#### Polar Bear Implementation Table for Management Plan Workshop

Marsha Branigan, Charles Pokiak, and Allison attended the workshop on June 1, 2017, in Inuvik, NT.

#### Inuvialuit Game Council Regular Meetings

Larry Carpenter attended to the IGC meeting on June 10, 2017, in Paulatuk, NT. Larry Carpenter and Jodie Maring attended the IGC meeting on September 8, 2017, in Whitehorse, YT and on December 7, 2017, in Inuvik, NT. Larry Carpenter attended the IGC meeting on March 9, 2018, in Inuvik, NT.

#### Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk Highway Corridor Working Group Meeting

Allison Thompson attended the meeting on May 16, 2017, in Inuvik, NT. Jodie Maring attended the meetings on November 27, 2017, and May 14, 2018, in Inuvik, NT.

#### Beaver Management Teleconferences

Marsha Branigan, Allison Thompson, and Jodie Maring attended the teleconferences on May 17, 2017, March 27, 2018, and August 18, 2017.

#### Inuvialuit/Inupiat Polar Bear Joint Commissioners’ Meeting

Larry Carpenter attended the meeting August 22-24, 2017, in Barrow, AK.

#### WMAC (NWT and NS) Joint Meeting

Marsha Branigan, Rob Gau, Bradley Carpenter, Charles Pokiak, Eric Reed, Norm Snowshoe, Larry Carpenter, Jodie Maring, and Allison Thompson attended the joint meeting on September 5, 2017, in Whitehorse, YT.

#### Species at Risk ISR Community Tour

Marsha Branigan, Larry Carpenter, Allison Thompson, and Jodie Maring held meetings in all six ISR communities on September 18-21 and October 11-18, 2017.

#### Inuit Circumpolar Council Wildlife Management Summit

Larry Carpenter attended the summit on November 6-8, 2017, in Ottawa, ON. The Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK) provided financial support for his attendance.

#### Aklavik Muskox Workshop

Charles Pokiak attended the workshop November 27-28, 2017, in Aklavik, NT, held by WMAC (NS).

#### International Arctic Change Conference

Larry Carpenter, Bradley Carpenter, Charles Pokiak, and Allison Thompson attended the conference December 11-15, 2017, in Quebec City, QC.

#### Tuktoyaktuk Hunter’s and Trapper’s Committee Special Meeting

Charles Pokiak and Jodie Maring attended the special meeting on December 19, 2017, in Tuktoyaktuk, NT.

#### Polar Bear Range States meeting

Larry Carpenter attended the meeting from February 2-4, 2018, in Fairbanks, AK.

### Community Conservation Plans

The WMAC (NWT), pursuant to its responsibility for conservation and management plans under article 14(60)b of the *Inuvialuit Final Agreement*, takes the lead in the development and revision of the six Community Conservation Plans. A full revision of the CCPs commenced in November 2014 and was completed April 2018.

### Bylaw Development, Quotas, Seasons, and Zones for Wildlife Harvesting

In September 2013, the WMAC (NWT), Inuvialuit Game Council, and ENR signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for bylaw development within the ISR.

All parties remain committed to the development, approval, and enactment of HTC bylaws as regulations under the *Wildlife Act.* Up to March 31, 2018, there were several bylaws and regulations in development or in the process of being amended. The following is a brief summary:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Big Game Hunting Regulations: **definition** | – Conflicting definitions of “tag” occur in the *Big Game Hunting Regulations* and *Wildlife Act*.  – *Big Game Hunting Regulations* definition needs removal because the text is a carry-over from pre-November 2014 and conflicts with the new collaboratively developed definition of tag in the *Wildlife Act*.  – The definition of “tag” will be removed from the *Big Game Hunting Regulations.* |
| Big Game Hunting Regulations: **schedule** | The following errors of the Schedule in the *Big Game Hunting Regulations* are either human-caused typographical errors or necessary corrections to address updated regulations:   * Schedule Part 5A (barren-ground caribou): Area I/BC/04 has been replaced by I/DU/04. Remove Item 20 and Item 21 in Schedule Part 5A as it has already been replaced by Schedule Part 5A.1 (Dolphin and Union Caribou) * Schedule Part 11A (muskox): Item 30 has the season closing April 30. It must match the season closure in Items 20 and 25 as the season closes April 15 * Schedule Part 12 (wolf): Area I/WF/06 does not spatially exist. Remove I/WF/06 from Item 8, Item 13, Item 19 * Schedule Part 13 (wolverine): Item 6 incorrectly has a season close of October 10. It must match Item 11 where the season close is October 31 |
| Licence & Permits Regulations | – Every permit required under the *Wildlife Act* is described in the Trapping Regulations, Wildlife Business Regulations, or the Wildlife Licences and Permits Regulations.  – Before the new *Wildlife Act* was enabled in November 2014 the permit for the interaction, manipulation or close observation, including the making of a film or the provision of an expedition, safari or cruise for big game species was covered under a Wildlife Research Permit. The *Wildlife Act*now specifically covers these activities in s.85 and is called a Wildlife Observation Permit.  – As Wildlife Observation Permits are new in the Act, it was an oversight that it was not added to the *Wildlife Licences and Permits Regulations.* |

ISR related regulations: All regulations are following the MOU processes

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Mandatory sample submissions for I/PC/01 | ENR supported the recommendation.   * At MOU stage 4, step 10: *GNWT conducts the internal review necessary to expeditiously incorporate the bylaw into a regulation. A regulation is drafted, and a copy of the draft regulation is sent to the Joint Secretariat office of the WMAC (NWT).* |
| Creation of I/DU/05, no tag, no season requirement | ENR supported the recommendation.   * At MOU stage 4, step 10*: GNWT conducts the internal review necessary to expeditiously incorporate the bylaw into a regulation. A regulation is drafted, and a copy of the draft regulation is sent to the Joint Secretariat office of the WMAC (NWT)*. |
| Season modification for I/BC/06 | ENR supported the recommendation.  At MOU stage 4, step 10: *GNWT conducts the internal review necessary to expeditiously incorporate the bylaw into a regulation. A regulation is drafted, and a copy of the draft regulation is sent to the Joint Secretariat office of the WMAC (NWT)*. |
| Spatial modification for I/MX/05 | ENR supported the recommendation.   * At MOU stage 2, stage 5: ENR is making sure Justice accepts the wording before transmitting the draft bylaw to WMAC for HTCs signature. |
| Lynx season modification for I/LX/05 | Currently undergoing ENR approval processes.   * Letter of receipt sent to WMAC (NWT) 16May2018. * At MOU stage 2, stage 5: ENR is completing its internal review. |
| Following the 4% TAH, adjust the quota tag allocations for BNW caribou I/BC/06 | Currently paused. ENR’s recommendation is to revisit allocations after the next survey in July 2018. |

### Legislation Affecting Wildlife Management

The WMAC (NWT) continues to be involved, through comment and advice as required. This includes:

Federal Species at Risk Act

* Peary Caribou Recovery Strategy
* Dolphin and Union Caribou Status Report and Management Plan
* Polar Bear Status Report
* Peregrine Falcon Status Report
* Proposed species listing: Rusty Blackbird Status Report; Buff-breasted Sandpiper; Collared Pika; Hairy Braya; Horned Grebe.

Species at Risk (NWT) Act

* Dolphin and Union Caribou Management Plan
* Boreal Caribou Recovery Strategy and Implementation Agreement
* Polar Bear Joint Inuvialuit Settlement Region Management Plan and Implementation Agreement
* Barren-Ground Caribou proposed species listing
* Grizzly Bear proposed species listing
* Amphibian Management Plan
* Hairy Braya Recovery Strategy and Implementation Agreement

Migratory Birds Convention Act

* Non-beneficiary permitting to harvest overabundant Snow and Ross Geese in a Migratory Bird Sanctuary

Wildlife Act

* Section 15 regulations
* Phase II regulations

### Research

Wildlife research is essential to the WMAC (NWT) in order to make decisions and recommendations on conservation and quotas. Wildlife research in the ISR is supported primarily by IFA implementation funds (funds provided by Canada in fulfillment of its continuing obligations under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement), along with regular ENR and CWS expenditures and in-kind support. ENR and CWS propose research programs and priorities for the ISR, based on continuing consultation with the HTCs. The WMAC (NWT) considers these proposals, sets the priorities for IFA-implementation-funded research each year, and advises the agencies and the Inuvialuit Game Council of its recommendations. The Council also reviews and advises on wildlife research proposed by other agencies and supported by other funds.

Inuvialuit knowledge directs and informs wildlife research in several ways. The consultation process between ENR, CWS, and the HTCs helps set priorities about what research needs to be done, and how best to do it. The WMAC (NWT) requires that such consultation take place prior to approving any research project and also requires assurance that research is conducted in a manner satisfactory to the HTCs. The Council itself also considers the development, design, conduct, and interpretation of research on the basis of both Inuvialuit and scientific knowledge. Traditional Knowledge has been collected on specific species.

#### IFA-funded Research

In December 2017, the Council approved the 34 wildlife research projects for 2018/19. The total IFA allocation was $1,120,405 for 34 projects and other expenses.

Projects funded by Inuvialuit Implementation Funding under the IFA:

* Arctic Borderlands ETK - support
* Beavers - Management
* Caribou - Harvest Data (HTCs and RRCs)
* Caribou - BG - Bluenose - Body condition and Health
* Caribou - Barren Ground - Monitoring
* Caribou - Barren Ground - Management Planning
* Caribou - Reindeer \ Caribou hybridization
* Caribou - PCH Harvest Management Strategy
* Caribou - PCH Body Condition and Health
* Caribou - PCH Collars - YG
* Caribou - PCH Traditional Knowledge
* Caribou - Dempster Highway Monitoring
* Caribou - Peary - Traditional Knowledge
* Caribou - Peary - Genetics
* Data Acquisition
* Dall's Sheep Management Plan
* Dall's Sheep Monitoring
* Grizzly Bear - Harvest Monitoring
* Grizzly Bear - Population Study
* Grizzly Bear - Problem Bear Response/Landfill monitoring
* Muskox - Health Monitoring
* Muskox - Richardson Mountains
* Muskox - /Peary Caribou NWVI and Banks
* Muskrats
* Polar Bear - Beaufort Sea Assessment - instrument 2020
* Polar Bear - Management Plan
* Polar Bear - Harvest Monitoring
* Polar Bear - Viscount Melville
* Polar Bear - Contaminant Analysis
* Polar Bear - Traditional Knowledge
* Polar Bear - Diet and Disease Analysis
* Wolf - Harvest Monitoring
* Wolverine - Harvest Monitoring

#### Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) Projects

Total IFA funds allocated for research in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region: $268,500 for two projects including administration related to the WMAC (NWT). Projects funded by Inuvialuit Implementation Funding under the IFA:

* Western Arctic Snow Goose and Brant Banding Program
* Banks Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary No.1 Habitat Assessment

### Other

The Joint Secretariat provides administrative support to the IGC and co-management committees, including maintaining a website. The WMAC (NWT) portion of this website contains information about the Council’s activities and mandate, and downloadable versions of many of the Council’s documents (e.g., Inuvialuit Community Conservation Plans).

WMAC (NWT) Funding Summary

### Supplemental Funding

On December 16, 2015, the Council submitted a supplemental funding request to CIRNA and was approved in October 2016. The supplemental funding was used for the remainder of the 2016/2017 fiscal year and 2017/2018 fiscal year, ending December 2017.

The supplemental funding was used for the following:

* Costs associated with the implementation of the Council’s mandate regarding polar bear management
* Costs associated with staffing and administration requirements that can no longer be deferred until the next IFA implementation budget negotiations are concluded
* Consultation and engagement on species at risk and other conservation concerns for species in the ISR

### Implementation Funding Increase

The Council’s allocation from the new implementation funding agreement was received in February 2018, but was retroactive to April 1, 2017.

## Appendix A. Financial Report

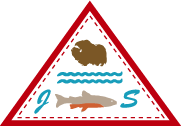
Schedule of Revenue and Expenditure for the WMAC (NWT) for the Year Ending 31 March 2018

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Inuvialuit Participation Costs** | | | |  |
| **Revenue** |  |  |  |  |
|  | GNWT - contribution |  |  | 75,107.00 |
| **Expenditure** |  |  |  |  |
|  | WMAC meetings |  |  |  |
|  | Honoraria | 21,820.28 |  |  |
|  | Per Diem | 92,35.80 |  |  |
|  | Travel | 25,194.36 |  |  |
|  | Accommodation | 19,312.75 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 75,563.19 |  |
|  | Other meetings |  |  |  |
|  | Honoraria | 7,459.07 |  |  |
|  | Per Diem | 2,829.25 |  |  |
|  | Travel | 7,494.03 |  |  |
|  | Accommodation | 4,333.53 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 22,115.89 | 97,679.08 |
| **Excess Revenue (Expenditure) Before Deferred** | | | | **(22,572.08)** |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Chair and Council Costs** | | | |  |
| **Revenue** |  |  |  |  |
|  | GNWT – Contribution |  |  | 152,123.00 |
| **Expenditure** |  |  |  |  |
|  | Chair’s Expenses |  |  |  |
|  | Honoraria | 47,903.75 |  |  |
|  | Per Diem | 15,966.98 |  |  |
|  | Travel | 29,603.38 |  |  |
|  | Accommodation | 16,992.18 |  |  |
|  | JS Board Meetings | 5,238.26 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 115,704.55 |  |
|  | Other |  |  |  |
|  | Office Rent | 11,374.87 |  |  |
|  | Office Costs | 1,034.54 |  |  |
|  | Meeting Costs | 5,988.66 |  |  |
|  | Consulting | 4,139.28 |  |  |
|  | Minor Fixed Assets | 0.00 |  |  |
|  | Amortization of Capital Assets | 0.00 |  |  |
|  | Web Site | 0.00 |  |  |
|  | Telephone & Fax | 676.54 |  |  |
|  | Community Conservation Plan | 0.00 |  |  |
|  | Species at Risk/Legislation | 0.00 |  |  |
|  | Workshop/Conferences | 0.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 23,213.89 | 138,918.44 |
| **Excess Revenue (Expenditure) Before Deferred** | | |  | **13,204.56** |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Supplemental Funding Costs** | | | | |
| **Revenue** |  |  |  |  |
|  | CIRNA – Contribution |  |  | 159,069.00 |
| **Expenditure** |  |  |  |  |
|  | Polar Bear Management |  |  |  |
|  | Honoraria-Chair | 6,650.00 |  |  |
|  | Per Diem | 2,083.90 |  |  |
|  | Travel | 2,508.74 |  |  |
|  | Accommodation | 2,707.39 |  |  |
|  | Registration Fees | 0.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 13,950.03 |  |
|  | WMAC (NWT) Biologist |  |  |  |
|  | Salaries | 61,456.05 |  |  |
|  | Housing Allowance | 4,268.23 |  |  |
|  | Recruiting/Relocation | 0.00 |  |  |
|  | Office Costs | 582.78 |  |  |
|  | Office Rent | 20,592.92 |  |  |
|  | Telephone/fax cost | 889.64 |  |  |
|  | Travel | 9,618.00 |  |  |
|  | Accommodation | 3,787.00 |  |  |
|  | Per Diem | 3,699.85 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 108,457.74 |  |
|  | Consultation and Engagement |  |  |  |
|  | Honoraria | 11,099.47 |  |  |
|  | Honoraria HTC | 9,250.00 |  |  |
|  | Per Diem | 1,720.65 |  |  |
|  | Travel | 2,160.38 |  |  |
|  | Accommodation | 5,605.56 |  |  |
|  | Meeting Costs | 6,825.17 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 36,661.23 | 159,069.00 |
| **Excess Revenue (Expenditure) Before Deferred** | | | | **0.00** |

# Report of the Joint Secretariat



## Introduction

The Joint Secretariat (JS) provides administrative and technical support to the six bodies established in Sections 11–14 of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA). These bodies include the Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC), Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC), Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB), Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC), Wildlife Management Advisory Council – NWT (WMAC (NWT)) and Wildlife Management Advisory Council – North Slope (WMAC (NS)). The JS was incorporated as a society in 1987 with the agreement of the parties to the IFA. The six chairs of the committees listed here constitute the society's members and directors.

The core duties of the Joint Secretariat are:

1. To support and facilitate the interests and activities of the IFA committees established pursuant to Sections 11–14 of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement in any matters relating to their responsibilities and interests.
2. To provide administrative (financial/clerical) support to IFA committees and to arrange logistics of meetings pursuant to the business therein.
3. To record and make available all materials associated with the business of IFA committees as required by their Chairs and other appropriate agencies.
4. To establish and maintain working liaisons between the Joint Secretariat and other Inuvialuit organizations, Government, Industry, the Academic sector and other relevant agencies or organizations.
5. To provide technical resource support to IFA committees as required by their Chairs.

The JS administers all funding (receivable and payable) on behalf of IGC, EISC, EIRB, FJMC and WMAC (NWT). The majority of IFA committee funding is provided though Contribution Agreements with the Federal Government and Territorial Governments. Outside funding sources are also administered by the JS.

The JS administers Inuvialuit Participation Costs only on behalf of the WMAC (NS).

The JS administers all HR matters in support of IGC, EISC, EIRB, FJMC, and WMAC (NWT). The WMAC (NS) administers its own HR requirements.

Key stakeholders that the JS interacts with regularly in order to provide appropriate administrative and technical support include:

* Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC)
* Inuvialuit Hunters and Trappers Committees (HTCs)
* Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNA)
* Department of the Executive and Indigenous Affairs – Government of the Northwest Territories (DOEIA – GNWT)
* Department of Environment and Natural Resources – GNWT (ENR – GNWT)
* Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
* Department of Environment – Yukon Government (DOE – YG)

## Joint Secretariat Staff

As of March 31, 2018, the Joint Secretariat employed 14 full-time staff. Over the course of the fiscal year numerous casual staff have been hired as required. Please note that WMAC (NS) employs staff independently of the JS.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Administration Staff |  |
| Mike Harlow | Executive Director |
| Peter Enitilo | Office Manager |
| Arsalan Malik | Senior Finance Officer |
| Eunice Thrasher | Finance Officer |
| Shawna Kaglik | Travel Coordinator |
| Bernice Joe | Administrative Assistant |
| Committee Support |  |
| Jennifer Lam | IGC Resource Coordinator |
| Chanda Turner | IGC Resource Coordinator |
| Michel Lindsay | EISC Coordinator |
| Lenora McLeod | EIRB Coordinator |
| Vanessa Cunningham | FJMC Resource Coordinator |
| Emily Way-Nee | FJMC Resource Coordinator |
| Jodie Maring | WMAC (NWT) – Resource Coordinator |
| Allison Thompson | WMAC (NWT) – Wildlife Biologist |

## Meeting Summary / Committee Makeup

During the 2017/2018 fiscal year the JS Board held the following meetings:

* April 12, 2017 – Inuvik, NT
* April 25-26, 2017 – Vancouver, BC
* June 26-27, 2017 – Whitehorse, YT (Included the Annual General Meeting)
* September 5-6, 2017 – Whitehorse, YT
* September 22, 2017 – teleconference
* November 30, 2017 – Inuvik, NT

The committee membership and directors are made up of the Chairs of the six IFA committees. The Chair of the JS Board is elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Membership of the JS over the fiscal year was as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Board Position** | **Name** | **Committee Position** |
| JS Chair | Larry Carpenter  (starting June 26, 2017) | WMAC (NWT) Chair |
|  | Patrick Gruben  (to June 26, 2017) | IGC Chair |
| JS Vice Chair | Vic Gillman | FJMC Chair |
| Regular members | John Lucas Jr  (starting July 24, 2017) | IGC Chair |
|  | David Livingstone  (starting August 14, 2017) | EISC Chair |
|  | Albert Ruben  (to August 14, 2017) | Acting EISC Chair |
|  | John Donihee  starting January 19, 2018 | EIRB Chair |
|  | Herbert Felix  (to January 19, 2018) | Acting EIRB Chair |
|  | Lindsay Staples | WMAC (NS) Chair |
| Secretary | Mike Harlow  (starting April 12, 2017) | JS Executive Director |

## Committee Activities

### Implementation of Joint Secretariat Organizational Review Recommendations

In the early part of the 2016/2017 fiscal year, the JS Board completed a third party review of the organization’s structure and human resources realities, with a goal to identify where change could lead to improved achievement. The review produced 37 recommended actions that, if properly implemented, would lead to a better workplace environment, improved financial accountability, increased staff retention, and a more strategic approach to JS operations. These recommendations were reviewed and approved at the JS Board meeting on April 26, 2017.

The majority of the approved implementation actions have either been completed or initiated with promising results. Three key areas of improvement are described here:

#### Improved Workplace Culture

Generally, the JS is a more pleasant, stable, and equitable place to work. A consistent senior management presence in the office means all staff can seek regular guidance when needed. Management has implemented clear JS reporting relationships to provide further clarity. All staff are now expected to abide by JS HR policies and procedures, which are consistently administered by management. As policy changes, staff input is sought to ensure any potential changes are understood and reasonable.

Staff have benefited from efforts to increase interaction among each other in order to develop and strengthen relationships. The result is improved organizational awareness and cohesion. Successes include regular all-staff meetings, regularly scheduled committee support staff and administration team meetings, and institution of relaxed Friday afternoon gatherings. Additionally, various internal team-building opportunities (in office and after hours) have been pursued. Finally, a formal one-day team-building session in March helped further gel the team. Held at the end of a successful IFA learning week (see below), this event led to JS employees’ using the terms *family*, *team*, *supportive*, and *galvanized*.

Over the last year, the JS Board hired a new Executive Director (ED). The ED has hired staff to fill six positions over the fiscal year (FJMC Support, IGC Support, EISC Support, EIRB Support, Senior Finance Officer, and Communication & Information Technology Coordinator). In addition, the WMAC Wildlife Biologist position was made permanent.

With staff input, a JS onboarding and orientation process has been instituted for new hires to foster better understanding of job-related duties and inclusion within the JS team. Job descriptions have been reviewed and edited to ensure accuracy and a common look and feel between positions. Finally, an annual employee appraisal process has been initiated, which allows for an honest and open conversation between managers and employees related to performance. These efforts have helped spread workload more equitably, get new staff up and running sooner, and ensure staff are aware of their responsibilities.

A new salary grid has been established which improves JS competitiveness against similar positions and organizations. The new salary structure is designed to reward excellence while also providing reasonable annual increases to maintain salary dollar values. Additionally, the JS has instituted dedicated funding to facilitate Professional Development opportunities for its staff. These initiatives should help retain staff and allow for their professional growth within the JS.

Finally, the physical JS office space has undergone significant changes. Randomly placed boxes and filing cabinets have been tidied or thrown out, the unused JS library is catalogued and housed with the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC) records department for safekeeping, the office has been repainted, new furniture has been purchased, and functional common use areas established. The office now looks and feels like an office and provides staff with the needed infrastructure to thrive.

All of these efforts have been made to make it easier for current employees to succeed in their work, to keep these employees for longer, and to have better success when hiring new employees. It is felt these efforts have been successful.

#### Improved Financial Management

The overall financial management of the JS has been evaluated and adjusted to increase financial accountability. Key steps taken include ensuring the JS Board is provided with regular financial updates so it is fully aware of the organization’s financial situation. To consolidate and streamline budgeting the IFA committees and JS now follow a standard budgeting process that will help produce a single JS budget for approval by the Board. Internally, new processes related to expenditure approvals have been put in place to ensure proper review and coding. An interim audit to better understand the overall financial situation was undertaken in January. The audit highlighted needed areas of improvement related to bank reconciliations and bill-back accounts and prepped the finance team for the annual audit. Finally, a Contribution Agreement (CA) review process has been implemented to ensure key staff are fully aware of the CA prior to entering into potentially difficult arrangements. These and similar efforts are improving JS financial accountability.

The JS finance team must be commended on its efforts to maximize allocations of reasonable and defendable core expenditures against previously accumulated surplus amounts and stand-alone contribution agreements.

#### Renewed JS Board Focus

The organizational review noted the JS could benefit from more consistent involvement by the JS Board. The Board and senior management have taken steps to address this. The Board met six times over the course of the 2017/2018 fiscal year, which led to greater Board awareness of JS and regional issues, helped maintain a solid understanding of finances, and provided opportunities to establish strategic direction for senior staff to implement. Between meetings, Board members (especially the Board Chair) and the Executive Director have maintained constant communication through email and telephone conversations. This has ensured the achievement of key strategic deliverables such as securing increased federal funding (see below) and the continued evolution of guardianship-type monitoring work. Finally, the JS Board has approved and abides by its Governance Manual, which has helped ensure consistent approaches to Board leadership and financial prudence.

### Renewed and Increased Federal Funding

In 2017/2018 the IFA committees and JS were operating in year 14 of an initial 10-year funding agreement with CIRNA. It was recognized by the parties to the IFA, and reinforced by submissions of IFA committees, that low funding levels were creating challenges to enable committees to achieve IFA mandates. Through a positive working relationship with the Modern Treaty Implementation Branch of CIRNA and working with their staff, the JS was successful in entering into a new 10-year funding agreement with the federal government. The funding has been increased by $1,222,222 annually with an additional $184,000 to support the Community-Based Monitoring Program. Both amounts are subject to a modest annual inflationary increase. The funding is not directly tied to individual IFA committees but is provided as a lump sum to the JS Board. The Board successfully undertook a funding allocation exercise to ensure strategic use of these new funds.

### IFA Educational Events

The JS Board prioritized efforts to improve knowledge of the IFA during the course of the 2017/2018 fiscal year. The JS initiated two key events over the course of the year to help assist with furthering IFA understanding. In January, the JS and IRC collaborated on hosting a three-day gathering of existing Committee for Original Peoples’ Entitlement (COPE) members and key staff. COPE members were led through a facilitated set of discussions to highlight the need for the IFA, challenges faced during negotiations, hopes for the land claim, and impressions of implementation to date. The gathering was filmed in its entirety to assist the JS and IRC in the development of future tools. The JS also organized a three-day workshop for all IFA committee members and staff, including Inuvialuit alternates. The workshop was designed to improve knowledge and understanding specific to IFA Sections 11-14. As part of the workshop an IFA Reference Guide was developed to be used for future member/staff orientation to new roles. By all accounts the event was a success. Participants summarized the event as *energizing*, *inspiring*, and *humbling*.

Additional activities in this area include staff “fireside chats” to discuss aspects of the IFA and a plan jointly developed with IRC to advance future IFA education initiatives and tools for a range of audiences.

### Transition of Shared Services Unit Staff from IRC to JS

Upon agreement between the IGC, IRC, and JS, three Shared Services Unit (SSU) positions were successfully transferred from IRC to the JS administration as of March 31, 2018. These include the Traditional Knowledge Coordinator, Community-Based Monitoring Program Coordinator, and the Marine Protected Areas Coordinator. The transition was fairly smooth, as all staff were kept informed of transition processes. The CBMP contribution agreement has been included with the increased CIRNA agreement noted above. TLK and MPA funding arrangements with DFO will be transferred from IRC to the JS and should be in place early in the fiscal year. All three positions will remain in the office space they currently occupy. For the 2018-19 fiscal year, existing RSEA work commitments will be met. Moving forward, workload distribution for the three staff will be 80 percent to support IFA committees and 20 percent for IRC-related initiatives.

### Day-to-day Activities

Over the course of the fiscal year, the normal day-to-day operations of the JS and IFA committees have been supported and advanced. Related responsibilities include: financial accounting and management, carrying out payroll, making travel bookings, addressing IT and infrastructure needs, regularly communicating with regional partners (especially IRC), and other regularly occurring tasks associated with running the JS office.

## Funding Summary

In the 2017/2018 fiscal year, the Joint Secretariat (JS) received funding from various sources. The majority of funding is provided via contribution agreements (CA) with Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNA) and the Government of the Northwest Territories – Environment and Natural Resources (GNWT–ENR). The remainder of received funding was provided through contributions made by other federal and territorial government departments, the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC), and non-governmental organizations. These funds were managed by the JS on behalf of the six committees established in sections 11–14 of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA). Committee operations are supported by budgets established and overseen through motion of individual committees.

As a body independent of the IFA committees, the JS is provided its own operating budget. The general expenditures associated with the JS include compensation for communal staff, certain communal costs, specific projects, and other expenditures better accounted for by the Joint Secretariat, as summarized in annual audits.

## Overall Summary

The Joint Secretariat has taken meaningful steps to put the “joint” back in the Joint Secretariat. Strategic investment in new positions and better support for existing ones will ensure the JS continues to grow in the positive direction it has moved over the past year.

1. The Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) will report independently. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. As set out in the Inuvialuit Final Agreement under Section 11.(22) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Government and Inuvialuit Financial Summary subject to change upon approval of 2017/2018 audit [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Resource Person/Office Financial Summary subject to change upon approval of 2017/2018 audit. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)