

INUVIALUIT GAME COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 1999 - 2000

For the Period April 1, 1999 - March 31, 2000

Prepared by: Katherine Thiesenhausen, Executive Secretary

Inuvik, Northwest Territories, Canada
June, 2000

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	1
The Role Of The Inuvialuit Game Council	1
Structure	3
Membership During 1999-2000	3
Officers and Staff	4
Activities During 1999-2000	5
Directors' and Regular Meetings	5
Other Meetings Attended by IGC Members or Their Appointed Representatives	5
Summary Of Committee Activities During 1999-2000	8
IGC Committee Appointments	9
Committee Annual Reports	12
Highlights Of The 1999-2000 Fiscal Year	16
Aklavik Hunters' and Trappers' Committee.	16
Olokhtomiut (Holman) Hunters' and Trappers' Committee.	18
Inuvik Hunters' and Trappers' Committee	21
Paulatuk Hunters' and Trappers' Committee.	23
Sachs Harbour Hunters' and Trappers' Committee.	25
Tuktoyaktuk Hunters' and Trappers' Committee.	27
Inuvialuit Game Council	30
Appendix A	
Role of the Inuvialuit Game Council Under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement ...	34
Appendix B	
Role of the Hunters' and Trappers' Committees.	35
FIGURES	
Figure 1 Inuvialuit Settlement Region	2
INTRODUCTION	

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.

The first few years of Inuvialuit Game Council operations were devoted largely to organizational matters; support staff were hired in 1987. Details of the early operations of the Council are summarized in their first Annual Activity Report (1987/88).

This thirteenth Annual Activity Report summarizes the activities of the Inuvialuit Game Council during the 1999-2000 fiscal year (April 1, 1999 to March 31, 2000). Financial information is reported separately and is included in the financial statements for the Joint Secretariat - Inuvialuit Renewable Resources Committees.

THE ROLE OF THE INUVIALUIT GAME COUNCIL

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 (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 to uphold and administer Inuvialuit harvesting rights acquired under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement. The Council also has the mandate to represent the Inuvialuit in all matters related to renewable resource management in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR) (Figure 1).

The Inuvialuit Game Council appoints Inuvialuit representatives to all of the joint wildlife and environmental co-management committees established under the IFA and, with the consent of the Inuvialuit Game Council, the Government selects the Chairpersons for these groups.

In addition to its responsibilities under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement, the Game Council acts as the regional representative of Inuvialuit hunters, trappers and fishermen.

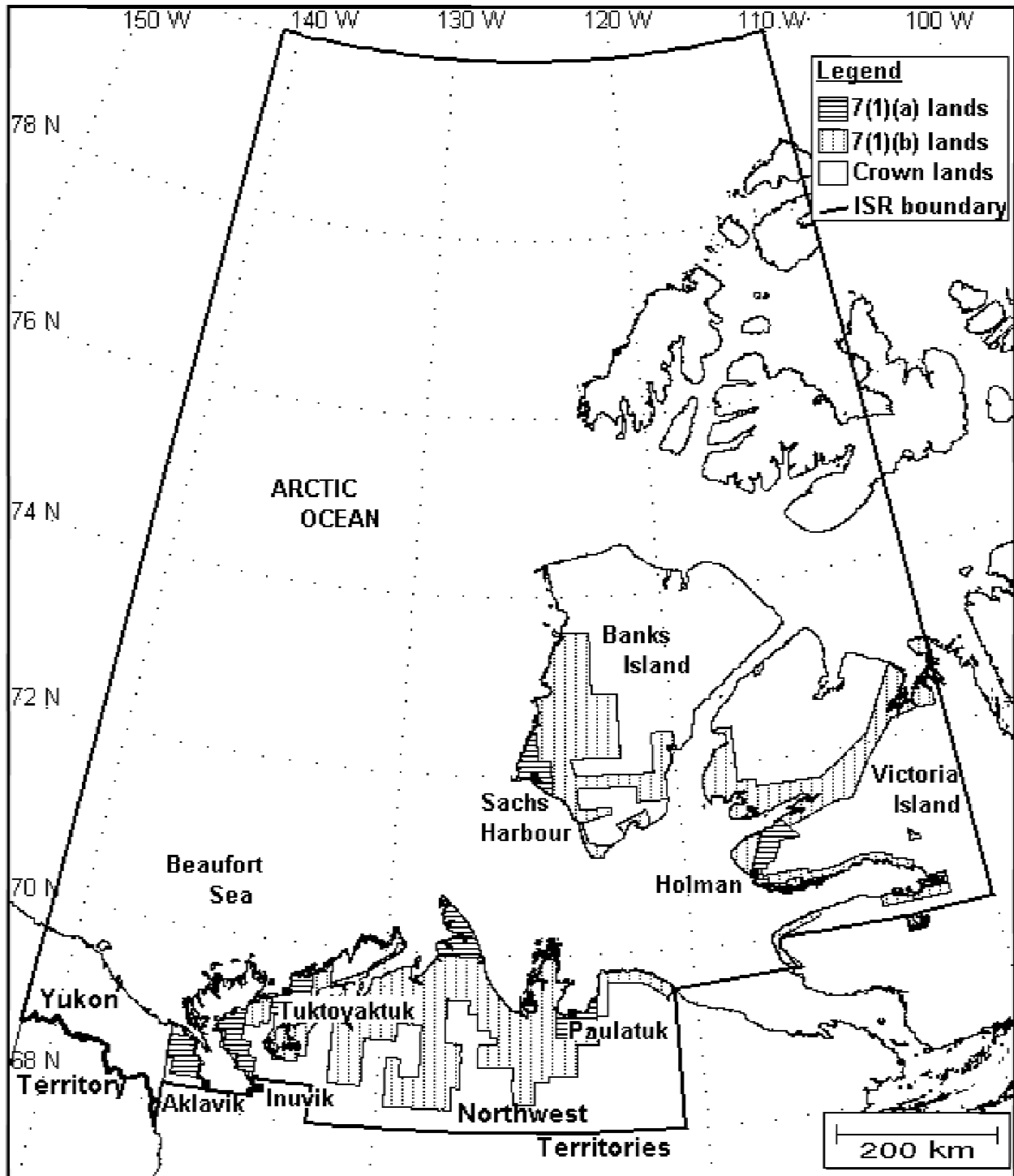


Figure 1 The Inuvialuit Settlement Region

STRUCTURE

The Inuvialuit Game Council is made up of two representatives from each of the six Inuvialuit Hunters' and Trappers' Committees (HTCs). Each HTC elects a Director (the voting member) from its' Board and an Alternate from its' general membership to the Inuvialuit Game Council. Both Directors and Alternates attend all Directors' and Regular meetings of the Inuvialuit Game Council. Alternates may vote on behalf of their community if the Director is absent.

The Chair of the Council is elected by the six Inuvialuit Game Council Directors from within the active membership of the Hunters and Trappers Committee. The Vice-Chair and Treasurer must be elected from among the Hunters and Trappers Committees' appointed Directors or Alternates. The Inuvialuit Game Council Resource Person/Executive Secretary is not required to be a member of any Hunters and Trappers Committee.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE INUVIALUIT GAME COUNCIL DURING 1999 - 2000

INUVIALUIT GAME COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP				
COMMUNITY	NAME	POSITION	FISCAL TERM	1 ST APPOINTED
Inuvik	Duane Smith	Chair	April `99-March 2000	IGC: Dec. 1993 Chair: Dec. 97
Aklavik HTC	Dennis Arey	Director	April `99-March 2000	Feb. 1999
	Danny C. Gordon	Alternate	April `99-March 2000	Jun. 94 - Mar. 95 & May 1987
Olokhtomiut HTC (Holman)	Dan Klengenber	Director	April `99-May 1999	Apr. - Aug. 96 & Mar. 1997
	Donald Inuktalik	Director	May `99-March 2000	May 1999
	John Alikamik	Alternate	April `99-March 2000	Jun.91 - Feb. 93 & April 1994
Inuvik HTC	Johnny Lennie	Treasurer and Director	April `99-Sept. 1999	Dec. 1997
	Richard Binder	Treasurer and Director	Sept. `99-March 2000	Sept. 1999

	Billy Day	Alternate	April `99-March 2000	Aug. 1990
Paulatuk HTC	David Ruben	Director	April `99-June 99	March 1999
	Tony Green	Director	June `99-Feb. 2000	June 1999
	Nelson Ruben	Director	Feb. `00-March 2000	Feb. 2000
	John Max Kudlak	Alternate	April `99-June 1999	March 1999
	Ruben Ruben	Alternate	June `99-March 2000	June 1999
Sachs Harbour HTC	John Keogak	Director	April `99-Feb. 2000	June 1995
	Desmond Nasogaluak	Alternate	April `99-March 2000	June 1998
Tuktoyaktuk HTC	Frank Pokiak	Vice-Chair	April `99-March 2000	IGC: Apr.89-Apr.92 & Dec. 1997 V.Chair: Mar. 1998
	Chucky Gruben	Alternate	April `99-March 2000	Dec. 1997

Officers And Staff

The Inuvialuit Game Council is incorporated as a Society under the NWT Societies Act, and is therefore required to elect Officers. The Officers during the 1999-2000 fiscal year were:

Chair	- Duane Smith	April 1999 - March 2000
Vice-Chair	- Frank Pokiak	April 1999 - March 2000
Treasurer	- Richard Binder - Johnny Lennie	September 1999 - March 2000 April 1999 - September 1999
Executive Secretary	- Katherine Thiesenhausen - Joey Amos	June 1999 - March 2000 April 1999 - June 1999

Support staff for the Inuvialuit Game Council are provided by the Joint Secretariat in Inuvik. Joey Amos was both the Executive Secretary and Resource Person for the Inuvialuit Game Council. Joey moved to the position of Resource Person for the Fisheries Joint Management Committee on June 1, 1999. Katherine Thiesenhausen was hired as the Executive Secretary and Resource Person for the Inuvialuit Game Council on June 1, 1999. Financial administration and clerical support during the 1999-2000 fiscal year was provided by Peggy

Madore, Angela Hunter, Brigitte Wolki and Myrna Button. Esther Price assisted in Game Council issues with the Hunters' and Trappers' Committees as the HTC Administrative Support Officer. Norm Snow, Executive Director of the Joint Secretariat, served as a technical and administrative advisor throughout the fiscal year.

ACTIVITIES DURING 1999-2000

Directors' and Regular Meetings

The Directors' meetings are attended by the appointed Directors and Alternates from the community Hunters' and Trappers' Committees. During this meeting each community reports on issues and concerns from their Hunters' and Trappers' Committee. The Inuvialuit Game Council also discusses internal issues during the Directors' meetings. Directors' meetings are held the day before the Regular meeting, which is open to the various co-management committees, government departments and others that wish to address and update the Game Council on their activities within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region.

During the 1999-2000 fiscal year the Inuvialuit Game Council met as follows:

June 9 -12, 1999	- Holman, NT
September 29 - October 2, 1999	- Whitehorse, YT
December 15 - 18, 1999	- Inuvik, NT
March 8 - 11, 2000	- Inuvik, NT

Other Meetings Attended by Inuvialuit Game Council Members or Their Appointed Representatives

Representatives from the Game Council attended the following meetings and workshops during the 1999 - 2000 fiscal year. Note that some of the costs for representatives to attend some of these meetings were covered by various government departments. The costs for the Game Council Resource Person/Executive Secretary to attend meetings are covered under the Joint Secretariat budget.

April 1999:

- Conservation of Flora & Fauna, Yellowknife, NT - Dennis Arey, Frank Pokiak
- Mackenzie Valley Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program Working Group (MVCIMPWG), telephone conference call #3, Johnny Lennie

May 1999:

- Marine Protected Areas, Inuvik, NT - Duane Smith, Dennis Arey, Johnny Lennie, Frank Pokiak
- Inuvialuit Final Agreement Implementation Co-ordinating Committee, Inuvik, NT - Duane Smith

June 1999:

- Resource Development and the Mackenzie Valley Management Act, Calgary, AB - Dennis Arey
- Beaufort Delta Trappers' Workshop Committee meeting, Inuvik, NT - Frank Pokiak
- Dempster Highway Committee (DHC) draft harvesting regulations meeting with RWED, Inuvik, NT - Johnny Lennie
- MVCIMP Working Group, telephone conference call #4 - Johnny Lennie
- International Wildlife Management Conference, Godollo, Hungary - Johnny Lennie

July 1999:

- Guide level training meeting #2 with RWED and Arctic College re: changing the level 1 & 2 guide training program, Inuvik, NT - Katherine Thiesenhausen
- Dempster Highway Committee draft harvesting regulations meeting #2 with RWED, Inuvik, NT - Johnny Lennie
- Beaufort Delta Trappers' Workshop Committee meeting #2, Inuvik, NT - Katherine Thiesenhausen

August 1999:

- 10th Arctic Ungulate Conference, Tromso, Norway - Johnny Lennie
- Beaufort Delta Trappers' Workshop Committee meetings #3 and #4, Inuvik, NT - Katherine Thiesenhausen
- Inuvialuit Harvest Study Workshop, Inuvik, NT - Duane Smith, Katherine Thiesenhausen

September 1999:

- Beaufort Delta Trappers' Workshop Committee meeting #5, Inuvik, NT, Semmler Bldg. Boardroom, 10:00 am, Sept.1, 1999 - Katherine Thiesenhausen
- Beaufort Delta Trappers' Workshop, Inuvik, NT - Frank Pokiak, Katherine Thiesenhausen
- Beaufort Sea Conference 2000, Inuvik - Duane Smith, Ruben Ruben, Katherine Thiesenhausen

October 1999:

- Dempster Highway Committee draft harvesting regulations meeting #3 with RWED, Inuvik, NT - Hank Rogers
- From Co-Management to Co-Jurisdiction of Forest Resources: A Practitioners' Workshop, Calgary, AB - Billy Day, Richard Binder

November 1999:

- PCMB meeting, Dawson City, YT - Frank Pokiak
- Tuktut Nogait National Park Management Board meeting, Paulatuk, NT - John Max Kudlak
- Sustainability of Arctic Communities Project, Aklavik, NT - Katherine Thiesenhausen
- Cumulative Effects Assessment training, Yellowknife, NT - Dennis Arey
- MVCIMP Working Group meeting, Yellowknife, NT - Dennis Arey
- Federal Govt.'s Northern Sustainable Development Strategies meeting, Yellowknife, NT - Frank Pokiak, Katherine Thiesenhausen
- IUCN, CAFF & PAME Circumpolar Marine Workshop, Montreal, Quebec - Duane Smith
- Millenium Trek and Tours meeting with Gladys Netro (PCMB) and Bobbie Jo Greenland, Inuvik, NT - Richard Binder, Katherine Thiesenhausen

December 1999:

- Muskox harvesting on the North Slope meeting, Anchorage, Alaska - Duane Smith, Dennis Arey

January 2000:

- Species at Risk Act (SARA) Canadian Wildlife Service meetings, Ottawa, ON - Duane Smith, Richard Binder
- WMAC (NS)'s Implementation Workshop for the Yukon North Slope Long Term Research Plan, Whitehorse, YK - Dennis Arey, Frank Pokiak

February 2000:

- Polar Bear Technical Committee meetings, Montreal, QC - Frank Pokiak, Larry Carpenter
- ILA Workshop on draft #3 of ILA Rules and Procedures, Inuvik, NT - Frank Pokiak
- Protected Areas Strategy Implementation Forum, Yellowknife, NT - Richard Binder, Johnnie Lennie
- Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Co-op.'s 5th Annual Gathering, Old Crow, YK - Dennis Arey
- Tuktut Nogait National Park Management Board, Inuvik, NT - John Max Kudlak, Katherine Thiesenhausen

- NWT Cumulative Effects Assessment and Management Steering Committee conference call - Katherine Thiesenhausen (as an observer only)

March 2000:

- MVCIMP Working Group meeting, Yellowknife, NT - Dennis Arey
- Inuvialuit-Inupiat Polar Bear Joint Commission meetings, Inuvik, NT - Frank Pokiak, Larry Carpenter, Katherine Thiesenhausen
- Inuvialuit-Inupiat Beluga Agreement signing ceremony, Inuvik, NT - Duane Smith, Dennis Arey, Herbert Felix, Katherine Thiesenhausen
- GNWT Wildlife Act and Species at Risk Committee meetings, Inuvik, NT - Duane Smith

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES DURING 1999 - 2000

Over the years a number of committees were established to implement various 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 would directly or indirectly affect the Inuvialuit of the Western Arctic. These groups are separate from the co-management structures established under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement.

Below is an alphabetical list of the committees to which the Inuvialuit Game Council has appointed members, including the co-management committees established under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement. This is followed by a brief summary of the activities for each committee during the 1999 - 2000 fiscal year, except for those that provide their own annual report. The terms of these appointments are either listed, or if blank then there is no specified term. In some cases, when a term ended, the Inuvialuit Game Council did not re-appoint members because the committee was either dysfunctional or no longer in existence. Some committees listed in previous years' Annual Reports have not been listed here because those committees have been inactive during this fiscal year.

Inuvialuit Game Council Committee Appointments

Cumulative Effects Assessment and Management Steering Committee

Appointees: Richard Binder	March 2000 - not set
Frank Pokiak (Alternate)	March 2000 - not set

Dempster Highway Committee

Appointees: Danny C. Gordon	September 1999 - not set
Hank Rogers	September 1999 - not set

Environmental Impact Screening Committee (3 years)

Appointees: Fred Wolki	September 1996 - September 2002
Billy Day	September 1996 - September 2002
Alex Kaglik	September 1996 - September 2002

Environmental Impact Review Board (3 years)

Appointees: Herbert Felix	September 1996 - September 2002
Richard Binder	June 1998 - September 2002
Eddie Okheena	March 1999 - January 2000*
Jack Akhiatak	February 2000 - September 2002

* Eddie resigned in January 2000.

Fisheries Joint Management Committee (3 years)

Appointees: Billy Day	September 1998 - September 2001
Max Kotokak Sr.	September 1998 - September 2000
Dennis Arey (Alternate)	December 1999 - September 2001

Guide Level Training (RWED)

Appointees: Chucky Gruben	December 1999 - not set
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Herschel Island Park Technical Committee

This Committee does not meet anymore.

Inuvialuit Final Agreement Implementation Co-ordinating Committee (2 years)

Appointees: Duane Smith	March 1999 - March 2001
Richard Gordon (Alternate)	March 1999 - March 2001

Inuvialuit Harvest Study Management Committee

Appointees: Herbert Felix
Danny C. Gordon
Donald Inuktalik

Inuvialuit - Inupiat Beluga Management Committee (3 years)

Appointees: Duane Smith	September 1997 - September 2000
Herbert Felix	September 1997 - September 2000
Dennis Arey	March 1999 - September 2000

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

Appointees: Frank Pokiak	September 1998 - September 2000
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Larry Carpenter March 1999 - September 2001

Mackenzie Valley Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program Working Group

Appointees:	Johnny Lennie	March 1999 - March 2000
	Richard Binder	March 2000 - not set
	Dennis Arey (Alternate)	March 1999 - March 2000
	Frank Pokiak (Alternate)	March 2000 - not set

Marine Protected Areas Committee (DFO)

Appointees:	Frank Pokiak	December 1999 - not set
	Richard Binder (Alternate)	December 1999 - not set

NWT Protected Areas Strategy Implementation Advisory Committee

Appointees:	Richard Binder	December 1999 - not set
	Johnny Lennie (Alternate)	June 1998- not set

Polar Bear Technical Committee

Appointees:	Frank Pokiak	September 1996 - September 2001
	Larry Carpenter	March 1999 - September 1999*
	Chucky Gruben (Alternate)	September 1999 - September 2000

* The end of Larry's term went unnoticed so he continued to represent the IGC at these meetings.

Porcupine Caribou Management Board (2 years)

Appointees:	William Day	September 1997 - September 1999
	Hank Rogers	September 1999 - March 2000*
	Danny A. Gordon (Alternate)	September 1996 - September 1999
	Frank Pokiak (Alternate)	September 1999 - September 2001

*Hank resigned in March 2000.

Steering Committee for the Management of Development Activities in Caribou Calving Grounds

This committee was inactive during the 1999 - 2000 fiscal year.

Tuktut Nogait National Park Management Board (2 years)

Appointees:	Arnold Ruben	March 1999 - September 1999
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John Max Kudlak	September 1999 - September 2001
John Max Kudlak (Alternate)	December 1998 - September 2000
Max Kotokak Sr. (Alternate)	September 1999 - September 2001

Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope)

(3 years for Members, 2 years for Alternates)

Appointees: Danny C. Gordon	September 1998 - September 2001
Chucky Gruben	March 1999 - April 1999*
Herbert Felix	June 1999 - September 2000
Carol D. Arey (Alternate)	September 1998 -September 2000
Billy Archie (Alternate)	September 1998 - September 2000

* Chucky resigned in April 1999

Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)

(3 years for Members, 2 years for Alternates)

Appointees: Frank Pokiak	September 1996 - September 2001
Herbert Felix (Alternate)	September 1996 - September 2000
William Day	September 1998 - September 2001
Ricky Joe	September 1998 - June 1999
Arnold Ruben	June 1999 - September 2000
Arnold Ruben (Alternate)	September 1998 - June 1999
Ricky Joe (Alternate)	June 1999 - March 2000*
Donald Inuktalik (Alternate)	March 1999 - September 2000

* Ricky resigned in March 2000

World Council of Whalers

Appointees: Billy Day	December 1998 - December 2001
Herbert Felix (Alternate)	December 1998 - December 2000

Committee Summaries

The following is a summary of activities for this fiscal year for some of the committees.

Cumulative Effects Assessment and Management Steering Committee

A condition of the Minister of the Environment's acceptance of the Diavik Comprehensive Study Report on the Diavik diamond mine in the NWT was the completion of a cumulative effects assessment and management framework. This new committee was formed from a workshop held in December 1999 to complete this task. They met three times this fiscal and a draft executive summary of the Work Plan was submitted to the Ministers of Environment

and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) at the end of March 2000. This committee will continue to work on developing the framework.

Dempster Highway Committee

The Inuvik region territorial department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development established this temporary Committee to enable input from the Gwich'in and the Inuvialuit in setting harvesting regulations along the section of the Dempster Highway within the NWT. Similar regulations have been established by the Yukon Government for the Dempster Highway within the Yukon. The regulations come from recommendations by the Porcupine Caribou Management Board to protect Porcupine Caribou migrating through the area, prevent damage to their habitat before the ground is frozen, and from concerns about public safety along the Highway. These regulations are still in the draft stages and are undergoing legal review.

Environmental Impact Screening Committee

See the contact information below to obtain this Committee's annual report.

Environmental Impact Review Board

See the contact information below to obtain this Board's annual report.

Fisheries Joint Management Committee

See the contact information below to obtain this Committee's annual report.

Guide Level Training (RWED)

The Inuvik region territorial department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development established this temporary Committee to redesign the outfitting guide training courses. This fiscal year the previous Aurora College course curriculum was typed into a computer to allow for modifications. The changes suggested by this Committee will be made to the curriculum and the draft is to be discussed at a proposed fall 2000 outfitter workshop.

Inuvialuit Final Agreement Implementation Co-ordinating Committee

The Inuvialuit Game Council has representation on the Inuvialuit Final Agreement Implementation Coordinating Committee along with the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, the Government of the Northwest Territories, the Yukon Government, and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. This committee deals with outstanding issues of concern to one or more of the above mentioned parties. The Inuvialuit Game Council will be chairing the next round meetings of this committee. See the contact information below to obtain this Committee's annual report.

Inuvialuit Harvest Study Management Committee

This committee met several times during the fiscal to re-start the Harvest Study which was suspended in 1998 for a review. A Harvest Study workshop was held in August in Inuvik with community and Game Council representatives discussing collecting data once again. A Local Technical Advisory Committee was formed to produce information posters on the Harvest Study and Harvest Study data collection resumed for January 2000 harvesting. The Local Technical Advisory Committee will be dealing with most of the management issues of the Harvest Study as the executive committee and the Management Committee is not expected to meet more than once a year. See the contact information below to obtain this Committee's annual report from January 2000 onwards.

Inuvialuit - Inupiat Beluga Management Committee

After 5 years of work this committee signed the Beaufort Sea Beluga Whale Agreement at a signing ceremony in Inuvik, NT on March 3, 2000. This "users agreement" was developed by the people who depend on the beluga as a natural resource. The Agreement outlines international co-operation between the parties through sharing of harvest and population information and collaboration on future research.

Inuvialuit - Inupiat Polar Bear Joint Commission & Technical Committee

These two committees met in Inuvik in March 2000 to discuss the health and harvesting of the shared population of polar bears in the southern Beaufort Sea region. This committee was formed as part of the 1988 Inuvialuit-Inupiat Management Agreement for Polar Bears in the Southern Beaufort Sea. This international users' Agreement was resigned at a ceremony after the March meetings.

Mackenzie Valley Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program Working Group

The Gwich'in and the Sathu Dene and Metis Land Claim Agreements require the development of a method to monitor the cumulative impacts of land and water uses on the environment in the Mackenzie Valley. This Group was established to guide this development with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Over the 1999 - 2000 fiscal year this Working Group has been developing a draft workplan. A database inventory of all the monitoring programs and research that has been done and is being done in the Gwich'in and Sahtu Settlement areas in the Mackenzie Valley has been developed on a CD-ROM.

Marine Protected Areas Committee (Department of Fisheries and Oceans)

Two committees are to be established: a temporary Scoping (and review) Committee to set the Terms of Reference and direction of the second Committee, with representatives from IRC, IGC, FJMC, DFO and industry to examine marine planning in the ISR; and a Steering Committee with representatives from IRC, IGC, FJMC and DFO to implement the marine initiatives under the guidance of the Scoping Committee.

NWT Protected Areas Strategy (PAS) Implementation Advisory Committee

The NWT Protected Areas Strategy was approved by the territorial Minister of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development and the federal Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development in September 1999. The creation of this Implementation Advisory Committee was discussed at the first annual PAS Implementation Forum in Yellowknife in February 2000. This Committee would guide the establishment of protected areas.

Polar Bear Technical Committee

This Committee of resource users and scientists had their annual meeting in February in Montreal, Quebec. They discussed the management and research of polar bears in Canada as well as amendments to the US Marine Mammal Protection Act. Changing the population boundaries was suggested but it was decided that representatives would need to go back to their communities to discuss this proposal and then bring the comments to the 2001 meeting in Edmonton, Alberta.

Porcupine Caribou Management Board

See the contact information below to obtain this Board's annual report.

Steering Committee Management of Development Activities in Caribou Calving Grounds

This Committee was inactive during the 1999 - 2000 fiscal year.

Tuktut Nogait National Park Management Board

See the contact information below to obtain this Board's annual report.

Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope)

See the contact information below to obtain this Council Committee's annual report.

Wildlife Management Advisory Council (Northwest Territories)

See the contact information below to obtain this Council's annual report.

World Council of Whalers

This Council decided that they would hold their General Assembly every two years due to cost concerns so they did not meet in this fiscal year. The Council is spearheading an appeal to assist the indigenous peoples of Chukotka in Russia in obtaining harvesting equipment.

Committee Annual Reports

The following Committees provide their own Annual Reports, which are available upon request:

Environmental Impact Screening Committee
P.O. Box 2120, Inuvik NT XOE OTO
phone: (867) 777-2828 fax: (867) 777-2610 e-mail: eisceirb@jointsec.nt.ca

Environmental Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 2120, Inuvik NT XOE OTO
phone: (867) 777-2828 fax: (867) 777-2610 e-mail: eisceirb@jointsec.nt.ca

Fisheries Joint Management Committee
P.O. Box 2120, Inuvik NT XOE OTO
phone: (867) 777-2828 fax: (867) 777-2610 e-mail: fjmc@jointsec.nt.ca

Inuvialuit Final Agreement Implementation Co-ordinating Committee
Inuvialuit Regional Corporation
P.O. Box 2120, Inuvik, NT XOE OTO
phone: (867) 777-2737 fax: (867) 777-2135

Inuvialuit Harvest Study Management Committee
P.O. Box 2120, Inuvik NT XOE OTO
phone: (867) 777-2828 fax: (867) 777-2610 e-mail: ihs-js@jointsec.nt.ca

Porcupine Caribou Management Board
Box 4999, Whitehorse YT Y1A 4S2
phone: (867) 633-4780 fax: (867) 633-4780 e-mail: pcmb@polarcom.com

Tuktut Nogait National Park Management Board
General Delivery, Paulatuk, NT XOE 1N0
fax: (867) 580-3234

Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NS)
P.O. Box 5928, Whitehorse YT Y1A 5L9
phone: (867) 633-5476 fax: (867) 633-6900 e-mail: wmacns@web.net

Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)
P.O. Box 2120, Inuvik NT XOE OTO
phone: (867) 777-2828 fax: (867) 777-2610 e-mail: wmacnwt@jointsec.nt.ca

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1999 - 2000 FISCAL YEAR

Aklavik Hunters' and Trappers' Committee

P.O. Box 133

Aklavik, N.W.T.

X0E 0A0

(867) 978 - 2723 or 2773 (Phone) (867) 978 - 2661 (Fax)

Board Members:

Board Members (as of July 1999 AGM)

President:	Dennis Arey	Dennis Arey
Vice President:	Ricky Joe	Carol D. Arey
Sec/Treasurer:	Agnes Tardiff	Agnes Tardiff
Directors:	Donald Avuigana	Donald Avuigana
	Jacob Archie	Jacob Archie
	Marjorie Elanik	Marjorie Elanik
	Flora Elanik	Danny A. Gordon
Resource Person:	Billy Archie	Faith Gordon (Hired April 3, 2000)
Secretary:	Tammy Tyrrel (Sept./99)	Denise Jerome (Hired Feb. 23, 2000)

Our Secretary/Treasurer - Agnes Tardiff resigned in May, 2000 and was replaced by Flora Elanik.

The Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee (AHTC) has been quite busy this year, including having monthly regular board meetings to deal with ongoing issues, land use applications and general information in assisting the members.

The AHTC submitted a proposal to collect harvest data for fish species for the summer. The proposal was approved and the AHTC hired two monitors for this project. One monitor was for the Shingle Point/Running River area for four weeks to collect Charr and Arctic Cisco, and a town monitor to collect Conni, Broad whitefish and charr numbers.

There was also a proposal for a Garbage Clean up around Shingle Point and Running River. The AHTC hired three members to work for two weeks, hauling garbage from the camps and returning to the Aklavik dumpsite. The workers used the AHTC's 26 foot welded aluminum boat to do the job. There is still some garbage but most of it was removed.

The AHTC was invited to attend a tour of the proposed dumpsite at Shingle Point in July, along with the Aklavik Community Corporation, there was twelve members that toured the site. The AHTC did indicate that they would like to be involved in the monitoring of the site, after it's completion.

The AHTC also held a Summer Science camp that was conducted from August 12-24, 1999. We had support staff from Environmental Canada, Resource Person, and two elders. The funds were provided from the ACC. There were students involved from Grades 05 -12. The role on the Science Camp was HTC's role, along with an introduction to various Management Plans, and how science applies. We had the Elders teach about their traditional knowledge of the land, and they taught the students about edible plants, and roots of the area, along with basic survival skills.

The HTC also requested a scientific license to harvest four (4) Musk ox, which took place at Fish River. This was a successful hunt and the Musk ox meat was given out to the community of Aklavik.

We also held a Trappers Training Program, where we offered three (3) training programs, which ran for ten days each. The main focus was on the Muskrat training. We hired three (3) Inuvialuit Instructors and they trained seven students between the ages of 16 -30 years of age. Funds was provided by the Aboriginal Strategic Initiatives, through IRC.

The AHTC was also in the process of reviewing the Aklavik Community Conservation Plan, and all other plans identifying priorities and action items required by the AHTC.

The AHTC also hired two monitors for the Beluga Monitoring, one (1) for Shingle Point and one (1) for West Whitefish. The beluga harvesters done a very good job this year.

The Inuvialuit Harvest Assistance Program was in effect this year with 2 members from AHTC, 2 members from the Aklavik Community Corporation and one representative from the Elder from the community to look over the applications.

We had members attend the Annual Gathering for the Arctic Borderlands which was held in Old Crow, Yukon.

The Resource Person attended the Climate Change Workshop in Yellowknife that took place from February 27 - March 01, 2000. The most important part was identifying the process to incorporate northern interests on climate change in Canada's north.

We had our Financial Audit done by Avery and Cooper and it was approved by our membership at our Annual General Meeting in July at Shingle Point.

The AHTC also was involved in the Index Netting Program which was held in August, we hired two (2) workers for this project.

Rat River Charr program which was held in March 2000 and the West Side Charr Plan which is still ongoing.

The Inuvialuit Harvest Study commenced February of 2000. The AHTC hired one (1) person to conduct the interviews, the interviews are conducted on a monthly basis. This is still ongoing.

Olokhaktomiut (Holman) Hunters' and Trappers' Committee

Box 161

Holman NWT XOE-OSO

(867) 396-4808 ph (867) 396-3025 fax

President	Sadie Joss	2000/2001
Vice President	Jack Akhiatak	(resigned April 25/00)
Secretary Treasurer	Donald Inuktalik	1999/2000
Directors:	George Okheena	1999/2000
	John Alikamik	1999/2000
	Mary Banksland	1999/2000
	Margaret Kanayok	1999/2000

IGC Voting member Donald Inuktalik

IGC Alternate John Alikamik

OHTC Resource Person Bessie Inuktalik

April 1999

1. Final clean-up of musk-ox harvest.
 2. Fish Tracking project.
-

3. Regular operations.

May 1999

1. IHAP assisted members:

Nicholas Uluiiriuk	ATV Honda
Jean Kagyut	ATV Honda
Allen Joss	ATV Honda

Two assisted applicants could not credit arrangements before and after the deadline so they withdrew their assistance.

2. Regular operations.

June 1999

1. Resale of twenty-five fishnets to membership.
2. Collected samples of cod from members for the Arctic Institute of America.
3. Seal tagging project.
4. Seal monitor project.
5. Regular operations.

July 1999

1. Seal monitor continuance.
2. Karen Kitekudlak worked casual for two weeks.
3. Hired Jil Olifie as casual I.H.S. fieldworker.
4. Regular operations.

August 1999

1. Seal monitor continuance.
2. Collected trout and musk-ox samples for the Arctic Institute of North America.
3. Hauled materials and build a cabin at Ramsey Island.
4. Fish Lake Charr Project.
5. Regular operations.

September 1999

1. Annual General Meeting.
2. Elected three Board members (Jack Akhiatak, Eddie Okheena & Sadie Joss)
3. Executive elections - President Sadie Joss, Vice - Jack Akhiatak & Sec/Treasurer Donald Inuktalik.
4. Regular operations.

October 1999

1. Fish Lake Charr project.
2. Tahiryuak Charr project.

3. Big Game hunts for Musk-ox.
4. Regular operations.

November 1999

1. Big Game hunts continued.
2. Tahiryuak Charr Project.
3. Collected fox samples for the Arctic Institute of North America.
4. Regular operations.

December 1999

1. Regular operations.
2. X-mas break.

January 2000

1. Collected Caribou samples for RWED.
2. Regular operations.

February 2000

1. Assisted NRTP Inuvik students in finding guides for dog team rides, musk-ox hunts and fishing trips.
2. Regular operations.

March 2000

1. Purchased materials for cabin at Tahiryuak East lake.
2. Regular operations.

Prepared by Bessie Inuktalik Resource Person OHTC Holman NWT.

Inuvik Hunters' and Trappers' Committee

The Inuvik Hunters and Trappers Committee has been quite busy this fiscal year. Including regular monthly meetings to deal with ongoing issues, land use applications, and general information assisting the public and other organizations.

During the winter the IHTC conducted one caribou hunt in November which was funded by the Brighter Futures program. The hunt was a success and provided meat to a large number of beneficiaries and to the hospitalities in the community. This year's hunt provided a great opportunity for the harvesters to hunt with students, and also gave them some good hunting skills.

The Inuvik Hunters and Trappers Committee had also submitted a Trapper Training Land Skills Proposal to the Brighter Futures Program and got approved. It was a program suggested from RWED during the Trapper Fur Workshop and was a great success it was recommended to do such a program again in the near future. There was a total of 3 instructors and 9 students that went out on the land for 12 days to learn about trapping skills, and bush life, etc. RWED officers went out to their camps to do some hands on skills as well.

The beluga harvest was also very successful the monitors have done a great job. IHTC has assisted a great number of beneficiaries with muktuk and fish. The IHTC participated in an inter settlement trade with the Holman HTC with 10 pails of muktuk and in return received 100 char and the Inuvik beneficiaries have really enjoyed the variety of available foods. There was also snow geese available from the Sachs HTC.

The 2000 Inuvialuit Harvest Assistance Program was a bit different this year having a different committee selected. The IHAP Committee this year has consisted of 2 ICC, 2 IHTC and one representative from the Inuvik Elders Committee.

There was a total of 30 applicants, 11 of which were approved. All approved applicants are now in the process of making their down payments. There were also two appeals from Inuvik, which the IHAP Committee will have to review.

The Inuvialuit Harvest Study has started up again this year and has been going quite good. The Field worker is Linley Day he has been in this field in previous years so he has good idea of the work to be done.

Tumitchiat was also busy for a while. There were 4 Wildlife Monitors working with Schlumberger and Petro Canada on the Mackenzie Delta. All monitors have done an excellent job.

The Inuvik HTC has a new logo thanks to Byron Thrasher who has submitted it in the logo contest.



IHTC Board and Staff.

Richard Binder – Chairperson
Alex Kaglik – Vice Chairperson
Maria Hansen – Secretary-Treasurer
Duane Smith – Director
James Day – Director
Hank Rogers – Director
Esther Price has resigned.

Shelly Gordon - Resource Person

IGC Appointees: Richard Binder
IGC Alternate: Billy Day

Inuvik Hunters and Trappers Committee
P.O. Box 1720
Inuvik, NT
XOE-OTO

Phone: (867) 777-3671
Fax: (867) 777-2478
E-Mail: inu-htc@jointsec.nt.ca

Paulatuk Hunters' and Trappers' Committee

PHTC Summary Report by Sharon Green, Resource Person, PHTC
Closing Remarks by President Ruben Green

As the PHTC has a new resource person, Sharon Green since April 7, 2000, this report will be only a summary of the happenings during 1999-2000 according to the PHTC minutes.

Paulatuk Big Game Outfitting and Guiding Services NWT Ltd. had its licence taken away due to the fact that they did not file with the Register of Societies. The result was the guides who did not have an outfitters licence had to use outfitters within the community to cover for their insurance fees, liabilities in dealing with sports hunts. In addition, the sports hunts account is currently suspended and being reviewed.

Last years Inuvialuit Harvesters Assistance Program (IHAP) helped eight (8) applicants coordinated by Brian Kudlak. The current IHAP is being handled internally by way of the IHAP Coordinator, Esther Price.

Some good news such as the Beluga Monitors were Andy Kudlak and Peter Ruben for last summer season although we had a report of one successful beluga whale caught for the season.

The Paulatuk arctic charr data collector was Brian Kudlak and the final report was the quota was filled immediately. Currently, FJMC and PHTC are looking into a scouting site for the community for fishing.

Paulatuk's CHAP funding was used this year for assisting the whole community have caribou from Inuvik as meat within the community was scarce, thank you Inuvik. Presently the caribou are trekking their way to Paulatuk area with their young ones.

There was 45 caribou collared and just currently a radio survey on their location was completed, the results are being processed by John Nagy of Resources Wildlife and Economic Development.

Esther Price the HTC Administrative Support Officer has been a tremendous help for the Paulatuk HTC.

Current Board of Directors (as of March 2000)

Ruben Green - President

Fred Thrasher - Member

Bobby Ruben - Member

Jonah Nakimayak - Member

Joe Illasiak Jr. - Member

Nelson Ruben - Member

Arnold Ruben - Member

Staff April 1, 1999-March 31,2000

Resource Person/Office Manager

Ruby Ruben

Anita Ruben

Brian Kudlak

Jean Ruben

I.G.C. Appointees are: Nelson Ruben and Ruben Ruben as the (Alternate).

Date of Paulatuk's Annual General Meeting for 1999 was June 7.

Paulatuk's Harvest Data Collector is Brian Kudlak and he is doing a tremendous job with collecting data within the community of Paulatuk.

PHTC and Darnley Bay Resources Ltd. (DBRL) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) so as to hire Fish Monitors before and after drilling commences to see the effect it has on the wildlife. Currently, the fish collected have been sent to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to be analyzed. DBRL is still drilling to date. PHTC and Darnley Bay Resources Ltd. (DBRL) have also signed a MOU so as to hire Wildlife Monitors during the drilling process. Inuvialuit Land Administration (ILA) also

has a Environmental Monitor in place, presently that person is Noel Green.

The PHTC is making a notable effort in the way they do things on behalf of it's members and with there their co-management bodies and other related agencies. Previous practices are no longer acceptable with the help of Esther Price and IGC. There is notable direction, a positive one in which the PHTC is now proceeding.

Sachs Harbour Hunters' and Trappers' Committee

SHHTC Board as of June 27, 2000:

Chairperson	John Lucas Jr.
Vice-Chairperson	Peter Esau Sr.
Secretary-Treasurer	Lena Wolki
Director	Desmond Nasogaluak (resigned April 2000)
Director	Tony Lucas
Director	Ryan Lucas

The SHHTC had a lot of staff turnover this year. We started out with Margaret Lennie as the Resource Person. She resigned November 1999. Priscilla Smith was hired as a casual worker until March 31, 2000. The current Resource Person is Florence Elanik.

April 1999

SHHTC sponsored the White Fox Jamboree Goose Calling event. The donation was 9 boxes of shotgun shells to the lucky winner. John Lucas Jr. attended the draft ILA Rules and Procedures meeting. Lena Wolki was appointed to the SHHTC Board until December 1999 elections. SHHTC will have a geese harvest this coming spring and the selected geese hunters are: Joe Apiana, Desmond Nasogaluak, Fred Raddi, Tony Lucas, Wayne Gully, Andy Carpenter Jr., John Keogak Sr. and James Harry. We also hired Paul Raddi as a fieldworker for this project.

May 1999

SHHTC held a joint meeting with BIBGH/RWED about guide training for Sachs Harbour. It was suggested that they hire Ricky Joe since he has his level 1 and 2 guide training. RWED will look into this. Sheila Nasogaluak gave a presentation on the Inuvialuit Harvest Study and informed SHHTC to post for Harvest Data Fieldworker in October 1999 and hire the person in January 2000. As of January 2000, Samantha Lucas is the Harvest Data Fieldworker for the SHHTC. Leter of support were sent to Tim Devine regarding trapper training program, also a letter of support was written for the Flora of the Canadian Arctic Archipelago project.

June 1999

John Keogak Sr. will go through the youth trapping land skills program. Peter Lamb reported on wolf studies and also they are on the endangered species list.

July 1999

SHHTC hired Manny Kudlak to work along with Tim Siferd (FJMC) on his survey on the waters surrounding Sachs Harbour. This employment will last one month. The SHHTC will be in charge of the distemper shots for the dogs. They will cost \$10 each. John Lucas Jr. and Fred Raddi was selected to attend the Beaufort Sea Conference 2000 from September 15 to 18, 1999. Margaret Lennie and Ryan Lucas was selected to attend the Harvest Study workshop August 25 to 27, 1999. A polar bear came into town and HTC suggested that an elder shoot this bear, and Peter Esau was the elder selected to shoot this bear.

August 1999

HTC selected two youth to attend the Beaufort Sea Conference 2000. The candidates were Christina Elias and Andrea Keogak. HTC donated musk-ox and geese meat to RWED for the Regional Trappers Fur Workshop. James Harry's position as Secretary Treasurer was terminated for missing 3 meetings.

September 1999

Lena Wolki and Desmond Nasogaluak was selected to attend the Fisheries and Oceans Beaufort Sea 2000 Conference.

November 1999

1999 CHAP funding was used for the caribou charter in the spring of 1999 to bring the meat for the people.

January 2000

A letter was written to RWED requesting back the 6 polar bear tags. The polar bear elder Peter Esau Sr. shot in July 1999 was donated to the Sachs Harbour School kids for fund raising for their trip. IHAP committee was selected and they are HTC - Tony Lucas, Peter Esau, SHCC- 2 representatives, Elders - 1 representative. John Keogak resigned as a Board member for the HTC.

February 2000

SHHTC had a meeting with John Nagy on caribou Management Plan. He suggested a local implementation board. John Lucas Jr. signed approval for Polar Bear Population Boundary Delineation research Amundsen Gulf area. The board would like to know if there is anyone who can independently collect samples for about 30 to 50 musk-ox. Peter Esau was elected as Vice-Chairperson for the HTC.

March 2000

SHHTC hired Florence Elanik as the new Resource Person. The finalized IHAP committee will be Lena Wolki - Elders, Desmond Nasogaluak and Peter Esau - HTC, James Harry and Ryan Lucas - SHCC. Eleven people were assisted by IHAP. Ten people were assisted by CHAP.

Tuktoyaktuk Hunters' and Trappers' Committee

March, 1999

The Tuktoyaktuk HTC started receiving applications for the Inuvialuit Harvest Assistance Program on March 1, 1999. The HTC Board decided at their Regular Meeting in February that applicants are limited to apply for 440 snowmobiles, 50 h.p. outboard motors and 18 foot boats. Frank and Chucky attended the Inuvialuit Game Council meeting from March 10-12, 1999.

April, 1999

The Tuktoyaktuk HTC met with Ron Morrison, Time Devine and Darryl English on April 14, 1999. They also met on April 19, 1999 to approve the Inuvialuit Harvesters Assistance Applications for Tuk. There were 31 applications received and 17 were approved. The HTC on behalf of Environment Canada Canadian Wildlife Service hired David Nasogaluak to harvest 500 geese for elders, single parent and disabled Members of the community. Canadian Wildlife Service recommended that he harvest the geese from Mason River. Christopher Felix was appointed to the Husky Lakes Management Plan Committee and Frank Pokiak was appointed to attend the ILA Rules & Procedures meeting in Inuvik.

May, 1999

A special meeting was held on May 10, 1999 regarding the Inuvialuit Harvest Study. The Harvest Study Co-ordinator, Sheila Nasogaluak attended the meeting to find out how the Tuktoyaktuk HTC wanted the Harvest Study conducted here in Tuk. Some of the comments were that each household be interviewed. There will be two list that the fieldworker will follow. One will have the active harvesters and the other will be the inactive harvesters. The active harvesters will be interviewed each month and the inactive harvesters will be interviewed every three months. This information will be compiled with the comments from the other 5 HTC's and will be discussed at the Inuvialuit Game Council meeting. We did not have a Regular Meeting this month. (Everybody out on the land)

June, 1999

We held a Regular Meeting on June 7, 1999 and one on June 28, 1999. Willie Carpenter was hired as the beluga monitor for Hendrickson Island and Rex Noksana was hired for

Tuktoyaktuk harbour. Therese Voudrach was hired as the DFO fieldworker. She will be conducting interviews with the fisherman of Tuk because they want to have the numbers of fish being harvested because the Inuvialuit Harvest Study is not being conducted this year. She will conduct interviews until December, 1999. Frank Pokiak, Chucky Gruben and Max Kotokak attended the polar bear workshop in Inuvik, June 15 & 16, 1999. The Resource Person was off on holidays from June 15-July 5, 1999.

July, 1999

The cisco project began on July 12, 1999 and ended on July 21, 1999. Annie Etagiak was hired on as the new fisher woman and Lennie Emaghok was hired on as the fish technician. The project went very well. All the fisherman caught their required amount. The HTC at their Regular Board Meeting appointed Veryl Gruben and Christopher Felix to attend the Beaufort Sea 2000 Conference in Inuvik from September 14-18, 1999.

August, 1999

Max Kotokak Sr., Christopher Felix and Eleanor Ross attended the Harvest Study Workshop on August 26 & 27, 1999. We discussed how the Tuk HTC will handle the harvest study when it starts up again in January, 2000.

September, 1999

Veryl Gruben, Christopher Felix attended the Beaufort Sea 2000 Conference in Inuvik on behalf of the HTC. Patricia Voudrach attended on behalf of Department of Fisheries & Oceans and Myrna Pokiak was selected as the Youth delegate from Tuk. Erin Gurr and Levi Raddi attended as well. A good time was had by all and they covered a lot of topics. There were group discussions and everyone participated well. The cisco project started up again on September 15, 1999. Joseph Felix Jr. was hired this time around as the fish technician. The new fisherman was Emmanuel Adam. This is the last phase of this 3 year project. If any of the Members have any questions about this project you can contact Frank Pokiak. Max Kotokak Sr. and Vera Ovayuak attended the Husky Lakes Management Committee meeting at ILA. This is to start the process of putting together a Management Plan for Husky Lakes. There were representatives from Tuktoyaktuk and Inuvik HTC's, Community Corporations and the Elders Committees.

October, 1999

Max Kotokak Sr. attended a meeting with other community organizations along with the Canadian Coast Guard at the Hamlet Council Chambers on October 18, 1999. The Resource Person attended a workshop in Inuvik from October 18-22, 1999. The RP's along with the Community Corporation managers attended with workshop. We did a review of what is expected of us. We also had the opportunity to do some training with our new accounting program. I will start using this program April, 2000. It was very interesting and made some new friends. Frank and the Resource Person met with a

representative from Gulf Canada. He explained their future plans they have for this area. He wanted to have a Public Meeting with the Members to inform them on what was happening. The meeting will be held on November 1, 1999 at Kitti Hall.

November, 1999

The public meeting that was scheduled for November 1 with Gulf Canada was cancelled and may possibly be held in January, 2000. The HTC attended a public meeting on November 4, 1999 to discuss the Reindeer Operations with Lloyd Binder of Kuñnek Resource Development Corporation. He is in the process of buying the reindeer herd from Canadian Reindeer. The meeting was held on November 5, 1999. Frank, Max and Veryl met with representatives from Petro Canada on November 10, 1999 to discuss their future plans for exploration on the Mackenzie Delta. Vera Ovayuak and Chucky Gruben were selected to attend the Coney Management Plan Workshop in Inuvik on December 14-16, 1999. The Board decided to hold the Annual General Meeting on December 29, 1999. Elections will be held during the meeting.

December, 1999

The HTC received the 1999 CHAP funding and started distributing on December 7, 1999. We received \$9,900.00 and \$3,000.000 was set aside for outpost cabin owners and the remaining \$6,900.00 will be used for the community. The Board decided that a one time payment of \$100.00 per applicant will be given for subsistence harvesting of caribou and polar bear and the applicant must have their own snowmobile. Any remaining funds will be used for educational purposes.

January, 2000

Max Kotokak Sr., Veryl Gruben, Chucky Gruben and Fred Wolki's seat were up for election in December. Elections took place at the Annual General Meeting held on December 29, 1999. Max Kotokak Sr., Veryl Gruben, Chucky Gruben and Randal Pokiak were voted in for a two year term. The Tuktoyaktuk HTC held an executive meeting on January 4, 2000. Frank Pokiak was voted in as Chairman, Max Kotokak Sr. as Vice-Chairman and Veryl Gruben as Treasurer. In January, 1999 Frank Pokiak and Chucky Gruben were appointed to the Inuvialuit Game Council for a two year term expiring December, 2000. Randal Pokiak was appointed to the Marine Ecosystem Committee. This Committee was set up through the Department of Fisheries & Oceans. The Board also took part in a workshop which was hosted by DFO called the Marine Ecosystem Health Workshop. This workshop also involved Youth from the school and other agencies in the community.

February, 2000

A call for applications for the Inuvialuit Harvesters Assistance Program went out on the 1st of February. Hillarie Greening from Parks Canada met with the Tuktoyaktuk HTC

regarding the Pingo Landmark Committee. She gave an update on the working group and what they've discussed already. Vera Ovayuak is representing the Tuktoyaktuk HTC on this Committee.

March, 2000

A Special Meeting was held on March 28, 2000 to review the Inuvialuit Harvesters Assistance Program applications. The Board reviewed and allocated the funds as per Policies and Procedures of the Program. The Resource Person attended the Harvest Study Workshop in Inuvik. The Inuvialuit Harvest Study Fieldworker was to begin collecting data this month.

Inuvialuit Game Council

The list of meetings that members of the Inuvialuit Game Council or their representatives attended, and the committee summaries that are included in this annual report outline a number of issues in which the Game Council was involved. The following highlights Inuvialuit Game Council activities of note during the 1999 - 2000 fiscal year.

The Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) was signed over fifteen years ago but many older pieces of government legislation do not reflect the harvesting rights of the Inuvialuit that are established in the IFA. Although the IFA supercedes existing and future legislation, the Game Council feels that it is important to ensure that when legislation is being written or amended, that it be made consistent with the IFA. The Game Council has been providing input into amending various territorial and national acts and regulations for several years and continued to do so this year. The National Parks Act, the Government of the Northwest Territories' Wildlife Act and the Yukon Act are three acts that are being amended. The Game Council was also involved in commenting on the draft federal Species At Risk Act, new legislation being introduced to protect endangered species in Canada.

In 1996 the Government of the Northwest Territories, the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC) and the Inuvialuit Game Council agreed to establish the Inuvialuit Harvesters Assistance Trust to be used for the Inuvialuit Harvesters Assistance Program (IHAP). This program provides financial support to harvesters who need new equipment to go out on the land and to groups encouraging youth to learn traditional harvesting skills. The Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC) introduced a revised IHAP Policy and Procedures Manual this fiscal year. Some of the changes have been adopted by the communities while others are still being discussed. The communities, the Game Council and the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation will continue to work on the issue of the structure of the IHAP selections committees during the next fiscal year.

The Inuvialuit Final Agreement defines Inuvialuit ownership of some of the lands within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, known as 7.1.(a) and 7.1.(b) lands and also called “private lands”. These lands are administered by the Inuvialuit Land Administration (ILA) which reviews proposed projects and sets access fees for certain activities on these lands. The Game Council participated in the discussions about changing some of the access fees and adding others.

The IFA established Ivvavik National Park and Qiqiktagruk (Herschel Island Territorial Park) within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. This fiscal year the Game Council worked to ensure that National and Territorial Park Management Plans recognize traditional and ongoing Inuvialuit harvesting rights within the Parks. The Game Council reviewed Scoping documents for Herschel Island Territorial Park, the draft management plan for Ivvavik National Park, and interim management guidelines for the ISR’s newest park, Tukut Nogait National Park.

Limits can only be placed on Inuvialuit harvesting rights for wildlife conservation or public safety reasons. The Game Council continues to work with the Yukon Government and the Government of the Northwest Territories to draft the Dempster Highway harvesting regulations. It is hoped that they will protect the Porcupine Caribou herd during its’ migration, avoid damaging the habitat with vehicles before the ground is completely frozen and allow people to travel along the Highway safely while others are harvesting.

One of the roles of the Inuvialuit Game Council is to allocate harvesting quotas among the communities. The issue of polar bear quotas was discussed by the Game Council during this fiscal year. It was felt that the population information needed updating, which led to a request for polar bear research to be conducted by the territorial government. This research started at the end of this fiscal. One of the other issues that the Game Council is continuing to work on is establishing a quota for subsistence harvesting of muskox on the Yukon’s North Slope. These muskox have been counted regularly by biologists since 1993 and their numbers are increasing. A draft muskox management plan is being written. The Inuvialuit Game Council initiated a meeting that involved Alaskan natives representatives, Alaskan state and federal representatives, the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope), Yukon government representatives and the Inuvialuit Game Council to discuss cooperative management of North Slope muskox.

Most of the western arctic population of Lesser Snow Geese breed on Banks Island. This colony has increased from 170,000 nesting adults in 1976 to nearly 490,000 in 1995 and

their annual population growth rate increased from 4.1% to 6.3% during that time¹. The rapid increase in this population suggests that the arctic coastal habitats could be threatened by overgrazing as has already occurred from Snow Geese populations around Hudson Bay in the eastern arctic. The Inuvialuit have traditionally harvested Snow Geese but not in large enough numbers to reduce this rapidly growing population. The Canadian Wildlife Service, with input from the Inuvialuit Game Council, initiated a trial additional harvest of Banks Island Snow Geese by beneficiaries. The geese were distributed to beneficiaries in other Inuvialuit Settlement Region communities that do not have access to this species.

One of the ways to ensure that wildlife populations within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region remain healthy is to establish long term management and workplans for species. The regional biologist for the territorial government has drafted a number of these management plans this year, including one on Cape Bathurst and Bluenose caribou. The Inuvialuit Game Council has commented on these plans and approved The Co-management Plan for Caribou, Muskox, Arctic Wolves, Snow Geese, and Small Herbivores on Banks Island. The Game Council is also involved in several ongoing field research projects such as the Canadian Wildlife Service's satellite tagging of King Eider Ducks nesting on Victoria Island, although most research projects are dealt with mainly at the co-management board and community levels.

There has been increasing interest in oil and gas exploration in the Beaufort Delta during this fiscal year. The Inuvialuit Game Council has been involved in many meetings with various exploration companies interested in working in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. Some of these companies are proceeding with work started earlier and have gone through, or are going through, the environmental impact screening process under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement. Other companies are holding meetings with the Game Council and the co-management committees to learn about the environmental regulatory process in the region. The Game Council is also a registered participant in the ongoing Kuññiek Resources Development Corporation's Environmental Impact Review and has been commenting on this process during the fiscal year.

Cumulative environmental effects assessment and monitoring in the NWT has taken a more prominent role lately with the establishment of the Mackenzie Valley Cumulative Impact Monitoring Program Working Group in the last fiscal and the Cumulative Effects Assessment and Management Steering Committee (for the NWT) in this fiscal year. The Game Council is involved in the Mackenzie Valley processes because what occurs

¹R.H. Kerbes, K.M. Meeres and J.E. Hines (ed.s), Distribution, survival, and numbers of Lesser Snow Geese of the Western Canadian Arctic and Wrangel Island, Russia, 1999, Occasional Paper Number 98, (Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa, Ontario), p.4.

downstream from the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR) eventually flows into the ISR via the Mackenzie River and so it can have an effect within the ISR.

Some populations of wildlife in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region are shared with other jurisdictions. Since the wildlife does not stay within political boundaries, their management also needs to work across the borders. This fiscal year the Inuvialuit Game Council and the Inupiat of Alaska signed the Beaufort Sea Beluga Whale Agreement. This international management Agreement between resource users sets out a system of sharing information and research. The Beluga Agreement was modeled on the Inuvialuit - Inupiat Management Agreement for Polar Bears in the Southern Beaufort Sea, which was originally signed in 1988. This Polar Bear Agreement was re-signed this fiscal year, continuing the international cooperation in managing this shared population for future generations. The signing of these two Agreements were proud moments for the Inuvialuit Game Council. They are examples of how those who sustainably use the wildlife also work to protect these important resources.

Appendix A

The Role Of The Inuvialuit Game Council 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

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 (N.W.T. 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 (N.W.T. 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 (N.W.T. and North Slope) in carrying out their functions.

Appendix B

The Role of The Inuvialuit Hunters' And Trappers' Committees Under The Inuvialuit Final Agreement

Section 14 (75) Each Inuvialuit Community Corporation shall establish a community Hunters and Trappers Committee and determine the qualifications for membership therein. In determining those qualifications, regard shall be had to any agreements between the Inuvialuit and other native groups.

As amended January 15, 1987

- 14 (76) A Hunters and Trappers Committee shall, among its other activities:
- (a) advise the Inuvialuit Game Council on all local matters within the Committee's area of responsibility;
 - (b) advise the Inuvialuit Game Council on the division of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region into community hunting and trapping areas;
 - (c) advise the Inuvialuit Game Council on the requirements of subsistence users in regard to fish and the animals referred to in paragraph (6)(a) within its area of responsibility;
 - (d) sub-allocate the subsistence quota allocated for animals referred to in paragraph (6)(a) within its area of responsibility;
 - (e) sub-allocate any Inuvialuit quota set for fish and the animals referred to in paragraphs (6)(a), (b) and (c);
 - (f) make by-laws, subject to the laws of general application, governing the exercise of the Inuvialuit rights to harvest referred to in paragraphs (6)(a), (b), (c) and (d);
 - (g) encourage and promote Inuvialuit involvement in conservation, research, management, enforcement and utilization in relation to the wildlife resources in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region;
 - (h) assist in providing harvest data on request by the Wildlife Management Advisory Council [sic] (NWT and North Slope) or by the Fisheries Joint Management Committee; and

As amended January 15, 1987

Section 14 (76)

~~(i) on request, assist the Wildlife Management Advisory Councils (NWT and~~
~~Inuvialuit Game Council Annual Report 1999 - 2000~~

North Slope) in carrying out their functions.

As amended January 15, 1987

14 (77) By-laws made under paragraphs (76)(f) shall be enforceable under the Wildlife Ordinance of the Northwest Territories.

14 (78) Local Hunters and Trappers Committees shall be responsible for the sub-allocation of community shares of subsistence and other quotas among individuals and shall participate in the regulation of the subsistence harvest and the collection of harvest information as determined from time to time by the Fisheries Joint Management Committee and Wildlife Management Advisory Councils (NWT and North Slope).

As amended January 15, 1987

14 (79) The administrative and operational costs of the Inuvialuit Game Council and the Hunters and Trappers Committees shall be borne by the Government of the Northwest Territories.