



Sahtu Land Use Planning Board

Box 235, Fort Good Hope, NT, X0E 0H0
Phone: (867) 598-2055 Fax: (867) 598-2545
Email: info@sahtulanduseplan.org; Website: www.sahtulanduseplan.org

June 6, 2011

To: Distribution List

Re: Release of Draft Sahtu Land Use Plan Revisions – Discussion Document and Scheduling of the Tri-Partite Meeting

Dear Sirs and Madams,

The Sahtu Land Use Planning Board is pleased to release a new Discussion Document outlining the Proposed Revisions for a Final Draft Sahtu Land Use Plan for your review. This letter and the discussion document can be downloaded from the Board's website at www.sahtulanduseplan.org.

As outlined in the document's introduction, this should not be construed as final wording, and the Discussion Document is not a complete Plan. It represents ongoing revisions to key sections of the Plan that must be integrated with other elements of the Plan (such as definitions, the legal framework, zone descriptions, etc.) as part of final revisions.

The purpose of this document is to inform participants of the Board's evolving approach to plan revisions, in preparation for a meeting with the approving parties (SSI, the GNWT and AANDC) proposed for **July 11-12th, 2012 in Yellowknife**. The intent of this "tri-partite" meeting is to work through final outstanding areas of disagreement so that the Board can avoid further delays by submitting a Final Draft Plan that is acceptable to the Parties. The Board invites the Districts, as the landowners, to participate alongside SSI. The Board is also inviting the SLWB and/or MVLWB to participate in the meeting as a resource to the Board and approving parties.

As background, at the Board's Public Hearing in May 2011 on the Draft 3 Sahtu Land Use Plan, the Board held small group discussions on some of the key areas of contention existing at the time. These collaborative discussions were effective but too short to address some of the more complex issues. As a result, the Board held three technical workshops between October 2011 and February 2012 to continue that work. The workshops had broad participation from communities, government, regulators, industry and environmental organizations, and allowed for detailed discussions on the Plan's Conformity Requirements, Actions and Recommendations, with a strong focus on implementation processes. The attached document outlines the Board's response to these discussions, and the comments submitted by AANDC, the GNWT, the SLWB and the Deline Land Corporation following the third workshop.

To prepare for the proposed tri-partite meeting, the Board proposes the following timelines:

- **June 22: Please identify the number and names of participants for the tri-partite meeting.** Given that we are in the final stage of Plan completion, the Board requests that senior level decision makers be in attendance to ensure consistency between the direction provided at this meeting and the final approval decisions to be made by each of the Parties.



- **June 22: Identify key approval issues** (based on your review of the discussion document) to enable staff to develop a preliminary agenda.
- **July 5th: Provide detailed comments** in response to the Discussion Document. The Board requests that the Parties restrict their comments to those critical to the approval decision. For each item where a party does not agree with the Board’s approach, please outline the issue, include detailed supporting information on the issue (e.g. specific conflicts and examples – no general statements), options and/or a preferred solution, and rationale for the chosen approach. The Board will circulate the comments to all participating parties, and work with the Parties to finalize the agenda.

In keeping with the Board’s requirements for an open, transparent process, summary notes will be recorded at the meeting and posted to the Board’s public record so that all planning partners can be informed of the results of this meeting. All comments received from the Parties will also be posted to the Board’s website.

The Board would like to commend your departments and organizations for their active participation in this planning process. We look forward to working with you and your representatives to finalize the Sahtu Land Use Plan, and to facilitate its approval and implementation as envisioned under the Sahtu Dene and Metis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement.

Mahsi,

Heather Bourassa
 Chairperson
 Sahtu Land Use Planning Board

Encl: Draft Sahtu Land Use Plan Revisions – Discussion Document

Distribution List

TO:	Ethel Blondin-Andrew, Chair	Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated
	Joseph Kochon, Vice-President	K’asho Got’ine District Land Corporation
	Clarence Campbell, President	Tulita District Land Corporation
	Gina Dolphus, President	Deline District Land Corporation
	Ernie Campbell, Deputy Minister	Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT
	Trish Merrithew-Mercredi, Regional Director General	Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
	Larry Wallace, Chairperson	Sahtu Land & Water Board
	Willard Hagen, Chairperson	Mackenzie Valley Land & Water Board
CC:	Remaining SLUPB Distribution List	